
ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY949 East Second Street
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MS 0754**SPRING, JOHN ARNOLD, 1845-1925
PAPERS, 1864-1967 (bulk: 1876-1903)****DESCRIPTION**

The collection contains a mix of materials concerning the life of John A. Spring. It contains manuscripts written by Spring as well as biographical material on Spring's life and family. There is one original photograph of Spring's birthplace in Switzerland and one hand-drawn map of Arizona done by Spring. The collection includes one folder of original correspondence from Spring to the Society of Arizona Pioneers (later AHS). This includes one folder of reminiscences with a cover that is a watercolor by Spring done in 1885. There is also an oversize drawing by Spring of an emblem for the Society of Arizona Pioneers, dedicated to President J. S. Mansfeld on the date of his death in 1894.

1 Box, .5 linear feet

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

John A. Spring, pioneer Tucson educator, was born in Switzerland in 1845. He came to the United States in 1864 to enlist in the Union Army. He arrived in Tucson with the military in 1866 and remained here when he ended his military career in 1868. He engaged in a variety of activities until 1872 when he became Tucson's first public school teacher. He describes the school in the manuscript, *Troublous Days in Arizona*. He was later engaged in different vocations including writing and he drew many sketches. He later moved to California and then Virginia where he died at the age of 79 in 1924.

INVENTORY**Box 1**

Folder 1: Correspondence with AHS, 1885-1897

Folder 2: Biographical Material, 1927-1967

Folder 3: Manuscripts by Spring (*Historical Address*, 1876 & *Teaching School in the Early Days*, 1897.)Folder 4: Manuscripts by Spring (*With the Regulars in Arizona in the Sixties*, 1902)Folder 5: Manuscripts by Spring (*Troublous Days in Arizona*, 1903)

Folder 6: Newspaper Clippings & Transcripts, 1872-1933

Folder 7: Photos

Folder 8: Hand-drawn map by Spring

Folder 9: Spring's Army Records (Photostats, 1864-1888)

Box 2 Oversize drawing of Arizona Society of Pioneers emblem**ACQUISITION**

Some of the material was given by Spring and the rest was donated by Spring's grandson, Richard Spring Legarra in 1966.

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, Library/Archives Department.

PROCESSING

The collection was processed by Riva Dean in September 1997.