Inventory of the Laura Benjamin Miller Collection on Judah P. Benjamin, 1862, 1983
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Laura Benjamin Miller collection on Judah P. Benjamin

Date(s): 1862,

Date(s): 1983

Collector: Miller, Laura Benjamin, collector

Abstract: The collection consists of a Confederate States of America two-dollar bill, a Judah P. Benjamin Confederate Memorial brochure, and a digital copy of a letter from Judah Benjamin (as the Confederate States Secretary of State) to Daniel Printup, Esq. of Rome, Georgia, requesting assistance in mustering soldiers for the 55th regiment of the Confederate States Army.

Extent: 1 folder
(3 items)

Repository: Jewish Heritage Collection, Special Collections, College of Charleston Libraries
66 George Street
Charleston, SC 29424
Phone: (843) 953-8016
Fax: (843) 953-6319
URL: http://archives.library.cofc.edu

Call Number: Mss 1034-078

Language of Material: Materials in English

Biographical Note

Judah P. Benjamin (1811-1884), US senator, Confederate statesman, and sugar planter, was born in the British-occupied Danish West Indies (modern-day Virgin Islands). The Benjamin family immigrated to the United States shortly after Benjamin's birth and resided in North and South Carolina. Benjamin's father was a founding member of Charleston, South Carolina's Reformed Society of Israelites, the first effort to reform Judaism in the United States.

Judah Benjamin moved to New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1832, where he entered private practice as a commercial lawyer and established a sugar plantation. After serving in the Louisiana state legislature for ten years, Benjamin was elected to the US senate, becoming the second Jewish senator in US history.

After Louisiana seceded from the Union in 1881, Benjamin was elected Attorney General of the Confederacy. Soon afterwards he assumed the positions of Secretary of War (September 1861-March 1862) and Secretary of State (March 1862-May 1865). Benjamin relocated to England after the war, and later moved to France, where he died in 1884.
Collection Overview

The collection consists of a Confederate States of America two-dollar bill featuring an image of Benjamin, a Judah P. Benjamin Confederate Memorial brochure, and a digital copy of a letter from Benjamin (as the Confederate States Secretary of State) to Daniel Printup, Esq. of Rome, Georgia, requesting assistance in mustering soldiers for the 55th regiment of the Confederate States Army.

Collection Arrangement

Materials are described at the item level.

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research.

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Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index this collection in the Library’s online catalog. They are grouped by name of person, family, or organization, by topical subject, by place, and by types of material.

Names
  Benjamin, J. P. (Judah Philip), 1811-1884
  Printup, Daniel S.

Subjects
  Confederate States of America--History, Military
  Money--Confederate States of America

Places
  Rome (Ga.)
  United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Jews

Types of Material
  Brochures
  Correspondence
  Paper money
Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Laura Benjamin Miller collection on Judah P. Benjamin, College of Charleston Libraries, Charleston, SC, USA.

Acquisitions Information

Materials were donated in 2008 by Laura Benjamin Miller.

Alternate Form of Materials

Digital reproduction of the letter from Benjamin to Daniel S. Printup, Esq. is available online in the Lowcountry Digital Library.

Processing Information

Processed by Sarah Dorpinghaus, March 2011.

Encoded by Sarah Dorpinghaus, September 2011.

Funding from the Council on Library and Information Resources supported the processing of this collection and encoding of the finding aid.
Inventory

Confederate States of America two-dollar bill with image of Benjamin, 1862 June 2

Judah P. Benjamin Confederate Memorial at Gamble Plantation brochure, 1983

Includes a brief description of the Florida plantation where Benjamin is reputed to have taken refuge in late May 1865 after the fall of the Confederacy before fleeing to England.

Letter from Benjamin to Daniel S. Printup, Esq., 1862 March 7

As Confederate States Secretary of War, Benjamin requests Printup’s assistance in mustering companies to populate the 55th regiment of the Confederate army. Printup was the son of wealthy planter who owned land near Rome, Georgia. The collection includes only a digital color scan of the original letter and a black and white printout of the scan. This scan is available online in the Lowcountry Digital Library. Also included is a document that describes the historical context of the letter.