

NUCMC Catalog Record

Creator: Milton, John, 1807-1865

Title: John Milton letter book and correspondence

Date Created: 1861-1863

Extent: 1.75 cubic ft. (5 document boxes)

Location: Florida Historical Society (Cocoa, Fla.) (MSS 92-1)

Arrangement of Materials: Box 1 contains 12 folders including copies of correspondence about the provenance of the collection and original letter book (up to page 456). Box 2 contains original letter book (p. 457 to 720), various letters including several from Stephen R. Mallory, and loose items by Governor Milton inserted in book. Box 3 holds 13 folders (p. 1-648), containing photocopies of the letter book. Box 4 contains 13 folders with photocopies of letter book (p. 649-720), miscellaneous letters as well as photocopies of the other John Milton letter book in the Florida State Archives (p. 1-69). In addition there are typed transcripts of our letter book (p. 1-100; p. 600-698). There also is a letter-by-letter synopsis of the entire letter book. Box 5 contains 7 folders including original correspondence about the donation and its provenance and assorted duplicates of photocopies found in previous boxes.

Biographical Data: Governor of Florida; as governor he developed a very active state militia and stressed Florida's ability to serve as an important source of food and salt for the Confederate forces; collapse of the Southern cause was followed by his death, April 1,1865 by a self-inflected gunshot wound at his family home Sylvania, near Marianna, Fla.

Notes: The repository also has typed transcripts and photocopies of letterbook and most correspondence for public use because original letterbook is too fragile to be served.

Summary: Collection consists of John Milton's letter book (720 p.), and correspondence. The miscellaneous correspondence contains three folders made up of items found loose within the letter book. There are six letters from Stephen R. Mallory, Secretary of the Confederate Navy, a letter from A. H. Bush advising him about legalities of secession and a letter from Dr. Thomas Palmer describing various battles. Another folder contains notices written by Milton found between the pages of the letter book. Much of the letter book concerns military affairs and the defense of Florida. Besides copies of letters he has sent there are

copies of letters received from such prominent Confederate leaders as Judah P. Benjamin, Jefferson Davis, and David Levy Yulee written into the letter book by his secretary. There is also a photocopy of his letter book from 5 Oct. 1863 to 9 Mar. 1865; the original is in the Florida State Archives in Tallahassee.

Subjects:

Bush, A. H.--Correspondence.
Palmer, Thomas, Dr.--Correspondence.
Benjamin, J. P. (Judah Philip), 1811-1884--Correspondence.
Davis, Jefferson, 1808-1889--Correspondence.
Yulee, David Levy, 1810-1886--Correspondence.
Mallory, Stephen R. (Stephen Russell), 1813-1873--Correspondence.
Cabinet officers--Confederate States of America--Correspondence.
Florida—History--Civil War, 1861-1865.
United States—History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Naval operations, Confederate.
United States—History--Civil War, 1861-1865.
Letter books--Florida.
Governors--Florida.