

MS 1292
Martha Herrick Moore Letters
1859 - 1864

DESCRIPTION

This small collection consists of three folders highlighting five letters written by Martha Herrick while living in frontier Wisconsin and Idaho. The five letters have been typed and copies are provided in the second folder. Letters depict the frontier conditions experienced by Martha in Wisconsin and concerns for the anticipated move with her brother to the “gold fields of Kansas.” The anticipated move out of Wisconsin took place in 1863 as recorded in the last letter but the destination changes to Idaho. Throughout the letters, written to her sister, Martha communicates the conditions and demands of living in a frontier setting and on the road traveling in a wagon train. The last folder is a short biographical sketch of Martha Henrick Moore from a family history.

1 Box, .25 linear ft.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Martha E. Herrick was born in 1837 in New York near the St. Lawrence River. By 1859 Martha and her brother Henry had moved to Burr Oak, Wisconsin. Henry wanted to move to Kansas but there seems to have been no traveling until 1863 and then the destination was Idaho. In 1864 Martha reached Fort Laramie, Idaho Territory and shortly after her arrival she married Peter Moore who operated the first flour mill in Boise. In 1873 Peter and Martha and their family move to Arizona where Peter became involved in irrigation and cut and sold wood to the railroad. Later they purchased the Rafter X Ranch in Rucker Canyon in Cochise County. Peter died in California in 1906. Martha returned to Arizona and stayed in Douglas until her death in 1917.

ACQUISITION

Donated by Mrs. William Moore Hood in 2005.

ACCESS

There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

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Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be addressed to the Arizona Historical Society, Tucson, Archives Department.

PROCESSING

The collection was processed by Dave Tackenberg in September 2006.