

Perdue, James R., Family Collection

James R. Perdue Family Collection

1868-1919



Title Statement

Perdue, James R., Family CollectionJames R. Perdue Family Collection, 1868 - 1919 Ms.2022.060

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2022.060

Unit Date

1868-1919

Language

Materials in this collection are in English.

Abstract

This collection includes the papers of James R. Perdue and his family. Items include a program for the Battle of the Crater reunion, a Sunday School concert flyer, seven obituaries for Perdue, a letter from J. R. Perdue, Jr., and two ledgers. Perdue (1837-1915) was a banker from Manchester, Virginia, and served as a Confederate soldier in the Otey Battery, Virginia Artillery during the American Civil War.

Creator

Perdue, James Robert, 1837-1915

Extent

0.2 Cubic Feet 1 box

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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Source of Acquisition

This collection was purchased by Special Collections and University Archives in April 2017.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the James R. Perdue Family Collection was completed in October 2022.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], James R. Perdue Family Collection, 1868-1919, Ms2022-060, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

James Robert Perdue was born on October 18, 1837 to James M. Perdue and Susan Pilkington in Chesterfield County, Virginia. He served as a Confederate soldier in the Otey Battery, Virginia Artillery during the American Civil War. After the war, he returned to Manchester, Henrico County, Virginia, where he resided until his death. He worked at the Merchants National Bank for 43 years, and he also served on the Manchester council and on the Methodist Central Church board.

Perdue married Emma Jo-Cynthia Wingfield on October 27, 1869, and they had two children, James Robert Perdue, Jr. (September 07, 1870-May 12, 1963) and Lethia Wingfield Perdue Willis. Perdue died June 24, 1915, in Manchester.

Sources:

Virginia Department of Health; Richmond, Virginia; Virginia Deaths, 1912-2014. On Ancestry.com, Virginia, U.S., Death Records, 1912-2014 [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2015. <https://search.ancestrylibrary.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?dbid=9278&h=751984&indiv=try>. Accessed October 03, 2022.

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Library of Virginia; Richmond, VA; Virginia Marriages, 1853-1935. Ancestry.com, Virginia, U.S., Marriage Registers, 1853-1935 [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2022. <https://www.ancestrylibrary.com/discoveryui-content/view/229819:62154>. Accessed October 03, 2022.

Scope and Content

This collection includes a program for the Battle of the Crater reunion, a Sunday School concert flyer, a letter, seven obituaries for James R. Perdue, a ledger with home remedies, and a ledger with a child's doodlings and scrapbook clippings.

The undated Battle of the Crater program includes a list of the camp and war scenes, including cavalry camp practice, evening parade, infantry picket post established, posting of cavalry vidette, night before the Battle of the Crater, signal rockets for mine explosion and federal charge, confederates on the retreat, and the finale.

The Sunday School concert flyer includes the date of Thursday evening, July 23rd, 1874. Manchester Methodist Sunday School hosts the event to raise funds for a library for the school. The flyer includes two correspondances. The first correspondance is from a visitor addressed to J. R. Perdue, Superintendent of Manchester Sunday School, and it asks that the school perform again and raise funds for a new library, explaining that "no one could object to giving twenty-five or fifty centers to so good a cause." The second

correspondance is from Perdue stating that the school will host the performance once again on Thursday evening.

The seven obituaries, dated June 24-26, 1915, are for James R. Perdue. One headline reads, "Death Claims J. R. Perdue, Faithful Citizen. Confederate Soldier, Bank Official, Beloved in Home and Church, His End is Peaceful."

The letter is to Marian from J. R. Perdue, Jr. and dates December 24, 1902. Perdue writes that Marian should use the enclosed funds to buy herself something, and wishes her a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

One ledger contains clipped and handwritten remedies from 1905 to 1919. On the inside of the cover, J. R. Perdue, Jr., is written as the owner of the ledger, and he was the son of James R. Perdue. The remedies have a vast range of treatments for such items as hair growth, insomnia, cough and cold, poisons, and injuries.

The ledger with a child's doodlings and scrapbook clippings is missing most of the ledger details, but from what is visible, the earliest date is 1868. A child drew in pencil and blue crayon on the pages, making some of the original text illegible. After twenty-one pages, the ledger turns into a scrapbook with art clippings and book pages glued onto the original ledger pages. The back of the scrapbook includes the initials L. W. P., who was Lethia W. Perdue, the daughter of J. R. Perdue, and says it belongs to J. R. Perdue, Jr.

Keywords

Civil War
Correspondence
Folk, historical, and patent medicine
Ledgers (account books)
Local/Regional History and Appalachian South
Medicine
Scrapbooks
Traditional medicine
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Desertions
Virginia

Rights Statement for Archival Description

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Arrangement

This collection is arranged by material type and by creator.

Description of Subordinate Components

Flyers

Unit Date 1874, undated

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Obituaries for James R. Perdue

Unit Date 1915

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Letter from J. R. Perdue, Jr., to Marian

Unit Date 1902

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

J. R. Perdue, Jr., Ledger with Remedies

Unit Date 1905-1919

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Family Ledger

Unit Date 1868, undated

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)