

Alfred E. Aiken Papers, 1885-1890

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Aiken, Alfred E. (Alfred Euclid), 1858-1943
Title	Alfred E. Aiken Papers
Dates	1885-1890 1885 1890
Quantity	1 folder
Collection Number	Collection 2580, MtBC, us (collection)
Summary	The Alfred E. Aiken Papers consist of eight original letters he wrote from 1885 to 1890 to his sister, Sabra Jane "Jennie" Aiken who was living in Frewsburg, New York. The letters were sent from Poplar Creek and Dawson County, Montana, and Fort Buford, North Dakota, and describe his impressions of the country, the military garrison at Poplar Creek, members of the tribes on the nearby reservation, incidents of ranch life, and family news. The letters are supplemented by a biographical essay, "A Cowpuncher's Prairie Romance," written by Aiken's granddaughter, Evelyn J. Aiken Jones.
Repository	Montana State University Library, Merrill G. Burlingame Special Collections Montana State University-Bozeman Library Merrill G Burlingame Special Collections P.O. Box 173320 Bozeman, MT 59717-3320 Telephone: 406-994-4242 Fax: 406-994-2851 spcoll@www.lib.montana.edu
Access Restrictions	This collection is open for research.
Languages	English

Biographical Note

Alfred Euclid Aiken was born in Chautauqua County, New York on May 8, 1858. He came to Montana when he was twenty-six years old and first worked at a T.C. Powers company trading post at Poplar Creek and as a wood cutter along the Missouri River. Eventually he worked as a cowboy in Dawson County and was appointed sheriff by the county commissioners in 1898. He went on to become a prominent businessman in Glendive. Around 1900, Aiken married Cora Miskimen and the couple had three children: Lloyd, Ford, and Helen. Alfred Aiken died in Glendive on March 22, 1943.

Content Description

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Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Original letters and envelopes created by Alfred E. Aiken were donated to Montana State University by his granddaughter, Evelyn J. Aiken Jones of Sun City, Arizona on July 19, 2013.

Processing Note

This collection was processed 2014 January 29

Names and Subjects

Kim Allen Scott, 2014