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John Seldon Roane Civil War letters SMC.005.020

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Summary Information

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Repository Arkansas State Archives

Title John Seldon Roane Civil War letters

Date 1862

Extent 0.01 Cubic feet 1 folder, 1 reel microfilm

Language English

Language of Materials Materials entirely in English.

Microform [Reel] MG00201

Preferred Citation

John Seldon Roane Civil War letters, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Biographical Note

John Seldon Roane was born in Lebanon, Tennessee, January 8, 1817. He moved to Pine Bluff, Arkansas, in 1837, where he studied law under his older brother Samuel Calhoun Roane, a prominent slaveholder. He was active in politics and was elected the first prosecuting attorney of Second Judicial District in 1840.

In the Mexican War, he raised a regiment of mounted infantry, which became part of the First Arkansas Mounted Rifles, and was elected lieutenant colonel. After the war, he returned to Pine Bluff, where he practiced law. He became Arkansas's fourth governor in a special election on March 14, 1849, narrowly defeating Cyrus W. Wilson.

He married Mary Kimbrough Smith on July 5, 1855, and they raised five children. He joined the Confederate Army in March, 1862, as a Brigadier General in the Western Division, serving under Generals Hindman and Smith. He led a brigade at the Battle of Prairie Grove. He died April 7, 1867.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains photocopies of a letter from Roane to General P.G.T. Beauregard discussing Union troops near Batesville, Arkansas, and a telegram from R.F. Pinkway to an unknown party.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Arkansas State Archives 8/22/2020

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research use. The ASA possesses the material listed in this finding aid in the original format, but due to preservation concerns this collection is accessible to the public through microfilm format.

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Unknown, 1959.

Collection Inventory

1862 May 10: Letter: J.S. Roane, Little Rock, to Genl. Beauregard, Richmond, Va.

1862 May 18: Telegram: R.F. Pinkway, to [?]