



Guide to the William Tolbert papers, 1820-1941 (bulk 1870-1894)

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Summary

Collection Title:

William Tolbert papers, 1820-1941 (bulk 1870-1894)

Creator:

Tolbert, William E., 1844-1902.

Abstract:

William E. Tolbert was a Union soldier and businessman of Chambersburg, Pa. Collection includes correspondence and business, personal, and legal papers of Tolbert and several members of the Tolbert (Talbot) and Huber families of Chambersburg, Pa., containing information about family affairs, Republican Party affairs in Chambersburg, and William E. Tolbert's activities with the Chief Engineer's Office of the U.S. Military Railroad in the Division of the Mississippi. There are a number of letters (1883-1922) to Emma Tolbert from her friend Elizabeth Russell, who was a Methodist missionary in Nagasaki, Japan.

Extent:

1413 items

Language:

Materials in English.

Collection ID:

RL.11832

Permalink:

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m1kt0t>

Preferred Citation

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

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Background

Scope and Content

Collection includes correspondence and business, personal, and legal papers of Tolbert and several members of the Tolbert (Talbot) and Huber families of Chambersburg, Pa., containing information about family affairs, Republican

Party affairs in Chambersburg, and William E. Tolbert's activities with the Chief Engineer's Office of the U.S. Military Railroad in the Division of the Mississippi. There are a number of letters (1883-1922) to Emma Tolbert from her friend Elizabeth Russell, who was a Methodist missionary in Nagasaki, Japan.

Biographical/Historical

William E. Tolbert was a Union soldier and businessman of Chambersburg, Pa.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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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 William Tolbert papers were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library in 1951.

Processing Information

Processed by Rubenstein Staff

Accessions described in this collection guide are from 1951.

Collection rehoused and finding aid updated by Elliot Mamet, September 2021.

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Names and Subjects

- Chambersburg (Pa.)
- Japan -- Description and travel
- Military engineering -- United States
- Military railroads -- Mississippi
- Missionaries -- Japan -- Correspondence
- Missions -- Japan
- Women missionaries -- Japan
- United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Engineering and construction
- Russell, Elizabeth, 1836-1928
- Republican Party (Pa.)
- Huber family.
- Talbot family.

Collection Inventory

Letters, 1859-1941 and undated

Box 1

Scope and Contents

At least during the latter part of the Civil War William E. Tolbert had a desk job. In 1864 he was in Nashville, and by March, 1865, had been transferred to Newbern, N. C., where he was with the Chief Engineer's Office, of U. S. Military Railroad in the Division of the Miss. He wrote that many refugees had come into the town after Gen. Schofield moved farther into the state.

There are a number of letters from Elizabeth Russell, a Methodist missionary in Nagasaki, Japan, to her friend, Emma Tolbert. They run from 1883 to 1922. She wrote of the labors of herself and other missionaries, Japanese customs, reforestation in that country, her attitude toward World War I and the Bolshevik revolution, and the large number of Russian refugees in Japan.

There are letters from William Tolbert's brothers-in-laws, William Y. McCullough and Edward S. Whittlesey; John H. Oberly suggesting improvements for the civil service commission; Bessie L. Whittlesey, a niece; Jacob Z. Rinker and his wife Gerta of Edinburg, Va.; William A. Mason and William H. Derbyshire of Philadelphia; Fannie Galbraith; and letters to and from Mrs. Henry Greenawalt,

who boarded Mary E. McCullough and her father during the last months of the latter's life.

William Y. McCullough died suddenly at his home in Sioux City, Iowa, in 1890. His wife Maggie was left with a son and no money. She moved to Chicago, where her sister Allie lived. Both she and her son were forced to work for low wages.

Bills and Receipts , 1820-1870s	Box 1
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Bills and Receipts, 1880-1920s	Box 2
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Bills and Receipts, circa 1870-1894	Oversize-folder 1
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Scope and Contents

Includes sample ballot for 1912 presidential election.

Broadsides, circa 1870-1894	Oversize-folder 1
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Ledgers and Calling Cards, circa 1870-1894	Box 3
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