Finding Aid to the Thomas Falconer Collection MS.682

Title: Thomas Falconer Collection
Identifier/Call Number: MS.682
Contributing Institution: Autry National Center, Braun Research Library
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 0.1 linear feet (1 folder)
Date (inclusive): 1929-1930

Abstract: This is a collection of Thomas Falconer data from 1929-1930 collected by F. W. Hodge, in preparation for the publication *Letters and Notes on the Texan Santa Fe Expedition, 1841-1842* by Thomas Falconer, published by Dauber and Pine, New York City, in 1930, for which Hodge wrote the introduction and notes.

Scope and Contents
This is a collection of Thomas Falconer data from 1929-1930 collected by F. W. Hodge, in preparation for the publication *Letters and Notes on the Texan Santa Fe Expedition, 1841-1842* by Thomas Falconer, published by Dauber and Pine, New York City, in 1930. Hodge wrote the introduction and notes for the publication. Materials include a photographic copy of a lithograph portrait of Falconer, and copies of Falconer correspondence from 1840-1841.

Preferred citation

Biographical note
Thomas Falconer (1805, 25 June – 1882, 28 August) was an English jurist and explorer. In 1840, Falconer immigrated to the Republic of Texas. On his arrival he obtained permission to accompany the Texan Santa Fe expedition as an observer. The expedition left Austin on 18 June. On the trail towards New Mexico, Falconer had his horse stolen by Indians. On 31 August, the expedition leader, Hugh McLeod, decided to split the party, with some to proceed to San Miguel and return with provisions, while the rest remained in camp. As Falconer had no horse, he remained in camp. Falconer's party was attacked by Indians a number of times, and nearly starved to death before the other party returned on 9 October as prisoners of the Mexicans. Falconer's party was also taken prisoner, and marched to Mexico City, arriving on 3 February 1842. He was then immediately released at the demand of the British minister.

Later that year, Falconer published his account of the expedition as *Expedition to Santa Fé: An Account of Its Journey from Texas through Mexico, with Particulars of Its Capture*. In 1844 he also published *Notes of a Journey through Texas and New Mexico, in the years 1841 and 1842* in the Journal of the Royal Geographical Society of London. After returning to England, he published another major work on his travels, *The Oregon Question; or a Statement of the British Claims to the Oregon Territory in Opposition to the Pretension of the Government of the United States of America*.

Processing history
Processed by Library staff after 1981. Finding aid completed by Holly Rose Larson, NHPRC Processing Archivist, 2012 November 8, made possible through grant funding from the National Historical Publications and Records Commissions (NHPRC).

Acquisition
Donated by F. W. Hodge, 1945 October.

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Access
Collection is open for research. Appointments to view materials are required. To make an appointment please visit http://theautry.org/research/research-rules-and-application or contact library staff at rroom@theautry.org.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Falconer, Thomas, 1805-1882
Hodge, Frederick Webb, 1864-1956
Correspondence
*Letters and Notes on the Texan Santa Fe Expedition, 1841-1842*
Lithograph
Mexico -- Description and travel
Texan Santa Fé Expedition, 1841
Texas -- Description and travel