

C Schermerhorn, John Freeman (1787-1859), Papers, 1809-1909
160 .4 linear feet

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

INTRODUCTION

Letters and papers of Schermerhorn and his heirs, located in New York (1809-1840), Indiana (1840-1858), and Missouri (1858-1909). Schermerhorn was a frontier preacher, peacemaker with the Indians, and landowner.

DONOR INFORMATION

The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by M. Griffin on 1 June 1944 (Accession No. 140).

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

John Freeman Schermerhorn was born in New York on September 24, 1787. He preached in Andover, Massachusetts, and in married Catherine Yates (1788-1835) in 1813. They had eight children: Christopher (1814), Harriet (1815-), Mary Y. (1817-), Catherine Y. (1819-1839), Bernard (1821-1883), John Ingold (1824-), Sarah Ingold (1826-), and Ynsana Y. (1829-). In 1837, he married again to Elizabeth L. Spottswood of Virginia, and they had three children: William Waller (1838-), Catherine Virginia (1841-), and Janette Egmont (1844-).

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The papers have been arranged into the following two series: **Correspondence** and **Miscellaneous**.

More complete series descriptions are located in the folder list.

FOLDER LIST

Correspondence Series

- f. 1-4 Undated, 1809-1835. Letters of John F. Schermerhorn to Catherine Yates before and after their marriage in 1813 concerning studies, religion, preaching. A copy of an introduction of Schermerhorn to General La Fayette by Andrew Jackson, 1828. Correspondence to Catherine Schermerhorn (daughter) from friends and father concerning Indians, trip west in 1833, Cherokee Treaty, death of Mrs. Schermerhorn, missionary work and family news. Letter and lease pertaining to Demas K. Ward, correspondence to Katie Ward and a few miscellaneous items are included.
- f. 5-8 1837-1839. Letters received and written by Mary, Catherine and Harriet Schermerhorn. Correspondence from John F. Schermerhorn concerns family, marriage to Elizabeth L. Spottswood, amateur inventions, Cherokee Treaty, move to Indiana, financial problems,

slander and western lands. Correspondence from friends concerning Catherine's trip to Washington, D.C., treaty, health, teaching and death. After her visit to Washington until her death in 1839, Catherine received many letters from N.G. Ellsworth concerning the death of her mother, her stepmother, the move west, charges against J.F. Schermerhorn, and personal news.

- f. 9-12 1840-1865. Schermerhorn family letters concerning the move to Indiana in 1840, death of Catherine, lands, financial troubles, health, personal news, and birth of Mary's son. Mary married Demas K. Ward. Letters written to Kate Ward during the Civil War years from Union soldiers and family. These concern the war; southern women; Atlanta, Georgia; Chicago, Ill.; death and personal news. Several are from John D. Meredith whom she married in 1866.
- f. 13-15 1866-1906. Letters to Katie Ward Meredith from her husband and friends concerning books, bachelorhood, collecting taxes, personal news and John's death, 1870. Documents pertaining to John D. Meredith's estate and Demas K. Ward as Notary Public of Marion County, Missouri. Recommendations that Henry E. Meredith be commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant, U.S. Army. Correspondence and documents pertaining to the attempt of John F. Schermerhorn's heirs to recover his Virginia lands.

Miscellaneous Series

- f. 16-18 Tax and General Receipts, 1863-1909. Receipts issued to Demas K. Ward and members of John D. Meredith's family for items purchased, insurance and taxes paid. J.D. Meredith was the tax collector for Marion County, Missouri.
- f. 19-20 Compositions on a variety of subjects written by Demas K. Ward, 1829; and Mary Y. Schermerhorn, 1838-1839 while at Utica (N.Y.) Female Academy. Poems. Genealogy of the Schermerhorn family, photographs, programs, menus and Chicago newspaper concerning James A. Garfield's death, 1881.

INDEX TERMS

Subject	Folders
Angell, Charles	10
Boone, Daniel (1734-1820)	2
Carrington, Charles S.	10
Civil War	11,12
Civil War--Correspondence	8
Civil War--Georgia, Atlanta	12
Civil War--Missouri	11,12
Civil War--Missouri, Marion County	11

Subject	Folders
Civil War--Tennessee	11
Columbian Exposition, Chicago, 1893	20
Coontz, Benton	17
Duncan, John	3
Ellsworth, Annie	6
Ellsworth, Henry L.	6, 8, 19
Ellsworth, N. G.	6-8
Frazier, John	14
Freigel, Eugene F.	13
Garfield, James A. (1831-1881)	20
Georgia, Atlanta, 1864	12
Hall, David A.	6, 7
Hewitt, Geo. W.	17
Illinois, Chicago, 1865	12
Indiana, Carroll County, Plattsburg	9, 10
Indians, Cherokee	4, 6-8
Jackson, Andrew (1767-1845)	3
Lear, Thomas G.	14
Meredith, Catherine Y.	18
Meredith, Charles	10
Meredith, Henry E.	15
Meredith, John D.	11-14, 16, 17
Meredith, Kate Ward	13-15, 18
Meredith, Susan C.	9
Missions, Christian	4
Mississippi River	1
Missouri, Hannibal	12
Preaching	3
Redd, James	11
Religion	1-20
Rodman, Francis	13
Schermerhorn, Bernard F.	8, 9, 12, 14
Schermerhorn, Catherine	4-8
Schermerhorn, Elizabeth D.	6, 7, 10, 12
Schermerhorn, Harriet	1, 5, 6, 8-10, 12, 20
Schermerhorn, John Freeman	3, 9, 15
Schermerhorn, John Ingold	9
Schermerhorn, Mary	1, 4-9, 19

Subject	Folders
Schermerhorn, Nettie	12
Schermerhorn, William W.	7
Sheldon, Edward M.	15
Sherman, Thomas e.	15
Shields, George Howell	15
Slater, Albert	11, 13
Snow, Sarah W.	4
Snyder, Jacob Hamlin	11-13
Spencer, Molly E.	6, 7
Sunday schools	4
Tapscott, Napoleon B.	9
Thompson, M. Jeff (1826-1876)	11
Travel	1-20
Trego, Alfred Henry	2, 11-13, 20
Ward, Charles	2
Ward, Demas Kitchel	3-5, 10, 13, 14, 16-19
Ward, Edgar S.	12
Ward, Kate	11-13
Ward, Mary, Schmerhorn	9, 10, 12
Washington D.C., 1838	6
Westward Expansion	7, 8
Yates, Andrew J.	4
Yates, Catherine	3