

**The Filson Historical Society**

**The Papers of the  
Shelby Family**

The papers of the descendants of Governor Isaac Shelby.

For information regarding literary and copyright interests for these papers, see the Curator of Manuscripts, James J. Holmberg.

**Size of Collection**

**0.66 cubic feet**

**Locator Number Mss.\A\S544a**

### **Scope and Content Note**

Includes correspondence of the Shelby, Gibson, Humphreys, Johnstone, and Thompson families. Discussion of family matters and current news are the primary subjects. Papers of Lucy A. Humphreys Johnstone, 1871-1920; Sarah Gibson Humphreys, 1872-1905; Sallie G. Humphreys, 1867-1887; Mary E. Taylor Humphreys, 1885-1897; and Joseph A. Humphreys, 1880-1903; and legal papers, 1849-1883, comprise the bulk of the collection.

Mss.

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S544a          Shelby Family  
Papers.          1821-1920.

Box 1

- fl. 1          Correspondence, 1821-1881.
- fl. 2          Lucy A. Johnstone correspondence, 1871-1884.
- fl. 3          Lucy A. Johnstone correspondence, 1885-1894.
- fl. 4          Lucy A. Johnstone correspondence, 1895-1897.
- fl. 5          Lucy A. Johnstone correspondence, 1898-1920.
- fl. 6          Mrs. Sarah Gibson Humphreys correspondence, 1872-1898.
- fl. 7          Mrs. Sarah Gibson Humphreys correspondence, 1900-1905.
- fl. 8          Sarah Gibson Humphreys checks, 1895-1900.
- fl. 9          Sallie G. Humphreys correspondence, 1867-1886.

Box 2

- fl. 10         Mary E. Humphreys correspondence, 1885-1886.
- fl. 11         Mary E. Humphreys correspondence, 1887 Feb.-July.
- fl. 12         Mary E. Humphreys correspondence, 1887 Aug.-Oct.
- fl. 13         Mary E. Humphreys correspondence, 1887 Nov.-1889.
- fl. 14         Mary E. Humphreys correspondence, 1890-1891.
- fl. 15         Mary E. Humphreys correspondence, 1892-1893.
- fl. 16         Mary E. Humphreys correspondence, 1895-1897.
- fl. 17         Joseph A. Humphreys correspondence, 1880-1903.
- fl. 18         Legal papers, 1849-1893.
- fl. 19         Miscellaneous.

## **Biographical Note**

Joseph Alexander Humphreys was born in Woodford County, Ky. in 1826. He was educated at Centre College in Danville, then attended Yale College, and finished his medical studies in Europe; though he never practiced medicine. He remained a farmer all his life. In 1853, he married Sarah T. Gibson, a native of the Parish of Terre Bonne, La. and daughter of the Honorable Tobias Gibson and sister of sister of Senator Gibson of La. She was widowed in 1863 with three children: Lucy A. Johnstone, Sallie and Joseph A. Humphreys.