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**ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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**MS 811**  
**VOSBURG, JOHN SELAH, 1840-1931**  
**VOSBURG PAPERS, 1870-1920**

**DESCRIPTION**

The collection contains memoir materials of John Vosburg (transcribed by Frank Lockwood and Clara Fish Roberts), articles of agreement (1878) made among the Schieffelins, Richard Gird and Vosburg concerning mining claims near Tombstone, one letter between Lockwood and Vosburg, correspondence between Anna Vosburg and the Historical Society (1931-1949) and correspondence between John Vosburg and the Historical Society (1916-1924). The correspondence with the Historical Society also contains reminiscences of early Arizona.

1 Box, .25 linear feet

**BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

John Silah Vosburg was born in New York in 1840. He became a gunsmith and decided to move out West. He arrived in Tucson in 1870 and set up a gunshop. He served in the Arizona Legislature in 1873 and became good friends with Governor Safford. In 1873, Safford appointed him as Adjutant General and he served in that position until he was named Territorial Auditor in 1877. He resigned from the position when the capital moved to Prescott in 1877. He and Safford were important in the financing of the Tombstone Mines, financing the Scheffelins and Richard Gird. When Vosburg sold his share of the mining operation in the early 1880s, he made \$147,000 and moved to Los Angeles. He was divorced from his first wife, Kate Slauson, who was the mother of his three sons and later married Anna S. McCrilus (1862-1948). Vosburg died in Los Angeles in 1931.

**ACQUISITION**

The Collection was donated by John and Anna Vosburg (as noted in the correspondence with APHS in the collection).

**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 by Riva Dean, Library/Archives Co-Manager in May 1997.