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**ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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**MS 0705**  
**St. John, Silas, 1835-1919**  
**Reminiscences, 1857-1915**

**DESCRIPTION**

Includes two letters to Dr. Robert Forbes, Nov. 1915, answering questions and a letter to the Arizona Historical Society, July 1898, about a donation, as well as a typed copy of a manuscript titled "The Establishment of the Trans-Continental Mail Service," about locating the line, building the stations, the people involved, and problems encountered. Also present are news articles related to St. John.

1 box, .25 linear ft.

**BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

Expressman; born in Connecticut in 1835, Silas St. John came to Arizona with Capt. Wallace in 1857, establishing the San Diego and San Antonio mail line, under the Birch contract, the first transcontinental overland mail. The following year, 1858, he returned under the Butterfield Mail contract, which was merged into the Overland Mail Co. In 1859, he was appointed Special Agent to the Pima and Maricopa Indians.

**RELATED MATERIAL**

Typed copies of St. John's reports as agent to the Pima and Maricopa, 1859, are located in the Silas St. John Hayden biographical file.

**ACQUISITION**

Letters were donated by Robert Forbes; Edith Kitt copied the manuscript from the files of the Southwestern Museum in July 1941.

**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**

Kim Frontz prepared this finding aid in April 2010.