



Theodore Spencer Case Papers (K0295)

Collection Number: K0295

Collection Title: Theodore Spencer Case Papers

Dates: 1880-1940

Creator: Case, Theodore Spencer, 1832-1900

Abstract: The Theodore Spencer Case Papers consist of correspondence, a handwritten manuscript along with transcriptions of the manuscript, newspaper clippings, pages from a medical review, scrapbooks, a photograph, and an oversize volume.

Collection Size: 0.57 cubic foot
(7 folders, 1 volume)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at kansascity@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given and assigned to the University all rights of copyright, which the Donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor's works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the University from others.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Theodore Spencer Case Papers* (K0295); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Kansas City].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by the Native Sons of Greater Kansas City on July 17, 1990 (Accession No. KA0590).

Alternate Forms Available: Folders five through six and volume one of this collection are available on microfilm.

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the Theodore Spencer Case Papers can be found in the following collections:

Robert Thomas Van Horn Papers, 1855-1907 (C1032)

William H. McLane Papers, 1836-1893 (C1020)

Notes: Collection is associated with the Natives Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City Archives.

Processed by: Processed by Rachel Forester, April 2018

Biographical Note:

Theodore Spencer Case was born on January 26, 1832, in Jackson, Georgia, to Ermine and Mary Case. He was the oldest of four brothers. The family moved to Columbus, Ohio, shortly after his birth. He enrolled in the Marietta College in Marietta, Ohio, for his undergraduate studies and later attended the school for his master's degree in 1851. After graduation, he taught mathematics for a time and then went on to pursue a medical degree from the Starling Medical College in Columbus, Ohio. Case practiced as a physician with the Ohio State Penitentiary after graduating.

In 1857, Case moved west and settled in what would later become Kansas City, Missouri. He wrote and edited two of western Missouri's early newspapers: *Free State Republican* and the German-language *Post*. In 1860, he was elected as an alderman; in 1861, he was instrumental in gaining support for the mayoral candidacy of Democrat Robert T. Van Horn.

When the Civil War broke out in 1861, Case enlisted in Colonel Robert T. Van Horn's 13th Missouri Volunteers as a private. Within the first several weeks, he was promoted to second lieutenant. Case's major contributions to the war effort came in the role of quartermaster where he helped to provide supplies to Union military troops. Sometime during the war, Case wrote and published the *Quartermaster's Guide*, a manual that received much praise from the quartermaster general of the United States at the time. By 1866, he had been appointed quartermaster general of Missouri and later reached the rank of colonel before ending his military career.

Upon his return to Kansas City, Missouri, Case severed as an election judge, city treasurer, and postmaster. In his later years, Case taught chemistry at the Kansas City Medical College. While at the college, he helped to establish the *Kansas City Medical and Surgical Review* and the *Kansas City Review of Science and Industry*. Case is best remembered for his publication of the *History of Kansas City* in 1888.

Theodore Case died on April 9, 1900, and is buried in Elmwood Cemetery in Kansas City, Missouri.

Arrangement:

Materials within this collection have been arranged chronologically within their folders.

Scope and Content Note:

Folder one contains correspondence between Dr. Ermine Case and members of the Native Sons of Greater Kansas City regarding the Lykins and Case family papers. Folder two consists of a handwritten manuscript of *Kansas City, Missouri: Statistical Facts Regarding its Appearance in*

May 1857 and its Subsequent Growth, by Theodore Case written in 1859. The folder also contains two transcriptions of the manuscript. Folder three contains newspaper clippings regarding Theodore Case, Dr. Ermine Case, and Dr. Johnston Lykins Case. Folder four contains pages from the *Kansas City Surgical and Medical Review*, dated January 1860.

Folders five through six consist of scrapbooks containing information related to the 1903 flood in Kansas City, Missouri, Case family history and obituaries, and several of Theodore Case's travel photographs. Folder seven contains a single unidentified photograph.

Lastly, volume one consists of certificates and diplomas received by Theodore and Ermine Case.

Container List:

Box 001	f. 1	Correspondence, 1951-1952
	f. 2	Manuscript, 1859
	f. 3	Clippings, 1857-1953
	f. 4	Medical Review, 1860
	f. 5-6	Scrapbooks, 1866-1940
	f. 7	Photograph, no date
Oversize	v. 1	Certificates and Diplomas, 1851-1935

Index:

Index Term	Folder
Case, Ermine Cowles, 1871-1953	1, 3, 5-6, v. 1
Case, Johnston Lykins, 1870-1951	1, 3, 5-6
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Genealogy	6
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