HENLEY C. LYBROOK
PAPERS, 1865

Collection Information

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Cataloging Information

Processed by

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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 2 folders

COLLECTION DATES: 9 April 1865 and 17 June 1865

PROVENANCE: Early American History Auctions, Inc. P.O. Box 3507 Rancho
Sante Fe, CA 92067

RESTRICTIONS: None
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Henley C. Lybrook was a merchant and citizen of Dowagiac, Michigan. His wife, Lovicy, was a homemaker, and their daughter Mary was once a student at St. Mary’s Academy, Notre Dame, Indiana. Lybrook might have lived in Cassapolis, another town in Cass County, Michigan. Records show that Lybrook had relatives living in Giles County, Virginia.

Sources:


SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists of a letter from Henley C. Lybrook of Dowagiac, Michigan, 17 April 1865, to his daughter, Mary Lybrook, at St. Mary’s Academy, Notre Dame, Indiana. Lybrook’s letter briefly mentions General Robert E. Lee’s surrender to General Ulysses S. Grant. The letter speaks of Abraham Lincoln’s assassination by John Wilkes Booth, who shot Lincoln through the head with a pistol. Lybrook feels that Lincoln’s death came at a time when “things were taking a direction to a humane honorable and speedy place.”

His letter describes Secretary of State William H. Seward’s stabbing that occurred on the same night as Lincoln’s assassination; this information is thought to be uncommon to the average person at the time. Seward’s stabbing has not been proved fatal yet, Lybrook writes. The presidency is now in the hands of Andrew Johnson, Lybrook continues, and he is unsure of the policies that Johnson may adopt. An envelope addressed to Mary is included.

A New York newspaper engraving of Seward, dated 17 June 1865, is present with the letter. The relationship of the engraving to the Lybrook letter is unknown.

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CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog:  http://157.91.92.2/

2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.

3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.

4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, SC 2708).

5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.