

C Hereford, Lizzie M. Powell (1840-1877), Papers, 1817-1880
4152 1.3 cubic 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

The papers of Lizzie M. Powell Hereford, a Confederate sympathizer from Northeast Missouri, who was imprisoned during the Civil War, include her prison diary and correspondence along with transcriptions. Also included are family photographs, miniature portraiture, jewelry, miscellaneous artifacts, family genealogy, and the papers of her daughter, Stella.

DONOR INFORMATION

The papers were donated to the State Historical Society by Annabell Johnson on 3 June 2011 (Accession No. 6329).

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Elizabeth “Lizzie” Mildred Powell was born on September 7, 1840, near Paris, Missouri, although eventually her family moved to the north of Hannibal. Powell’s story really starts when she was arrested the morning of September 29, 1862, accused of aiding and abetting Confederate Guerillas in the area.

She was brought first to Mexico, Missouri, and then to Hudson City under the authority of General Merrill. Later she was moved back to Palmyra where she stayed in the National Hotel with friend and fellow prisoner Maggie. It was during this time that she witnessed the events of the Palmyra Massacre. Powell was eventually locked up in Hannibal in the “Railroad House,” a building that had been used to hold slaves awaiting the auction block. While imprisoned, Powell caught diphtheria and almost died. Under conditions that are not quite clear, she was released sometime in the spring of 1863.

Shortly after her ordeal, Powell moved to Austin, Nevada, where she met Alfred Hereford, a young lawyer. The two married on March 16, 1864. They moved to St. Joseph, Missouri, for a brief time before settling in Denver, Colorado. The Herefords had two children who survived until adulthood: William and Stella. Lizzie Hereford died in 1877, at age 37, from an injury sustained after being thrown from a runaway carriage.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection has been arranged into two series: **Papers** and **Artifacts**. The **Papers** series contains a biographical sketch of Lizzie’s life, her prison diary along with its transcript, letters and correspondence from 1817-1880, family photographs and miniatures, a book of Hereford and Ball genealogy, and miscellaneous family papers, mostly related to Lizzie’s daughter, Stella.

The **Artifacts** series includes miniature portraits, silver napkin rings, mother-of-pearl baby rattles, a silver spoon, a small toolkit, an orange hat pin, a brooch made of shells from the Isthmus of Panama, and miscellaneous jewelry.

Papers Series

- f. 1 Biographical Sketch
- f. 1a Prison diary, 1862
- f. 2 Prison diary transcript
- f. 3 Prison Correspondence and Transcripts
- f. 4 Pre-Civil War Correspondence
- f. 5 Correspondence, 1862-1864
- f. 6 Correspondence, 1866-1880
- f. 7 Photographs
- f. 8 Hereford and Ball Genealogy
- f. 9 Hereford Family Bible Pages
- f. 10 Miscellaneous

Artifacts Series

- Item #1 Pearl and Silver Baby Rattle and Pearl Teether
- Item #2 Hat pin
- Item #3 Engraved silver spoon
- Item #4 Velvet-type case with Daguerreotype of unidentified woman
- Item #5 Framed image of Lucy Jane Austin
- Item #6 Fabric folder containing four silver tools
- Item #7 Oval Union Case, Ambrotype image of unidentified woman
- Item #8 Framed image of unidentified man
- Item #9 Framed image of Lucy Jane Austin
- Item #10 Jewelry
- Item #11 Three framed images of an infant
- Items #12-14 Engraved napkin rings (4)
- Items #15 Book-type case Daguerreotype of unidentified woman
- Item #16 Union Case containing photograph of an unidentified baby
- Item #17 Green hinged box containing jewelry
- Item #18 Uncased Daguerreotype of Sarah Catherine Hereford and unidentified boy
- Item #19 Cased Daguerreotype of John Powell
- Item #20 Cased Tintype of Alfred P. Hereford
- Item #21 Green Hinged Box containing 3 pin/pendants of men (1 Daguerreotype, 2 unknown)

INDEX TERMS

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Subject	Folders	Items	Image
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