DESCRIPTION

This collection primarily contains financial records of Columbus Steward’s business dealings. Steward was in the dry goods business and later in the cattle business (Steward and Bolton Company). The ledgers contain records of merchandise bought and sold by Steward’s dry goods business or Steward & Bolton. The collection is arranged in four series: Correspondence (1889-1892, 1944), Manuscripts (poems written by Steward), Printed Material, and Financial records (1884-1904). Steward’s business records (ledgers) show dealings with all the prominent merchants of the time including Zeckendorf, Jacobs, Mansfeld & C. T. Hayden. The 1944 correspondence is one letter addressed to Mrs. C. S. Steward by her daughter, Bonnie.

1 Box, .5 linear feet

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Columbus Steward was born in Topeka, Kansas and came to Arizona in 1881, settling in the Salt River Valley in 1883. He operated an Indian trading post on the Gila River for fifteen years before moving to Mesa. He was later involved in the cattle business and formed the Steward and Bolton Cattle Company with W. A. Bolton in 1898. He was one of the founders of the Salt River Valley Water Users Association and served a term as Maricopa County Supervisor. He died in 1940.

ACQUISITION

Donated by Robert Rogers in 1975.

ACCESS

There are no restrictions on this collection.

COPYRIGHT

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

PROCESSING

The collection was processed around 1980; the finding aid was completed by Riva Dean, Library/Archives Co-Manager in June 1997.