Milton Frank Kemble Papers: Finding Aid

The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens
Manuscripts Department
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, California 91108
Phone: (626) 405-2129
Email: reference@huntington.org
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**Overview of the Collection**

**Title:** Milton Frank Kemble Papers  
**Dates (inclusive):** 1827-1887  
**Collection Number:** mssKemble papers  
**Creator:** Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888.  
**Extent:** 47 pieces in 1 box  
**Repository:** The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. Manuscripts Department  
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**Abstract:** The bulk of this collection consists of the diaries, account books, weather diaries, and notebooks of American Midwestern farmer Milton Frank Kemble (1829-1888). Of particular interest is the diary Kemble wrote while traveling by train from Iowa to California in 1873.  

**Language:** English.  

**Access**  
Open to qualified researchers by prior application through the Reader Services Department. For more information, contact Reader Services.  

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**Preferred Citation**  

**Provenance**  
Gift of Ira Oscar Kemble, June 27, 1945.  

**Biographical Note**  
Milton Frank Kemble (1829-1888) was born in Elkton, Ohio, on July 15, 1829. He spent most of his life in Kansas and Oskaloosa, Iowa, and made occasional trips to Santa Clara County, California. He dedicated a great deal of his time to farming and taking notes on the weather and land. He died in July 1888.  

**Scope and Content**  
The bulk of the collection consists of the diaries, account books, weather diaries, and notebooks of Milton Frank Kemble (1829-1888). Of particular interest is the diary Kemble wrote while traveling by train from Iowa to California in 1873. The rest of the collection is of materials from other members of the Kemble family.  

**Arrangement**  
The collection is in one box and is arranged alphabetically by author, followed by miscellaneous manuscripts and ephemera.  

**Indexing Terms**  
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Huntington Library’s Online Catalog.  

**Subjects**  
Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888.  
Farmers -- Iowa -- Diaries.  
Farmers -- Kansas -- Diaries.  
Frontier and pioneer life -- California -- Santa Clara County.  
Frontier and pioneer life -- Iowa.  
Frontier and pioneer life -- Kansas.  
Overland journeys to the Pacific.  
Railroad travel -- West (U.S.) -- History -- Sources.
Weather -- Observations.
California, Northern -- Description and travel.
Kansas -- Description and travel.
Oskaloosa (Iowa) -- Description and travel.

Forms/Genres
Account books -- 19th century.
Diaries -- 19th century.
Notebooks -- 19th century.

Box 1  Manuscripts and ephemera

Folder 1  Chambers, John. Deed to Thomas Vernon. 1864
          Physical Description: 1 piece

Folder 2  Kamal, John and Mary. Promissory note to John Kemble. 1871
          Physical Description: 1 piece

Folder 3  Kemble, John. Hughe Chain. 1873
          Physical Description: 1 piece

Folder 4  Kemble, John. Account book. 1827-1874
          Physical Description: 1 piece

Folder 5  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Account book. 1864-1869
          Physical Description: 1 piece

Folder 6  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Account book. 1874-1875
          Physical Description: 1 piece

Folder 7  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Account book. 1884
          Physical Description: 1 piece

Folder 8  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Account book and weather diary. 1881-1883
          Physical Description: 1 piece

Folder 9  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Account book and weather diary. 1885
          Physical Description: 1 piece

Folder 10  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Account book and weather diary. 1886
           Physical Description: 1 piece

Folder 11  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Diary. 1873
           Physical Description: 1 piece

Folder 12  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Diary. 1874-1875
           Physical Description: 1 piece

Folder 13  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Diary. 1876-1877
           Physical Description: 1 piece
Folder 14  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Diary. 1878-1880  
       Physical Description: 1 piece
Folder 15  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Diary. 1879-1880  
       Physical Description: 1 piece
Folder 16  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Diary. 1880-1881  
       Physical Description: 1 piece
Folder 17  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Diary. 1883-1884  
       Physical Description: 1 piece
Folder 18  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Notebook. 1853-1860  
       Physical Description: 1 piece
Folder 19  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Notebook. 1869-1872  
       Physical Description: 1 piece
Folder 20  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Notebook. 1875  
       Physical Description: 1 piece
Folder 21  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Notebook. 1880  
       Physical Description: 1 piece
Folder 22  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Notebook. 1881-1882  
       Physical Description: 1 piece
Folder 23  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Notebook. 1885  
       Physical Description: 1 piece
Folder 24  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Notebook. 1886-1887  
       Physical Description: 1 piece
Folder 25  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Weather diary. 1873  
       Physical Description: 1 piece
Folder 26  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Weather diary. 1873-1874  
       Physical Description: 1 piece
Folder 27  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Weather diary. 1874  
       Physical Description: 1 piece
Folder 28  Kemble, Milton Frank, 1829-1888. Weather diary. 1884-1885  
       Physical Description: 1 piece
Folder 29  Kemble, S. S. Letter to “Dear Father”. 1869  
       Physical Description: 1 piece
Folder 30  Kemble, S. S. Balance record. 1874  
       Physical Description: 1 piece
Folder 31  Richy, J. B. and John Kemble. Promissory note to Eden Ira. 1871  
       Physical Description: 1 piece
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Physical Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Manuscript notes. 1840-1873, undated</td>
<td>1840-1873</td>
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<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Accounting notes. 1869-1873, undated</td>
<td>1869-1873</td>
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<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Ephemera and receipts. 1873-1874, undated</td>
<td>1873-1874</td>
<td>5 pieces</td>
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<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings. 1859-1873, undated</td>
<td>1859-1873</td>
<td>4 pieces</td>
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