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Wells Family Papers, 1847-1883

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Processed by Dennis Northcott, October 2009

REPOSITORY

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DONOR INFORMATION

Donor information is not available.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Brothers Joseph B. Wells (1806-1858), Dr. John C. Wells (died 1857), and Carty Wells (1805-1860) came to St. Charles County, Missouri, from Kentucky in 1827. Joseph B. Wells practiced law in Warren County and St. Louis, before moving to San Francisco in 1851. He died December 31, 1858, in Troy, Missouri. Dr. John C. Wells married Kitty Custer, and practiced medicine at Troy until his death in 1857.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Collection includes correspondence, legal papers, and other documents of the Wells family.

- 1847 Feb 15 Handwritten invitation to a ball to be given by Mr. F. Perkins at the Troy Hotel. Invitation lists the names of twelve managers. Verso reads, "Misses Custer, Present."
- 1849 June 11 Letter signed Henry Parker, Troy, to Dr. John C. Wells, Warrenton, Missouri. ". . . Hoping that you may succeed in planting another sprig of the great tree of Temperance, and that it may flourish while under your care, in Warrenton, and become a great tree which shall shelter the heads of many who are groaning under the yoke of the 'fell destroyer,' and a monument to tell in future time, of the happy effects of the glorious cause of Temperance."
- 1853 June 15 Letter signed Barret, Springfield, Illinois, to friend John C. Wells, M.D., Troy, Missouri. Mentions Mat Fisher and Dr. Richardson. Mentions visit with his family and that he will return home about next week.
- 1853 Dec 29 Letter signed Joseph B. Wells, San Francisco, to Dr. James. Discusses the lack of rain, the poor condition of the grass, and their livestock. Also discusses the prices of recent sales of property in San Francisco.
- 1870 Mar 8 Copy complaint of the 12th District Court of California, San Francisco, comprising an action brought by the San Francisco Gas Company, plaintiff, against Eugene L. Wells, Jephthah Wells, Edward B. Wells, and William H. Wells, and John H. Brewer, guardian of the estate of William H. Wells, Eugene L. Wells, Jephthah Wells, and Edward B. Wells, minors, defendants. Complaint relates to proposed partition or sale of property in San Francisco.
- 1870 Mar 8 Copy summons of the 12th District Court of California, San Francisco, to Eugene L. Wells, Jephthah Wells, Edward B. Wells, and William H. Wells, and John H. Brewer, guardian of the estate of William H. Wells, Eugene L. Wells, Jephthah Wells, and Edward B. Wells, minors, defendants, to appear in an action brought against them by the San Francisco Gas Company, plaintiff. Case relates to proposed partition or sale of property in San Francisco.
- 1870 Mar 8 Copy summons of the 12th District Court of California, San Francisco, to Eugene L. Wells, Jephthah Wells, Edward B. Wells, and William H. Wells, and John H. Brewer, guardian of the estate of William H. Wells, Eugene L. Wells, Jephthah Wells, and Edward B. Wells, minors, defendants, to appear in an action brought against them by the San Francisco Gas Company, plaintiff. Case relates to proposed partition or sale of property in San Francisco.
- 1870 Aug 29 Letter signed John H. Brewer, San Francisco, to Walter U. Wells, Troy, Missouri. Brewer discusses the administration of the estate of Walter Wells' uncle, Joseph B. Wells. He also mentions that he has filed his account as administrator of the estate of Carty Wells.

- 1870 Dec 16 Copy summons and complaint of the 12th District Court of California, San Francisco, to Eugene L. Wells, Jephthah Wells, Edward B. Wells, William H. Wells, Mary Doe Wells, John H. Brewer, guardian of the estate of Eugene L. Wells, Jephthah Wells, Edward B. Wells, and William H. Wells, minors, John Doe and Richard Doe, defendants, to appear in an action brought against them by the San Francisco Gas Company. Complaint relates to proposed partition or sale of property in San Francisco.
- 1870 Dec 16 Copy summons and complaint of the 12th District Court of California, San Francisco, to Eugene L. Wells, Jephthah Wells, Edward B. Wells, William H. Wells, Mary Doe Wells, John H. Brewer, guardian of the estate of Eugene L. Wells, Jephthah Wells, Edward B. Wells, and William H. Wells, minors, Richard H. Wells, Thomas L. Wells, John Doe, and Richard Doe, defendants, to appear in an action brought against them by Henry H. Haight. Complaint relates to proposed partition or sale of property in San Francisco.
- 1883 Aug 4 Letter signed Sam Ruland, Woodland, Yoho County, California, to cousin Jephthah Wells. Ruland asks Wells for news of friends in his birth place of Troy, Missouri, and recounts experiences of his life. “. . . my sisters, Rebecca and Eliza, removed to Memphis, and drifted off into the war, and wound up by going to Brazil. . . . My oldest sister, Mrs. Rebecca Freligh, has returned from Brazil and lives in Memphis, Tenn. The younger sister, Mrs. Eliza White, who was Mrs. Kerr, still resides in Brazil, with her son, Warwick Kerr, who is prospering and making a fortune. . . . Early in the action I easily found the Mexican War; next I took in California; then I became Walker’s Filibuster Adjutant General in the Sonora raid (not the Nicaragua). . . .” Mentions that he read about the murder of Matt. Wilkinson by Wesley Gibson in the Missouri Republican. Also mentions John Snethen, Jim Wells, Carty Wells, Tom Wells, Darius Heald, John C. Heald, Benton Audrain, and Anna Knisley (nee Audrain).
- No date Handwritten Wells family birth records, includes names and birth dates of several Wells family members. Birth dates range from 1848 to 1854. Also includes a couple death dates. Verso contains “Parents’ Records”: Father, John C. Wells; mother, Catherine E. Wells.