Finding aid of the Colonel James J. Ayers' Speech on July 4, 1872

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Finding aid of the Colonel James J. Ayers Speech on July 4, 1872

Collection number: C057704

The Society of California Pioneers
San Francisco, California

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Descriptive Summary
Title: Colonel James J. Ayers Speech on July 4, 1872
Dates: 1872
Collection number: C057704
Creator: Colonel James J. Ayers
Collection Size: 1 speech (11 pages)
San Francisco, California 94107-1272
Abstract: Includes a packet with an eleven-page handwritten speech. The speech was written by Colonel J.J. Ayers as a celebration for the 4th of July in 1872. Ayers' speech, given at San Buenaventura, focuses on patriotism and celebrating the founding of the nation 96 years prior. The packet also includes a poem entitled Ventura!

Physical location: B001393

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access
Collection is open by appointment for research.

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Preferred Citation

Biography / Administrative History
James Joseph Ayers was born in Glasgow, Scotland on August 27, 1830. His family moved to New Jersey when he was one year old. By age 18, he was trained in printmaking and was the editor of the Republican in St. Louis. In 1849, Ayers traveled on foot through Nicaragua to California. Because the Panama steamers were so crowded, the group he was traveling with built their own boat and sailed to Cape San Lucas, where they were shipwrecked. Eventually, he made it to San Diego and was able to secure passage to San Francisco. After finding mining less rewarding than he thought, Ayers began working in the printmaking business. Ayers worked on the staff of multiple newspapers in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Honolulu, and other various cities in California and Nevada. In 1878, Ayers was elected to the Constitutional Convention, which framed the foundation of the laws of California, where he helped to ensure that both men and women could attend the University of California. Ayers died on November 12, 1897 while living in Azusa in Los Angeles County. He was a member of the Society of California Pioneers.

Scope and Content of Collection
Includes a packet with an eleven-page handwritten speech. The speech was written by Colonel J.J. Ayers as a celebration for the 4th of July in 1872. Ayers' speech, given at San Buenaventura, focuses on patriotism and celebrating the founding of the nation 96 years prior. The packet also includes a poem entitled Ventura!
Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Ayers, James J., Colonel, 1830-1897
Ventura County (Calif.)
California-History

Related Material

Institutional records "Ayers, James Joseph" Obituary Records (vol. 6, pg. 37) Archives Records (vol. 1, pg. 28) Mortuary Record (1892-1906 pg. 88)