Finding aid to the Harold C. Holmes collection of early California manuscripts

Finding aid prepared by Marie Silva.
California Historical Society
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2013
Title: Harold C. Holmes collection of early California manuscripts

Collection Identifier: MS 714

Contributing Institution: California Historical Society
678 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA, 94105-4014
(415) 357-1848
reference@calhist.org
URL: http://www.californiahistoricalsociety.org/

Date: 1846-1868

Language of Materials: Collection materials are in English, with one document in Spanish.

Location of Materials: Collection is stored onsite.

Extent: 1 folder

Abstract: Accounts, receipts for wages and goods, Gold Rush correspondence, and other documents collected by Oakland bookseller Harold C. Holmes, mostly relating to commercial activities in California between the years 1846 and 1868. Materials were created by various individuals and firms, including Captain J. L. Folsom, Archibald C. Peachy, Mellus & Howard, and members of the Fitch family. Some materials document the exchange of and disputes over horses during the Mexican War period.


Acquisition Information
The collection was given to the California Historical Society by Harold C. Holmes in 1952.

Access
Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Harold C. Holmes collection of early California manuscripts, MS 714, California Historical Society.

Biographical Information
Harold C. Holmes was an antiquarian bookseller and owner of the Holmes Book Company in Oakland, California.

Scope and Contents
Collection consists of accounts, receipts for wages and goods, Gold Rush correspondence, and other documents collected by Oakland bookseller Harold C. Holmes, mostly relating to commercial activities in California between the years 1846 and 1868. Materials were created by various individuals and firms, including and prominently Captain J. L. Folsom, Archibald C. Peachy, Mellus & Howard, and members of the Fitch family. Some materials document the exchange of and disputes over horses during the Mexican War period.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.
Fitch family.
Folsom, J. L. (Joseph Libbey), 1817-1855.
Mellus & Howard Company.
Peachy, Archibald C.
Businessmen--California.
California--Gold discoveries.
Commerce--California.
Horses--California.
Receipts.

Mellus and Howard account with D. Ygnacio Pacheco, San Francisco 1846-1847
Language of Materials: In Spanish.

Thomas Farrell receipts for saddles and bridles received from J. L. Folsom, Monterey 1847 April 14

Guillermo Castro bill of sale for a horse sold to James Spears, San Jose 1848 March 13
Scope and Contents
Bill of sale includes sketch of the horse’s brand.

S. Brannan & Co. receipt, signed by Wm. Stout 1846 September 27

Jose Ycidro Sanchez statement certifying his ownership of three horses in the possession of the United States government, witnessed by Edwin Bryant, alcalde, San Francisco 1847 April 6
Scope and Contents
Statement includes sketches of the horses' brands.

James Alex Forbes statement certifying receipt of one horse from J. L. Folsom, from the band in service of the United States forces, witnessed by Edwin Bryant, alcalde, Yerba Buena 1847 May 17
Scope and Contents
Statement includes a sketch of the horse's brand.

Mereano Higero and Augustin Bernal statement empowering John McMurphy to reclaim two horses in the government cavalcade going to Yerba Buena, San Jose de Guadalupe 1847 September 13

William Blasdell receipt for cash for horse received from Capt. J. L. Folsom, Corta Medeira 1848 August 6

James A. Pardee receipt for one old garrison flag to Capt. Folsom, San Francisco 1849 April 9

Receipt to Peachy, Billings & Blunt 1850 February 12

Albert Smith receipt to Mrs. Fitch, San Diego 1850 November 19

W. H. Fitch receipt for groceries bought of John Richardson, San Francisco 1852 April 1

San Francisco Custom House receipt for wages paid to S. E. Tesmacher, clerk 1852 May 31

J. R. E. Raimond and R. M. Tuttle receipt for drayage and wharfage to Mr. Fitch, San Francisco 1852 October 6

Capt. J. L. Folsom payments to Cornelius O’Connor for carpenter work 1853 November and December

Capt. J. L. Folsom payments to Thomas Frawley for horse work, signed by P. W. Van Winkle, San Francisco 1853 December 17

Letter to Dan McClean from his brother, San Francisco 1853 November 27
Scope and Contents
Letter discusses gold mining prospects in California.

Adams & Co. certificate of deposit to Frank Pixley 1854 September 29

Extracts from the account current of the Civil Fund of California for the second quarter of 1849, sent to Capt. J. L. Folsom by Edward Fitzgerald, San Francisco 1854 December 3

Receipts to Mr. Fitch, San Francisco 1855 June 29
Dan McLean letter to his brother, Camptonville 1853 December 15

Scope and Contents
Letter describes McLean's Camptonville claim.

A. C. Peachy and Josh Lewis (?) agreement concerning the sale of Peachy's interest in the Keyser Grant, commonly known as the Llano Seco Grant 1856 January 21

James F. S. White receipt for one beef steer, received from William Fitch on account of potatoes delivered last fall 1858 July 22

C. C. Donnell letter to his sister, Sacramento 1861 May 9

Letter to Charley [C. C. Donnell], Sacramento 1863 March 9

Judy duty summons, issued from the District Court of the United States, for the District Court of California, to Epes Ellery 1868 August 12

Roster of citizens of Yankee Jims pledging to contribute money for the purpose of rebuilding a dance hall destroyed by fire undated

Thomas B. Parks promissory note to Henry Mellus for the account of William Leidesdorff undated

Fragment of a letter from Joseph to his brother concerning the journey to California undated