



University Libraries Special Collections & University Archives

Preston B. Plumb Letters

Collection Summary

Title:	Preston B. Plumb Letters
Call Number:	MS 92-16
Size:	0.25 linear feet
Acquisition:	Source unknown
Processed by:	KJC, 1-14-1992; JEF, 4-6-1999; MN, 12-13-2011
Restrictions:	None

Literary Rights

Literary rights were not granted to Wichita State University. When permission is granted to examine manuscripts, it is not an authorization to publish them. Manuscripts cannot be used for publication without regard for common law literary rights, copyright laws and the laws of libel. It is the responsibility of the researcher and his/her publisher to obtain permission to publish. Scholars and students who eventually plan to have their work published are urged to make inquiry regarding overall restrictions on publication before initial research.

Content Note

The Preston B. Plumb Letters consist of eight letters written by Preston B. Plumb between the years 1884 to 1891. He wrote seven of the letters to "Cavaness"; the nature of the correspondence was general. One letter was written to Philip Morgan, American Minister to Mexico City, in which Plumb requested an escort for two female travelers.

Biography

Preston B. Plumb was a progressive United States Senator representing Kansas from the years 1877 to 1891. He was born in Berkshire, Ohio, in 1837 and moved to Kansas in 1855. Plumb was typical of the 1800s American entrepreneur, as he entered one business venture after another on his upward climb to economic success. At 16 Plumb purchased a newspaper operation, the Xenia, in Marysville, Ohio. In 1855 he was part of a Kansas exploring party, and as a result he bought land one mile from Salina and developed the short-lived town of Mariposa. One year later he bought interest in the Emporia Town Company and became one of Emporia's founding fathers.

Plumb settled in Emporia permanently, where he entered into a variety of occupations, not excluding his incorporation of the Jefferson City and Neosho Valley Railroad. In 1861, after passing the bar exam, Plumb opened the Plantz and Plumb Law Firm. That same year he was elected to the Kansas State Legislation. When the Civil War broke out in 1861, Plumb formed a company of Emporia men

to fight for the Union cause. He established the Emporia National Bank in 1872, of which he remained the president until his death in 1891.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1	FF 1	18 November 1884. Emporia National Bank. To Cavaness concerning money owed.
Box 1	FF 2	3 March 1885. Senate Chamber. To Philip H. Morgan asking for an escort for the wife and daughter of Judge N. R. Wagstaff .
Box 1	FF 3	22 July 188? United States Senate. To Cavaness concerning money owed.
Box 1	FF 4	27 July 1886. United States Senate. General correspondence to Cavaness.
Box 1	FF 5	17 November 1886. Emporia, Kansas. General correspondence to Cavaness.
Box 1	FF 6	10 December 1886. Senate Chamber. To Cavaness concerning money owed.
Box 1	FF 7	4 ? 1891. Emporia, Kansas. General correspondence to Cavaness.
Box 1	FF 8	August ? United States Senate. General correspondence to Cavaness.

For information, please contact us at:

[Special Collections and University Archives](#)

Wichita State University Libraries

1845 Fairmount, Wichita, KS 67260-0068

E-mail: specialcollections@wichita.edu

Telephone: 316-978-3590