

E. J. Davison Autograph Book

The E.J. Davison Autograph Book is one of a series of autograph collections in the Missouri Valley Special Collections. It is a typical small autograph book of the late 19th century. The focus is on federal government officials and departments in Washington, D.C.

Descriptive Summary

Creator: E. J. Davison
Title: E. J. Davison autograph book
Dates: 1878-1879
Size: 5" x 7 1/2", unpagged [73 p.]
Location: SC35-5

Administrative Information

Restrictions on access: Unrestricted access.

Acquisition information: Gift, July 23, 1936, E.J. Davison - The last page contains the gift letter addressed to librarian Purd Wright from Mr. Davison, Osage City, Kansas, July 23, 1936.

Custodial history: Formerly located in the Reference Department and classed as 081 D26.

Citation note: E. J. Davison autograph book (SC35-5), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

Collection Description

Scope and content note

This autograph book was compiled, according to dates found with some signatures, in 1878-1879 by E.J. Davison in Washington, D.C. The signatures focus on United States government offices and departments. It does include the autograph of then President Rutherford B. Hayes and Vice President William A. Wheeler as well as the majority of Senators at that time. Included are the signatures of George Vest and F.M. Cockrell from Missouri.

Decorative calligraphy is used throughout the book, especially when denoting department divisions. There are approximately 170 signatures in the book and most are written directly on the book's pages. A few appear on small cards which are pasted on the page. The only illustrations are found in the next to last page and they appear to be unrelated pencil sketches probably done by Mr. Davison.

Index of Departments: President, Vice President, Department of the Interior, Patent Office, Land Office, Indian Bureau, Pension Office, Bureau of Education, Treasury, War, Navy, Post-Office, Department of Justice, Supreme Court, Senate of the U.S., 6 individual names, "Maker of Model Pullman and Woodruff Palace Cars" (J. Dean Benton, Providence, R.I., On Exhibition at the Centennial), Hutchison Family, 4 individual names, Accession letter.

Processed by Special Collections Librarian Sara Nyman, November 2001.