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**ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**949 East Second Street  
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**MS 663  
POSTON, CHARLES DEBRILLE, 1825-1902  
PAPERS, 1844-1891****DESCRIPTION**

The bulk of the collection is biographical material about Poston and transcripts of writings that he did. The collection includes a copy of *Poston's Reconnaissance in Sonora, 1854*, copies and translation of the Doña Ana County record book, 1856-1861, a mining certificate for the Arizona Mining Company, 1864, a photocopy of Poston's address book and an original of House Resolution No. 12 condemning Poston's opposition to the election of John N. Goodwin as territorial delegate to U. S. Congress. There are typed copies of manuscripts written by Poston for publication and original letters concerning the Arizona Pioneers' Historical Society.

1 Box, .5 linear feet

**BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

Charles D. Poston, known as the "father of Arizona," was an explorer, miner, and territorial delegate to the U. S. Congress. He was instrumental in gaining territorial status for Arizona. He was born in Kentucky and moved to California in 1850. In 1854, he and Ehrenberg founded Colorado City, precursor of Yuma. He went east to raise funds for the Sonora Exploring and Mining Company and reached Tucson in 1856. His party prospected mines in Ajo and Cerro Colorado and other properties near Tubac. He was Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Arizona in 1863-1864. In 1884, he founded the Society of Arizona Pioneers (later the Arizona Historical Society). He died in Phoenix in 1902.

**ACQUISITION**

Most of the material is photocopies; the original material is Arizona Pioneers' Historical Society material.

**ACCESS**

There are no restrictions on access to this collection; some items have been copied to protect the originals which have been placed in "rare."

**COPYRIGHT**

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

**PROCESSING**

The collection was processed by Riva Dean in September 1997.

## INVENTORY

- f. 1 Biographical material
- f. 2 Copies of family bible genealogy
- f. 3 Poston manuscripts
- f. 4 Mining Certificate, 1864
- f. 5 Poston's Address Book (photocopy)
- f. 6 House Resolution #12, 1865
- f. 7 Arizona Pioneers' Historical Society, 1885-1932
- f. 8 Transcript of "Titulo" – Doña Ana County Record Book.
- f. 9 Photostat of "Titulo" – Doña Ana County Record Book.
- f. 10 Negative photostat of "Titulo" – Doña Ana County Record Book.
- f. 11 *Poston's Reconnaissance in Sonora, 1854*