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James R. Turner papers SMC.018.013

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Summary Information

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Repository Arkansas State Archives

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Language of Materials Materials entirely in English.

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Biographical/Historical Note

James R. Turner was born on August 7, 1848, to William R. and Elizabeth F. Ewett Turner of Phillips County, Arkansas. He was a livery merchant for twenty-five years in Poplar Grove (Phillips County) and also served as postmaster for twenty years. He married Retta N. McCoy on February 2, 1868. They had several children including Robert N., Daisy, Eva, Templin, and Cavett. He served as Justice of the Peace for eight years, following in his father's footsteps. In 1869, he became a correspondent for the "Southern Shield" newspaper. After he lost everything in a fire, in 1895 he established "The Shield," a Helena newspaper. He was a member of the Knights of Honor, and he and Mrs. Turner were members of Knights and Ladies of Honor. He died June 9, 1936.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains invitations and programs of various social activities in and around Poplar Grove, Helena, and Marvell, Phillips County, Arkansas, including Knights of Honor and Knights and Ladies of Honor events that were attended by James R. Turner. There are also items related to President Theodore Roosevelt's visit to Little Rock in 1905. Other items in the collection include a Justice of the Peace commission for William Turner (James R. Turner's father) and a land grant issued to Walter and Sarah Burress.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Arkansas State Archives 3/18/2011

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.

Conditions Governing Use

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

James R. Turner, Helena, Arkansas, 1915.

Related Materials

Separated Materials

Collection of Arkansas Press Association, Knights and Ladies of Honor, and miscellaneous ribbons and buttons permanently transferred to museum collection. 3/18/2011

Collection Inventory

Commission

1860 October 17: William Turner, Justice of the Peace, Marion Township, Phillips County, Arkansas

Land grant

1839 October 10: Walter and Sarah Burress, Phillips County, Arkansas

Invitations

1873 February 25: Carnival of Helena, to J.R. Turner and Lady

1874 February 17: Grand Mardi Gras Ball given by Knights of Phillippi

1874 June 24: Lafayette Lodge, Number 189, A.F. and A.M. Masonic Picnic, Poplar Grove, Arkansas

1875 February 9: Carnival Ball, Knights of Phillippi, Helena, Arkansas

1877 December 18: The "Helena Rifles" Grand Ball and Flag Presentation

1878 May 14: "Helena Rifles" at Phillips Academy, Helena, Arkansas, William H. Coates to James R. Turner

1878 July 4: Ball, Helena Fire Department

1881 May 19: Dance and Ice Cream Supper, Ladies Aid Society, Marvell, Arkansas

1883 May 23: Grand Ball, Young Men of Clarendon

1883 October 16: Poplar Grove Lodge Number 2442, Knights of Honor, Turner Hall, Poplar Grove, Arkansas

1883 December 27: Social Dance, Poplar Grove Hall

1884 January 15: Grand Supper and Masquerade Ball, Clarendon Dramatic Club

1885 December 10: Grand Ball, Irvin House, Poplar Grove, Arkansas

1886 June 17: Grand Ball, Irvin House, Poplar Grove, Arkansas

1887 October 20: Young Men's Annual Hop, Armory Hall

1881 December 21: Wedding of Janie Neel and Stephen W. Williams, First Presbyterian Church, Shelbyville, Kentucky

1887 December 27: Grand Ball and Supper, Trenton Social Club at the Masonic Hall, Trenton, Arkansas

1888 January 27: Ball and Supper, Ladies Aid Society, Irvin House, Poplar Grove, Arkansas

1888 August 7: Wedding of Bessie Noel and John Williams, St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church South, Wytheville, Virginia

1889 December 26: Grand Ball and Supper, Masonic Hall, Trenton, Arkansas

1891 June 5-12: Grand T.P.A. Special Train Excursion to Hot Springs, Arkansas, and through the Great Southwest

1891 July 23: Army and Navy Reception at Redondo Hotel, Redondo, California, in honor of arrival of the U.S.S. War Ship Charleston, to Mr. James R. Turner and family

1892 May 13: Bridge Opening Banquet, Gayoso Hotel, Memphis, Tennessee

1893 December 21: Knights of Pythias Grand Ball, Clarendon Opera House

1896 January 23: Program, Public Installation of the officers of Reynolds Lodge Number 7, Knights of Pythias, Grand Opera House, Helena, Arkansas

1897 November 24: Mr. and Mrs. Carruth, Fortieth Anniversary, Marvell, Arkansas

1898 May 3: Reception and Banquet in honor of the Grand Lodge, Knights and Ladies of Honor, Batesville, Arkansas

1898 June 1: Wedding of Sue Louise Powell and Rufus Walter Polk, Christ Church, Arkansas, Edward Wadsworth Winfield to Mr. Turner

1899 February 14: Programme, St. Valentine's Ball, Concordia Hall, Little Rock, Arkansas

1908 May 21: Luncheon, Arkansas Press Association, Hotel Marion

1908 May 21-23: Program, Arkansas Press Association

1909 October 6: Banquet commemorating the Twenty-Third Anniversary of Al G. Field, Greater Minstrels, Columbus, Georgia

May 24: Banquet, Ridge City Club, Helena, Arkansas

May 24: Program, Officers Memorial Association

June 3: Odd Fellows' Picnic, Marvell, Phillips County, Arkansas

Theodore Roosevelt's visit to Little Rock, Arkansas

1905 October 25: Announcement

1905 October 5: Press Stand Admission, James R. Turner

Miscellaneous

1892 March 14: Card, Ridge City Club, Helena Arkansas, to J.R. Turner, Introduced by William M. Neal

1892 April 23: Letter: R.W. Nicholls, President, Sons of Veterans, Helena, Arkansas, to "Sir"

1894 February 5: Membership card, New Orleans Chess, Checkers, and Whist Club, to Mr. Turner

1896 February 7: Pamphlet, "Yankee Doodle and Dixie," Cleburne Chandler's book

Undated: Postcard, "A New American Novelist"

May 18-20: Card, The Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone Company

Correspondence

1906 March 12: Dr. and Mrs. Rightor to Mr. Turner

1908 July 4: "Daisy" to Mr. J.R. Turner, Helena, Arkansas

Other

1906 March 28: Kubelik Turner died

Undated: Christmas Greeting, Forrest to Grandpa