HOWELL, JOSEPH TOY, Sr.  
(1853-1929)  
PAPERS  
1860-1918 

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INTRODUCTION

The Joseph Toy Howell Sr. Papers, 1860-1918, focus on J.T. Howell Sr. (1853-1929) and members of his family, including H.R. Burrus. The Joseph Toy Howell Sr. Papers are a gift of Joseph Toy Howell Jr. The collection occupies 1.5 cubic feet of shelf space and numbers approximately 301 items. Single copies of unpublished writings in the Joseph Toy Howell Sr. Papers may be made for the purposes of scholarly research. For additional information, see also the Howell Papers, 1785-1941, accession numbers 404 and 948.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

1853, May 26, Born in Richmond, Virginia; son of Robert Boyte Crawford Howell and Mary Ann Morton Toy Howell. His father was a Baptist minister. Howell’s schooling was cut short by the Civil War. Taught by his father at home. Employed by Tavel, Eastman, and Howell Printing Company.

1868  Began his banking career as a runner for the Fourth National Bank.

1876  Became Master Mason. Married Sue Grundy.

1878, Apr. 11, Knight Templar, Nashville Commandery I.

1886  Promoted to cashier. Became Vice President and at the death of Mr. Samuel J. Keith became President.

1898  Married Mannie Lindsay.

1908  President of Carnegie Trust Company.

1909  First Vice President, Fourth National Bank, Treasurer, TCRR.

1911  President of the Cumberland Valley National Bank, Vice President of Sequatchie Coal and Iron Company.

1921-1929  Cumberland Valley merged with American National and became Vice President of the combined banks.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Joseph Toy Howell Sr. (1853-1929) Papers, 1860-1918, consist of account books, carte de visite album, announcements, cards, clippings, correspondence, diaries, memoirs, financial documents, invitations, lists, memorabilia, notes, notices, obituaries, photographs, drawings, poetry, printed materials, programs, sketches, speeches, addresses, and writings.

The bulk of the collection is comprised of speeches, addresses, clippings, writings, and materials reflecting Howell’s life as a banker, businessman and a Freemason. Joseph Toy Howell Sr. was an officer of several banking institutions in Nashville, Tennessee. He was also a member of several banking and business associations, and a member of the Masons, Phoenix Lodge 131.

The bulk of the speeches address trade, business, and fraternal organizations. One of the speeches pertains to King Edward VII of England. Mr. Howell gives great accolades to King Edward in his professional, personal, and Masonic life, emphasizing his affiliation with the Masons.

H.R. Burrus's account books are included in Mr. Howell's collection. These account books (1895-1901) contain records of the West End Building Association; M.P. Carter account; Arkansas land; taxes paid on properties; leases; moneys to Bryan and Weathers, architects of Memphis, Tennessee; records of Defeated Cane Place; personal expenses; and travel expenses.

A letter from Tennessee Governor M.R. Patterson, dated July 19, 1908, is among the correspondence in the collection. Also included is a letter from a Mr. Stevenson, Ph.D., D.D., and editor of the Vanderbilt Oriental Series, dated Nov. 18, 1912, containing the Arab call to prayer, that includes the English translation.

Among the diaries and memoirs are two volumes of daily accounts written by H.R. Burrus during his European trip in 1905. They contain expenses he incurred, places he visited, and the names of fellow travelers.

A large leather-bound carte de visite album from the Nashville Commandery, No. 1 Knights Templar consists of numerous cartes de visite of men dressed in black suits along with their Masonic regalia. Of the cartes de visite included, only 4 are identified—President Andrew Johnson, H. Sheffield, W. F. Foster, and William Nichols. Several, if not all, of the cartes de visite were taken by Giers Photography on Union Street in Nashville, Tennessee. The exact date of the album is unknown, but it is thought to be approximately 1870.
CONTAINER LIST

Box 1
1. Account books--H.R. Burrus, 1895-1901
2. Announcements--Marriage - Fletcher Burrus & Miss Hattie Pointer
3. Associations, institutions, etc.--F. & A. Masonic Ceremonies
4. Associations, institutions, etc.--F. & A. Masonic Ceremonies in O
5. Cards--Place
6. Clippings--Banking
7. Clippings--Charles P. Curd
8. Clippings--Miscellaneous
9. Correspondence--author unknown
10. Correspondence--Frodyce-Thomas Howell
11. Correspondence--McDonald-Wardlaw
12. Diaries, memoirs, etc.--H.R., Burrus
14. Invitations
15. Lists--Property of J.T. Howell
16. Lists--Property of Mrs. Fanny D. Nelson
17. Memorabilia--Mexico, 1909
18. Miscellaneous--Postcards
19. Notes--R.M.S. "Teutonic"
20. Notices--Funeral-Mrs. Dr. Howell, 11-2-1871
21. Obituaries--Morton B. Howell, March 27, 1909
22. Photographs, drawings, etc.--Unidentified individual
23. Poetry--author unknown
24. Poetry--If by Rudyard Kipling
25. Printed materials--booklet-Conquest and Kultur, 1918
26. Programs--misc.-1869-1910
27. Sketches--places-Smyrna Army Air Base
28. Speeches, addresses, etc.--The Commercial Club of Nashville
29. Speeches, addresses, etc.--Edward VII, May 1910
30. Speeches, addresses, etc.--F & A Masons
31. Speeches, addresses, etc.--1st Battalion, 1st Regiment National Guard, State of Tennessee
32. Speeches, addresses, etc.--Miscellaneous
33. Speeches, addresses, etc.--Nashville Board of Education, June 8, 1910
34. Speeches, addresses, etc.--Nashville Board of Trade
35. Speeches, addresses, etc.--Nashville Clearing House Association
36. Speeches, addresses, etc.--Tennessee Bankers Association
37. Writings--author unknown
38. Writings--George E. Roberts, 1908
Box 2 (Oversize)
1. Carte de visite album--Nashville Commandry No. 1 of Knights Templar, approximately 1870