

Stone, Louis P. Letter

Louis P. Stone Letter

1863 May 3

Title Statement

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

MSS 16858

Unit ID

[Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID

/repositories/3/resources/1694

Unit Date

1863 May 3

Mixed Materials [X032668454]

BW 57 (box)

Container

1 (folder)

Language

English

Creator

Stone, Louis P., 1843-1903

Extent

.04 Cubic Feet 1 legal folder

Condition Description

good

Repository

Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

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Preferred Citation

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Biographical / Historical

Louis P. Stone was born in January 1843 in New York to Lucien and Catherine Stone. He married Emma F. Hukill and they had one child together, Bessie P. Stone. He was a Secret Service operative during the Civil War. Before the war, Stone was a druggist in Cincinnati and would later become a hotel owner in Deadwood, South Dakota. He was taken prisoner in October 1861 by General John B. Floyd while across enemy lines and escaped in February 1862. He was taken prisoner again in Lynchburg, Virginia but managed to escape to Washington where he fell ill and borrowed money to return home to Cincinnati. Louis P. Stone died of pneumonia in March 1903 at the age of 50 in Deadwood, South Dakota.

Content Description

This collection contains a letter from Louis P. Stone (1843-1903) to Colonel Tracy describing his exploits as a U.S. Secret Service operative and requesting payment for his services. Stone was a U.S. Secret Service operative during the first two years of the Civil War. The "Secret Service," before officially inaugurated as the investigative branch of the Treasury Department in 1865, was the unofficial name for the intelligence services in the Union Army. The letter contains Stone's account of being taken prisoner by Gen. Floyd [John B. Floyd] on October 15th, 1861, one hundred miles within enemy lines while on a secret expedition for Gen. Rosencrans. He escaped from Richmond on February 22nd, 1862. He also speaks of the hunt for Stonewall Jackson and the Battle of Cross Keys (1862) in Virginia, and of being captured again and held in Lynchburg, Va.

Keywords

United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865

United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives

United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Correspondence

Secret service

Prisoners of war -- United States