

# Missouri State Archives

## Finding Aid [998.308]

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### MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

#### Rosemary Hammen Schryock Collection

*Abstract:* One letter from future Missouri Governor Joseph McClurg (1868) and three photographs of Jefferson City (1900-1924).

*Extent:* 4 items

*Physical Description:* Paper; Photographs

*Location:* Missouri State Archives; Stacks

### ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

*Alternative Formats:* TIF

*Access Restrictions:* None

*Publication Restrictions:* None

*Preferred Citation:* [description of item], [date]; *Rosemary Hammen Schryock Collection*, Record Group 998.308; Missouri State Archives, Jefferson City.

*Acquisition Information:* Gift with deed; Accession #2003-0064; #2003-0210

*Processing Information:* Processing completed by EW on 06/13/2017. Updated by EW on 03/24/2021.

### HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

*Quoted from Finding Aid 3.19 by BC and SEB:*

“Joseph Washington McClurg was born in St. Louis County, Missouri Territory on February 22, 1818 to Joseph and Mary Brotherton McClurg. He was orphaned early and was raised in Ohio by his paternal grandparents. McClurg attended Xenia Academy and Oxford (Ohio) College before teaching school in Mississippi and Louisiana in 1835 and 1836.

“After a stint as sheriff in St. Louis County where he worked for his uncle James Brotherton, McClurg moved to Columbus, Texas in 1839. He studied law, was admitted to the Texas Bar , and served as clerk of a circuit court for the next two years. During this time, McClurg regularly corresponded with Mary Johnson whom he had met in Farmington, Missouri. Mary C. Johnson married Joseph Washington McClurg in Ste. Genevieve, Missouri on October 18, 1841. The couple would have eight children before the death of Mary McClurg and two of her children in 1861.

“William Murphy, the stepfather of Mary Johnson McClurg, was a successful businessman and entrepreneur. McClurg began a commercial association with Murphy and McClurg which would last for years. McClurg caught gold fever in 1849 and traveled to the California gold fields. Operating a successful mercantile in California, he returned to Missouri in 1852, settling in Linn Creek. He joined relatives at Linn Creek on the Osage River to establish a mercantile firm known as McClurg, Murphy and Jones. The site was an ideal steamboat landing and in 1855 a new county seat was established at Linn Creek.

“At the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861, McClurg organized the Osage Regiment of the Missouri Volunteers and the Hickory County Battalion for the U.S. Army. After the death of his wife in October, he assigned the care of his remaining family to friends and relatives and focused on military matters. Although McClurg attended the emancipation convention in Jefferson City in June of 1862, he did not free his own slaves until just prior to the Emancipation Proclamation.

“The following November, Joseph Washington McClurg was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives as a Radical Republican. He would serve the 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District for three terms. McClurg’s espoused strong Unionist views and in retaliation, rebel sympathizers in Linn Creek burned his mercantile twice. By March of 1863, the losses totaled more than \$150,000. His business partner, E. B. Torbert fled to St. Louis with the remaining resources from the mercantile. It would take the governor years to retire his debts and interest payments; and settle with Torbert’s demands for financial compensation over merchandise that McClurg had given in support of the Union.

“Radical Republicans nominated him as their candidate for the 1868 Missouri gubernatorial election. McClurg defeated Democratic Congressman John S. Phelps of Springfield and was sworn in as the 19<sup>th</sup> Governor of Missouri on January 31, 1869. Among his first acts as Governor, McClurg purged opposition among state employees and required the remainder donate 5% of their salaries to the Radical Republican campaign fund.

“Fiscally conservative, his administration cut the state debt by half. He also recommended passage of legislation forbidding the sale of alcohol; forbade the consumption of alcoholic beverages in the governor’s residence; and accepted no gifts. Within the first year, Governor McClurg accepted the return of the state seal from former Confederate Governor Thomas Cate Reynolds.

“During his two year term of office, McClurg received members of the Missouri women’s suffrage movement at the official residence and signed their petition; 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, giving Negroes the right to vote, was adopted in 1870; the Eads bridge at St. Louis was built; the School of Mines and Metallurgy was established at Rolla; and the college of agriculture was located at Columbia.

“Meanwhile, differing governance philosophies lead to increasing strife within McClurg’s Republican Party. Members of the Party disenchanted with Radical restrictions on voting and citizenship rights and realizing that business relationships with former Confederates were crucial to Missouri’s post war recovery, split off and established the Liberal Republican Party. Under the leadership of Benjamin Gratz Brown and with support from the Democratic Party, Brown and Liberal Republicans defeated McClurg and the Radicals in the 1870 gubernatorial election by a landslide.

“In 1871, Joseph Washington McClurg returned to Linn Creek to resume his business enterprises. Along with his sons-in-law Charles Draper and Marshall Johnson, McClurg founded Draper, McClurg and Company. Merchandising profits funded surface mining on lead and iron in the Central Lead District near the Osage River. The firm operated steamboats on the Missouri and Osage Rivers and their landings became trade centers for the shipment of railroad ties. The company gained government contracts for the removal of sandbars on the Osage River. By 1885, falling profits lead to the seizure of one of the steamboats by creditors and within a year, McClurg sold his Camden County properties.

“After a brief spell homesteading in South Dakota, McClurg returned to Lebanon and in 1889, he received an appointment as government land office receiver in Springfield. He returned to Lebanon in 1893 and on December 2, 1900, Joseph Washington McClurg died at the home of Charles and Frances McClurg Draper. He is interred in Lebanon City Cemetery, Laclede County, Missouri.”

## ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

### Related Collections

#### For additional photographs of the Capitol Building:

MS027 Thomas Garfield Cooper Photograph Collection

MS064 David Denman Photograph Collection

MS163 Blanche Leach Capitol Dedication Scrapbook

MS268 New Capitol Day Collection

MS313 Van Gundy Photograph Collection

MS314 Tom Sater Collection

MS321 James C. Worth Collection

RG395 State Capitol Commission Photographs

#### For additional photographs of Jefferson City:

MS272 Ehrhardt Photograph Collection

MS317 Duke Diggs Photograph Collection  
MS329 Alice Fast Postcard Collection  
MS340 George Grazier Collection  
MS360 Dr. Arnold Parks Postcard Collection  
MS390 Ann Noe Collection  
MS433 Dr. Joseph Summers Collection  
MS463 Jefferson City Photographs by Kendal Mertens

For additional materials on McClurg:

MS378 Governor Joseph McClurg Collection  
RG3.19 Joseph Washington McClurg, 1869-1871

### **Additional External Resources**

The State Historical Society of Missouri in Columbia holds the following collections related to Governor McClurg:

[#C1678 Joseph Washington McClurg \(1818-1900\) Papers](#)  
[#C1746 Joseph Washington McClurg \(1818-1900\) Telegram, 1869](#)  
[#C3069 Draper-McClurg Family Papers](#)

## CORRESPONDENCE, 1868

*Arrangement:* N/a

### Scope and Content

This is a one-page letter written from future Missouri Governor Joseph McClurg to lawyer M. Hammen in Washington, D.C. McClurg mentions the Radical Republican movement and the possibility that he will run for Governor if nominated. He also mentions impeachment, presumably of US President Andrew Johnson. A full transcription of the body of the letter is here:

“In replying to my correspondents, suffer me to thank you for your kind favor of 4<sup>th</sup> Inst. Let us stand firm as in 1861, and we will silence traitors and deserters in November – Impeachment will then be a success –

“You say you have not heard a word from me as to the Governorship – The movement for me I did not originate – I have replied to letters that I would accept a nomination if offered by the loyal, radical, party. My friends and the loyal people are working – Your letter shall have my attention.”

The letter has been digitized and is on Manuscript DVD #3 in the Reference Room.

### Container List

Location	Box	Folder	Contents	Date
	101	12	Letter from McClurg to M. Hammen, Esqr.	05/20/1868

## PHOTOGRAPHS, 1900-1924

*Arrangement:* Chronological

### Scope and Content

These three photographs are by unknown photographers and feature two street scenes and the Capitol Building in Jefferson City. The street scenes are of East High Street. The photographs have been digitized and are on Manuscript DVD #3 in the Reference Room.

### Container List

Location	Box	Folder	Contents	Date
	101	13	Image #1: Mounted collodion photograph of the 200 block of East High Street, Jefferson City. Visible businesses are Globe Mercantile Company and Hunter & [Eugene] Kraemer, Lawyers. Lots of flags on display. 6½"x4¾"	1900-1903
	101	13	Image #2: Mounted collodion photograph of the 200 block of East High Street looking toward Monroe Street, Jefferson City. Visible businesses are W.W. [Warren W.] Edwards, grocer, [John] Sommerer and [Casper] Bassmann, grocers, and Monroe House. Lots of flags on display. 6½"x5½"	1900-1903
	101	13	Image #3: Photomechanical print featuring the Capitol Building. The statue of Ceres on top of the dome has not yet been installed. 5"x7¾"	1918-1924