



# **Guide to the Abbot Family papers, 1733-1999 and undated, bulk 1860-1910**

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## Summary

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**Collection Title:**

Abbot Family papers, 1733-1999 and undated, 1860-1910

**Creator:**

Abbot family

**Abstract:**

The papers of the Abbot family consist mainly of correspondence, but also include financial and legal papers, diaries, a letter-book, clippings, printed material, speeches and photographs (including cartes-de-visite, and some cyanotypes and tintypes). The materials date from 1733 to 1999, the bulk ranging from 1860-1910. A significant portion of the correspondence comprises of personal letters exchanged during the Civil War between William Richardson Abbot, headmaster of Bellevue High School, and his wife, Lucy Minor Abbot. Abbot's letters mention battles and political events of the Civil War, including his experience as an officer in the First Regiment of the Engineers Troops (Army of Virginia). Other correspondence includes exchanges between W.R. Abbot and his immediate family, both during and after the Civil War, as well as numerous letters to Abbot from parents of boys attending Bellevue High School. The collection also includes materials from the lives of the children and grandchildren of William and Lucy Abbot. Letters from the Abbot children consist of personal exchanges, accounts of travel in turn-of-the-century Europe, as well as experiences in the German university system. Also included is a brief memoir by Ann Minor, Lucy's sister, documenting childhood experiences in Virginia during the Civil War. There are also papers belonging to the Minors of Charlottesville (Va.), such as correspondence of Charles and John Minor.

**Extent:**

19 Linear Feet (10 boxes)

**Language:**

English.

**Collection ID:**

RL.00006

**Permalink:**

<https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/findingaids/abbot/>

**Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], Abbot Family Papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University

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## Background

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### Scope and Content

The papers of the Abbot family consist mainly of correspondence, but also include financial and legal papers, diaries, a letter-book, clippings, printed material, speeches and photographs (including cartes-de-visite, and some cyanotypes and tintypes). The materials date from 1733 to 1999, the bulk ranging from 1860-1910. A significant portion of the correspondence comprises of personal letters exchanged during the Civil War between William Richardson Abbot, headmaster of Bellevue High School, and his wife, Lucy Minor Abbot. Abbot's letters mention battles and political events of the Civil War, including his experience as an officer in the First Regiment of the Engineers Troops (Army of Virginia). Other correspondence includes exchanges between W.R. Abbot and his immediate family, both during and after the Civil War, as well as numerous letters to Abbot from parents of boys attending Bellevue High School. The collection also includes materials from the lives of the children and grandchildren of William and Lucy Abbot. Letters from the Abbot children consist of personal exchanges, accounts of travel in turn-of-the-century Europe, as well as experiences in the German university system. Also included is a brief memoir by Ann Minor, Lucy's sister, documenting childhood experiences in Virginia during the Civil War. There are also papers belonging to the Minors of Charlottesville (Va.), such as correspondence of Charles and John Minor.

While the bulk of the collection is made up of correspondence, the papers also include Abbot's addresses to schools and the Virginia Educational Society; printed bulletins detailing courses of study and formal statements of the teaching philosophy at Bellevue; and an official letter-book, receipts, financial and legal documents relating to the purchase, expansion and daily administration of the school. Other materials relating to the children of the William and Lucy Abbot include educational addresses by their son, Charles Minor Abbot, who administered Bellevue until it closed (1901-1909), as well as biographical material on Virginia Henderson's authoritative influence on professional nursing.

The Abbot Family papers provide the researcher with numerous vantage points onto public, professional and private life in nineteenth-century Virginia, most particularly through personalized accounts of men and women of the time. While the papers follow the families' colonial past from the early eighteenth century into the mid-twentieth century, the collection is noteworthy for its emphasis on military and private life in the Confederacy and in the Reconstruction South. The collection illuminates the experience of the Civil

War through numerous windows onto the private lives of individuals; the professionalization of secondary education during the Reconstruction; the social and epistolary conventions of nineteenth century courtship; and the construction of an inter-generational identity, based on extended familial affections and ties to the institutions of Bellevue and the University of Virginia.

## Biographical/Historical

### William Richardson Abbot

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
1839 January 1	Born in Hagerstown, Md.
1855-1857	University of Virginia, distinction in the Study of Law
1857	Teacher at Mr. Halliwell's School, Alexandria, Va.
1858-1860	Teacher at Dr. Charles Minor's Brookhill School, outside Charlottesville, Va.
1860-1861	Tutor to family of Dr. Arthur Taylor, Opelouses, St. Landry Parish, La., until outbreak of Civil War
1861	Clerk at General Post Office Department, Auditor's Office to the Treasury of the Southern Confederacy, Richmond, Va.
1862	Clerk at First Auditor's Office to the War Department, Richmond Va.
1863-1865	Enlistment in the First Regiment of Engineers Troops, Army of Virginia; served in the field as Second Lieutenant; was present with Robert E. Lee at Appomattox.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
1863	Marriage to Lucy Ridgway Minor, daughter of Dr. Charles Minor of Brookhill School, Charlottesville, Va.
1866-1870	Opened school for boys in Charlottesville
1870-1873	Teacher of Classics and English; Associate Headmaster with founder James P. Holcombe at Bellevue High School, Va.
1873-1901	Headmaster of Bellevue on the death of J.P. Holcombe
1882	Purchased Bellevue
1902-1909	Bellevue administered chiefly by W.R. Abbot's son, Associate Principal Charles Minor Abbot
1909	Closed and converted Bellevue to personal residence; continued to reside at Bellevue with his family
1916, October 5	Died at Bellevue, Va.

## **Biographical/Historical**

### **Ellen Harris Abbot**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
1815 December 9	Born; given name Ellen Jane
1831	Married William R. Abbot, founder of Georgetown Classical and Mathematical Academy, Georgetown.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
1852	Widowed with five children
1861	Closed her boarding house in Georgetown with the outbreak of the Civil War
1902, December 3	Died

**Biographical/Historical**

**Jane (Jeannie) Oliver Abbot**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
1834, August 14	Born to William and Ellen Abbot
1898, October 28	Died

**Biographical/Historical**

**Francis (Frank) Harris Abbot**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
1841	Born to William and Ellen Abbot
1861-1862	Served as Lieutenant in 17th Regiment of the Alexandria Riflemen, Army of the Southern Confederacy
1862	Died in combat

## Biographical/Historical

### Ellen Harris Abbot

Date	Description
1847, June 1	Born to William and Ellen Abbot; given name Ellen Harris
1901, November 17	Died in Washington D.C.

## Biographical/Historical

### Lucy Ridgway Minor Abbot

Date	Description
1838	Born to Dr. Charles and Lucy Minor of "Brookhill," Charlottesville, Va.; given name Lucy Ridgway
1861	Moved to "Lands End" (Va.) on death of Dr. Charles Minor and the subsequent sale of Brookhill School Tutored and taught music with outbreak of the Civil War
1863	Married William R. Abbot
1870	Moved to Bellevue with W.R. Abbot
1921	Died

**Biographical/Historical**

**Charles M. Abbot**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
1875, September 10	Born in Charlottesville to William and Lucy Abbot; given name Charles Minor Educated at Bellevue, Bedford County (Va.)
1896	Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts, University of Virginia
1897-1901	Taught at Bellevue High School
1901-1902	Moved to Norfolk, Va.
1902-1909	Returned to Bellevue to teach; administered Bellevue in the capacity of Associate Headmaster until its closure
1909-1925	Taught in Campbell and Bedford counties, (Va.)
1925-1946	Taught History and Government at Glass High School,(Va.)
1940 [1941?]	Played central role in re-establishment of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Forest, Va.; continued to serve as vestryman
1946	Retired from faculty at Glass High
1949	Died

## Francis (Frank) H. Abbot

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
1877, November 3	Early education at Bellevue and other private schools in Va. Born to William and Lucy Abbot
1895-1899	Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees, University of Virginia
1899	Doctoral student of Modern Languages at universities of Goettingen and Leipzig, Germany
1902	Returned to United States; taught English at Marion Military Institute, Alabama Ph.D from University of Leipzig
1904-1919	Associate Professor of Rhetoric at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg (Va.) Instructor of French, University of Chicago Instructor of French, Johns Hopkins University
1919	Adjunct Professor of French, University of Virginia
1926	Full Professor of French, University of Virginia
1933	Died at the University of Virginia

## Biographical/Historical

### Virginia Henderson

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
1897, November 30	Born in Kansas City Mo. to Daniel Brosius Henderson and Lucy Minor Abbot
1900	Moved to Bellevue High School (Va.), where the Hendersons established their residence, "Trivium"
1921	Certified as Registered Nurse in N.Y. and Va. Completed schooling in nursing with highest mark on examination, U.S. Army School of Nursing, Walter Reed Hospital, Washington D.C.
1921-1929	Public health visiting nurse in New York City and Washington D.C. Nurse educator at the Protestant Hospital School of Nursing, Norfolk, Va.
1929	Enrolled in Teacher's College, Columbia University
1932	Bachelor of Sciences, Teacher's College, Columbia University
1934	Master of Arts, Teacher's College, Columbia University
1934-1948	Associate Professor of Nursing Education, Teacher's College, Columbia University

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
1948-1953	Engaged in extensive revisions of 5th ed. of Textbook of Principles and Practice of Nursing by Bertha Harmer
1959-1971	Research Associate at Yale University
1971	Retired from faculty of Yale University
1964	Publication of Nursing Research: Survey and Assessment, coauthored with Leo Simmons
1966	Publication of Basic Principles of Nursing
1972	Completed Nursing Studies Index
1982	Received honorary degree from Yale University
1985	Received highest nursing honor, the Christiane Reimann prize, from the International Council
1996	Died in Branford, Ct.

## **Biographical/Historical**

### **Dr. Charles Minor**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
1810, Nov. 4	Born in Louisa county (Va.)
1827	Moved to Virginia, teaching at the Forks of the Rivanna, after graduating in medicine at

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
	the University of Virginia and attending Philadelphia Medical Clinics
1835	Traveled to New Orleans to decide whether to settle there; returned to Virginia to reside in Ridgway
1836	Married Lucy Walker Ridgway
Early-1850's	Established Brookhill School, six miles north of Charlottesville (Va.)
1861	Died

## **Biographical/Historical**

### **John Barbee Minor**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
1813, June 2	Born in Louisa county (Va.)
1828-1829	Attended Kenyon College, Ohio
1831-1834	Attended University of Virginia
1834	Awarded Bachelor of Law; practiced Law in Botetourt county, (Va.)
1840	Moved to Charlottesville
1840-1843	Partnership with his brother Lucian Minor in Charlottesville
1845	Appointed Professor of Law at the University of Virginia

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
1856	Appointed Professor of Common and Statute Law, University of Virginia
1875-1878	Published four volumes of Common and Statute Law
1895, July 29	Died at his home at the University of Virginia

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## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Statement**

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

411 Chapel Drive

Duke University

Durham 27708

[askRL@duke.edu](mailto:askRL@duke.edu)

URL: <http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

### **Access Restrictions**

Collection is open for research.

### **Use Restrictions**

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

### **Acquisition Information**

The Abbot Family papers were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a purchase in 2000.

## Processing Information

Processed by Tania Roy

Completed December 13, 2000

Encoded by Ruth E. Bryan

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## Names and Subjects

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- Bellevue High School
- Confederate States of America. Army. Corps of Engineers. Regiment, 1st
- Courtship -- Virginia -- History -- 19th century,
- Education -- Southern States -- History -- 19th century
- Schools -- Virginia -- Bedford
- Soldiers -- Confederate States of America
- Women -- Confederate States of America -- Social conditions
- Virginia -- Education -- History
- Virginia -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives
- Virginia -- Social life and customs -- History -- 19th century
- Virginia -- Social life and customs -- 20th century
- United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Children
- Albumen prints
- Cartes-de-visite
- Cyanotypes
- Genealogies (histories)
- Photographs
- Tintypes (prints)
- Henderson, Virginia
- Alfred and Elizabeth Brand Collection of Rare Books and Manuscripts
- Minor family
- Holcombe, James Philemon, 1820-1873
- Abbot, Lucy Minor
- Abbott family
- Abbot, W. R.
- Minor, Ann
- Minor, Carolus
- Minor, John B.
- University of Virginia -- History

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## Collection Inventory

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### Correspondence, 1827-1952

#### Scope and Contents note

The Correspondence series is divided into five subseries: the William Richardson Abbot and Lucy Ridgway Minor Abbot subseries; Bellevue High School subseries; Abbot Family (1) subseries; Abbot Family (2) subseries; and the Minor Family subseries.

The Correspondence Series includes William Abbot's personal letters to his wife and family, as well as several from his mother and sisters. Correspondence from the Civil War consists predominantly of Abbot's romantic exchanges with Lucy Minor, which also document Abbot's daily life as a clerk in the War Office in Richmond, his duties as an officer on recruiting assignments in Georgia and his experiences in the field in Virginia. Abbot's letters from 1864-1865 describe conditions at various camps and picket lines in and around Appomattox, where Abbot was present during General Lee's surrender.

The letters of Abbot's widowed mother and sisters speak to women's experiences of everyday life during wartime. The Abbot women sometimes mention the price of supplies and clothing from both before and after the Civil War. Of particular interest is an exceptionally detailed, 10-page letter from Ellen Abbot to her brother from September of 1864, recounting the surrender of the town of Woodstock in Northern Virginia to Union soldiers. Written over the course of several days, the letter describes Ellen and her mother's departure from the border town, providing a general idea of refugee movements within and around the state. The account details the prices of supplies and of means of conveyance during evacuation. Ellen Abbot also documented the concealment and care of wounded Confederate soldiers by civilians, partisan violence, and a summary execution during the town's surrender.

A significant portion of 19th century correspondence relates to Abbot's teaching activities after the Civil War, in particular to his involvement with and eventual purchase of Bellevue High School (1870-1909). Founded by prominent educator and lawyer J.P. Holcombe in 1866, this institution was an important preparatory school for the University of Virginia. A series of letters from parents of its students provide personalized accounts of education during the Reconstruction. Of interest is a two-page letter from one of Abbot's students in Mississippi (1874), assessing the political and social causes of interracial violence in his hometown during the Reconstruction.

Early to mid-20th century material consists of exchanges between the children and grandchildren of William and Lucy Minor. (Abbot Family (2) subseries). The letters of Francis H. Abbot, son of W.R and Lucy Abbot, are predominantly

reports of his experience as a doctoral student of German language and literature in the Universities of Goettingen and Leipzig (1889-1903). A few political lampoons on postcards provide a perspective on current events in Europe at the time, including perceptions of Prussian militarism and of events leading to the Boer war. Also included in this subseries are personal correspondence of James Southall (married Jane Oliver Abbot), prominent physicist at the University of Columbia; personal and business letters of Daniel Henderson (married Lucy Minor Abbot), lawyer and well-known activist for Native American rights; early personal correspondence of Virginia Henderson (daughter of Daniel and Lucy Henderson), pioneer in the post-war nursing profession and coauthor of the authoritative study on modern nursing techniques, *Nursing Research: Survey and Assessment*.

The correspondence includes Minor family letters from the early-nineteenth century exchanged between Dr. Charles Minor, prominent educator in Virginia, and his brother John Minor, leading legal scholar at the University of Virginia. Correspondence of the Minor brothers continued in exchanges with Abbot during the latter's tenure at Brookhill School before the Civil War, and afterwards, when Abbot served as principal of Bellevue. The subseries also includes some of the private correspondence of the numerous siblings of Lucy Ridgway Minor.

### **William Richardson Abbot and Lucy Ridgway Minor Abbot Subseries, 1860-1909**

#### **Scope and Contents note**

Personal and romantic exchanges between William and Lucy Abbot, chiefly from the Civil War period. Includes some hand-written transcriptions.

#### **Processing Information:**

Arranged chronologically.

1860 March-1862 October	Box 1
<b>Physical Description:</b> 27 folders	
1862 November-1864 December	Box 2
<b>Physical Description:</b> 32 folders	
1865 January-1909 March	Box 3
<b>Physical Description:</b> 7 folders	
Undated	Box 3
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	

### **Abbot Family (1) Subseries, 1827-1875**

### **Scope and Contents note**

Personal letters to and from William R. Abbot, and family members. Chief correspondents are W.R. Abbot's mother Ellen Abbott and his sisters Ellen and Jane Abbot. Includes letter from Ellen Abbot (Jr.) recounting surrender of Woodstock in Northern Virginia to Union soldiers. Also includes official papers such as reports of W.R. Abbot's academic progress at the University of Virginia and professional recommendations for university positions; and W.R. Abbot's enlistment papers and other formal correspondence with the Confederate Army. The personal correspondence contains some hand-written transcriptions.

### **Processing Information:**

Arranged chronologically; W.R. Abbot's university evaluations, professional recommendations and correspondence with the Confederate Army collated separately and arranged according to subject.

1827 November-1875 November	Box 3
<b>Physical Description:</b> 17 folders	
Undated	Box 3
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Official Civil War Correspondence, 1863 November-1864 February	Box 3
<b>Physical Description:</b> 3 folders	
Academic Evaluations and Recommendations, 1861-1863	Box 3
<b>Physical Description:</b> 1 Folder	

### **Education/Bellevue Subseries, 1866-1911**

#### **Scope and Contents note**

Formal correspondence to and from the Virginia Educational Association, and correspondence regarding general administrative matters at Bellevue High School. Also includes letters of parents of Bellevue students assessing students' progress and concerns. Contains letter to W.R. Abbot from a student describing inter-racial violence in Mississippi. A letter-book in William R. Abbot's hand-writing contains copies of correspondence pertaining to Bellevue High.

#### **Processing Information:**

Arranged chronologically.

1866 July-1911 July Box 4

**Physical Description:** 25 folders

See also letter-book, 1886 Aug. 27-1903 June  
24 (1 vol. in Box 8) Box 4

## Abbot Family (2) Subseries, 1879-1960

### Scope and Contents note

Personal letters of the Abbot children to and from William and Lucy; to each other; to their spouses; and from their spouses to William and Lucy. Includes several postcards to Bellevue from Francis Abbot during his studies in Germany. Also includes the personal exchanges of several Abbot grandchildren.

### Processing Information:

Arranged alphabetically, according to correspondent.

Abbot, Charles Minor, 1901-1960 Box 5

**Physical Description:** 1 folder

Abbot, Emily McIlvane, 1901-1912 Box 5

**Physical Description:** 1 folder

Abbot, Francis H. (Frank), 1895-1932 Box 5

**Physical Description:** 10 folders

Abbot, Jane Oliver (Jinx; Jeannie), 1889-1927 Box 5

**Physical Description:** 3 folders

Abbot, Louisa Noland (Toodles; Loulie),  
1889-1910 Box 5

Abbot, William (III), 1912 Oct. Box 5

**Physical Description:** 1 folder

Henderson, Jane, 1931-1953 Box 5

**Physical Description:** 1 folder

Henderson, Lucy Minor Abbot, 1898-1950 Box 5

**Physical Description:** 3 folders

Henderson, Lucy (Jr.) and Charles, 1901-1925	Box 5
<b>Physical Description:</b> 1 folder	
Houff, Frances Minor, 1918-1933	Box 5
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Southall, James (Jim), 1900-1931	Box 5
<b>Physical Description:</b> 4 folders	
Unidentified; undated	Box 5
<b>Physical Description:</b> 1 folder	

### Minor Family Subseries, 1825-1900

#### Scope and Contents note

Exchanges between Charles and John Minor as students, and with W.R. Abbot. Includes the personal correspondence of Lucy Ridgway Minor and her siblings.

#### Processing Information:

Arranged alphabetically, according to correspondent.

Minor, Annie et al., 1846-1900 (1 folder)	Box 5
Minor, Dr. Charles, 1827-1876	Box 5
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Minor, John B., 1828-1825	Box 5
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Minor, Lancelot, 1825-1834	Box 5
<b>Physical Description:</b> 1 folder	
Minor, Lucy Ridgway, 1863-1904	Box 5
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Minor, Lucy Walker (cousin Lucy), 1890-1892 (1 folder)	Box 5
See also oversize folder.	Box 5

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**Diaries, 1835; 1836; 1930**

### Scope and Contents note

Transcription of entries from Charles Minor's personal diary from a trip from Charlottesville to New Orleans, mentioning General Jackson. The second half of the document is Minor's account of his early education in the classics, also detailing the circumstances surrounding Minor's first teaching position in Albemarle County and eventual move to Ridgway.

Personal diary of Anne Minor, youngest child of Charles Minor. The diary describes early childhood experiences during the Civil War, after the family moved from Brookhill to Lands End upon the death of Charles Minor. The ten-page record is unusual for its dramatic reconstruction of a child's perspective on events witnessed during the Civil War, as well as for its disturbing reflections on the particular insecurities suffered by young children in war-time (c. 1929).

Anne Minor Diary, 1828-1830 (?) Box 8

**Physical Description:** 1 vol.

Charles Minor Diary, 1835; 1836 Box 8

**Physical Description:** 1 document

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### Addresses, Notes and Drafts, 1856-1857 and undated

#### Scope and Contents note

W.R. Abbot's undated addresses to the Virginia Educational Association, the Alumni Association of the University of Virginia, the Bar Association and assemblies of other Virginian schools; Charles Minor's speeches; and W.R. Abbot's notebook from his undergraduate philosophy course at the University of Virginia. Unarranged.

W.R. Abbot's addresses Box 6

**Physical Description:** 7 folders

W.R. Abbot's notes and drafts Box 6

**Physical Description:** 1 folder

W.R. Abbot's philosophy notes, 1856 Oct.-1857  
March Box 6

**Physical Description:** Notebook

Charles Minor Abbot's speeches Box 6

**Physical Description:** 2 folders

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## Printed Material, 1857-1965

### Scope and Contents note

Printed speech by W.R. Abbot and program for annual meeting of the University of Virginia Alumni Association; Bellevue High School Catalogs, transcriptions of school songs and copies of the Nondescript, the Bellevue High magazine; and transcriptions by Francis Abbot of folk and African American music from Virginia.

Other miscellaneous items include the Minor family Bible, an incomplete two-volume 1769 edition of the Authorized version with manuscript poetry and letters added to the front pages of the first volume. Three folders of other various materials are described in the inventory below.

There is also one folder of a few printed items in the photographs box, chiefly election voting tickets listing candidates.

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Printed material, 1866-1921	Box 6
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**Physical Description:** 6 folders

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Miscellany, 1857-1965 and undated	Box 7
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**Physical Description:** 3 folders

### Scope and Contents

Minutes of the Bellevue High School Literary Society; miscellaneous Bellevue-related papers including transcripts of a school-play and lists of academic journals on education; John Abbot's certificates of distinction at Bellevue; memorabilia of the Minor children comprised of verses by Cabell Minor and an elegy by Charles Minor (Jr.) on the death of Walter Scott written at Brookhill; a handwritten prayer and records of Brookhill school sessions (1857-1865). Includes Annie Minor's memoir of her experiences as a child during the Civil War (housed with oversized material in Box 8).

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Folder of various printed items	Box 9
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### Scope and Contents

Chiefly an assembly of small 19th century paper election voting tickets, listing candidates on the ballot.

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Abbot family Bible	Box 10
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**Physical Description:** 2 vol.

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## Clippings, 1863-1909

### Scope and Contents note

Newspaper clippings from the Reconstruction include articles by Ellen Abbot (Sr.) on her interpretation of the events leading immediately to the Civil War, and by William R. Abbot on the role of women in the Confederate cause. These also include some patriotic poetry; Virginian novelist Thomas Nelson Page's childhood recollection of a slave-auction; reports of speeches by W.R. Abbot; and obituaries of friends and family.

### Processing Information:

Arranged chronologically.

Newspaper clippings folders

Box 6

**Physical Description:** 5 folders

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## Genealogy and Family Histories, undated

### Scope and Contents note

Genealogies of Abbots and Minors; family and church records of births and deaths; biographical notes on William Abbot, John B. Minor, Dr. Charles Minor and Virginia Henderson; an early history of Minor family estates in Albemarle County; and a printed transcription of an oral history of Bellevue and the Abbot family's association with St. Stephen's Episcopal Church by Frances Minor Henderson Houff. Unarranged.

Historical family notes

Box 6

**Physical Description:** 4 folders

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## Financial Papers, 1860-1916

### Scope and Contents note

W.R. Abbot's business correspondence regarding the administration and expansion of Bellevue as well as various other real estate investments in Virginia and Kansas City. Contains savings book as well as an account book

of Bellevue. Also includes receipts of taxes on property and of miscellaneous transactions with merchants for the daily administration of Bellevue.

**Processing Information:**

Arranged chronologically; correspondence with legal firms recording financial investments collated separately and arranged alphabetically according to name of solicitor.

Financial papers, 1860-1916 Box 6

**Physical Description:** 11 folders

Financial papers, 1860-1916 Box 7

**Physical Description:** 15 folders

Savings book, 1875 July-1890 July (1 vol.) Box 7

See also Account-book, 1895 March-1906 Sept.  
(1 vol.) in Box 8. Box 7

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## **Legal Papers, 1733-1950**

**Scope and Contents note**

Insurance policies, deeds of trust, and land plats pertaining to Bellevue property and W.R. Abbot's property elsewhere in Virginia and in Kansas City; legal papers of Ellen Abbot's pre-Civil War residence in Georgetown; records of W.R. Abbot's partnership with J.P. Holcombe and his assumption of Bellevue subsequent to Holcombe's death; affidavits of family members recording receipt of inheritance; and original deeds of trust recording land grants made in Virginia to John B. Minor from Sir Thomas Carr of Topping Castle.

**Processing Information:**

Arranged chronologically; records of distribution of family estate and Holcombe-Bellevue papers collated separately and arranged alphabetically according to name.

Legal papers, 1733-1950 Box 7

**Physical Description:** 17 folders

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## **Photographs, 1860s-1980s**

### Scope and Contents note

This group of late 18th and early 20th century photographs includes 60 photographs of the Abbot family and their house, Bellevue, most of which are identified; one photocopy of a large group portrait of Abbots on the porch at Bellevue, circa 1900, with names and dates labeled on reverse; 24 photographs of the Minor family; one photograph album containing mostly pictures of students at a turn-of-the-century women's college, including pictures of Lucy and Virginia Henderson; and 15 unidentified portraits of children, and young men and women. Also included are some snapshots of African American family servants.

Series includes cyanotypes (two are in the album), many cartes-de-visite, and a few tintypes, taken mostly at photographers' studios in Charlottesville and Lynchburg, Virginia. There are also photographic reproductions of paintings or early photographic portraits and engravings. Modern photographs are of the cemetery where family members are buried, and their tombstones.

Loose photographs and photograph album Box 9

**Physical Description:** 5 folders

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### Oversized Material, 1878-1906 and undated

Account book, 1895 March-1906 Sept.  
(Financial papers series) Box 8

Letterbook, 1886 Aug. 27-1903 June 24  
(Correspondence series) Box 8

Annie Minor's Civil War Memoir, undated  
(Miscellany series) Box 8

1906 Typescript of the 1836 Diary of Charles  
Minor (Miscellany series) Box 8

Letter, 1878 from Charles Minor to "My Dear  
Mother..." (Correspondence series) Box 8

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