George May Powell Holy Land Collection

Preliminary arrangement and description by D. Tambo; latest revision A. Demeter
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Preliminary Guide to the George May Powell Holy Land Collection, ca. 1873-1900

Collection number: Bernath Mss 131

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Descriptive Summary
Title: George May Powell Holy Land Collection
Dates: ca. 1873-1900
Collection number: Bernath Mss 131
Collection Size: .2 linear feet (1 half-sized document box).
Repository: University of California, Santa Barbara. Library. Dept. of Special Collections
Santa Barbara, CA 93106
Abstract: Documents relating to cartographer and "Bible geographer" George May Powell of the Oriental Topographical Corps, including maps of Palestine, correspondence, photographs, and other ephemera.
Physical location: Del Norte (boxes 1-2); Del Norte Oversize (box 3).
Languages: English
Access Restrictions
None.
Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
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Acquisition Information
Biography
From vendor description: George May Powell was a philanthropist and public speaker on progressive and religious issues of the late 19th century. Powell’s public career started in his 20s as a noted statistician in the U.S. Treasury Department during the Civil War. After the war Powell became very involved in publishing companies and founded several social reform organizations. He was a noted public speaker, writer, and cartographer. In later years he organized a trip to Egypt and Palestine. Upon returning to the United States, he gave lectures about his experiences dressed in his "Oriental outfit."
Scope and Content of Collection
Documents relating to cartographer and "Bible geographer" George May Powell of the Oriental Topographical Corps, including maps of Palestine, correspondence, photographs, and other ephemera.
Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog.
Oriental Topographical Corps
| Box 1: 1 | Leaf - black and white photo of Abou Ben Adhem, c. 1892, with a map of Palestine by George May Powell dated 1886 glued to the back |
| Box 1: 2 | Correspondence - primarily to Prof. James Strong from prospective Engineer Corps candidates for Strong's expedition to Egypt and Palestine, Sept. 1873; and one letter to Strong from Powell, Oriental Topographical Corps, agreeing to accept tourists on their tours, Dec. 27, 1873 |
| Box 1: 3 | Maps - of Palestine by Powell, c. 1883-1892 |
| Box 1: 4 | Memorandum - Agreement between Powell and Charles Burns of Rochester, New York, that Burns will recruit subscriptions to the Oriental Topographical Corps, Sept. 24, 1874 |
| Box 1: 5 | Photographs - Two mounted black and white photos with captions, "Cleopatra Needle, Alexandria, Egypt, brought to Central Park, New York City, 1873" and "Mosk [sic] of Omar on site of Solomon's Temple, Jerusalem" |
| Box 1: 6 | Miscellaneous |
|          | Program for lecture by Powell, Philadelphia, Mar. 31, 1885 |
|          | *Pennsylvania Herald*, vol. 6, no. 9, July 1900 - with cover photo of Powell and small entry on him, pp. 8-9 |
|          | Assignments of Copyrights, Powell to George May Powell Publishing Company, Limited, Mar. 6, 1900 |
|          | Ticket to George May Powell's Oriental Reception |
|          | Pasted clippings on lectures by Powell, Nov. 15-16, 1882 |