

COLLECTIONS OF CORRESPONDENCE AND MANUSCRIPT DOCUMENTS

NAME OF COLLECTION: Sarah Sumner Broughton CorrespondenceSOURCE: Gift of Mr. Frank E. Hill, 1961SUBJECT: Letters of Sarah (Sumner) Broughton (1802-1853), her family and friends. (Shebuel and Sarah Broughton, married in Massachusetts, later moved to New York, and then to Michigan, in the pioneer movement Westward.)DATES COVERED: 1823-1880NUMBER OF ITEMS: 94

STATUS: (check appropriate description)

Cataloged: X Listed: Arranged: Not Organized:

CONDITION: (give number of vols., boxes, or shelves)

Bound: Boxed: One box Stored:

Spec Ms Coll

LOCATION: (Library) Special Collections CALL-NUMBER Broughton

RESTRICTIONS ON USE

DESCRIPTION:

"...the family story of many Americans, pressing from New England to upper New York, to Michigan, and often to California, looking for better land, or, in some cases, seeking to escape the effects of malaria, which as a matter of fact had destroyed the Broughtons --"

"...only Shebuel (the father) and Laura (a married daughter) had actually gone to the Pacific coast...Another of the Children, Maria, went to Montana. These two daughters were the only ones of the eleven children who survived early middle age..."

(From: Sarah Sumner Broughton...An Attempt to Provide Perspective, by Frank E. Hill --- a mimeographed description of the family and the correspondence, included in the box with the letters)

Sarah Broughton's letters document the later period of her life and are concerned primarily with the removal of her family to Michigan. Along with the letters of one of her daughters, Celeste, they provide a graphic picture of the conditions of pioneer life.

Included are a manuscript essay of Celeste and a manuscript book of poems by Sarah Broughton, who wrote poems and stories for women's magazines.