

Julia Blanche Munroe Kell papers

Descriptive Summary

Repository:	Georgia Historical Society
Creator:	Kell, Julia Blanche Monroe.
Title:	Julia Blanche Munroe Kell papers
Dates:	1838-1908
Extent:	0.5 cubic feet (1 box)
Identification:	MS 1794

Biographical/Historical Note

Julia Blanche Munroe Kell (1836-1917), commonly referred to as Blanche, was born in Macon, Georgia in 1836 and was the daughter of Nathan C. and Tabitha Napier Munroe. In 1856, Blanche married John McIntosh Kell (1823-1900) with whom they had ten children together.

John McIntosh Kell graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis in 1841 and accompanied Commodore Matthew Perry on his expedition to Japan in 1852. Upon the onset of the Civil War, Kell resigned his United States Commission and commanded the Georgia Navy before it was absorbed into the Confederate States Navy. As part of the Navy, Kell served as the executive officer on the C.S.S. Alabama under Admiral Raphael Semmes. Following the war, Kell retired from the navy and lived with his family at their plantation in Sunnyside, Georgia. In 1886, Governor John B. Gordon appointed Kell adjutant general for the state of Georgia.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains the correspondence, scrapbooks, and photographs that belonged to Julia Blanche Munroe Kell from 1838-1908. The correspondence includes letters written to Blanche Kell, including letters and telegrams from her husband while he was serving in the Confederate Navy during the Civil War. There are also letters addressed to John McIntosh Kell, including an undated letter from his sister Hetty that includes a note from one of Kell's slaves. There are three scrapbooks compiled by Blanche Kell from the late 1880s to 1908, which are in fragile condition and should be handled with care. These scrapbooks include newspaper clippings of poems, and articles that relate the career of her husband, John McIntosh Kell. There is also one commonplace book in this collection that belonged to Blanche's mother, Tabitha E. (Napier) Munroe and includes copies of poems from the 1850s. The photographs in this collection are of Blanche Kell, her husband and their family and friends.

Index Terms

Commonplace books.
Daguerreotypes (photographs)
Kell family.
Kell, John McIntosh, 1823-1900.
Kell, Julia Blanche Monroe.
Letters (correspondence)
Munroe, Tabitha E., active 1832-1850s.
Photographs.
Scrapbooks.
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Correspondence.

Administrative Information

Processing Information

This collection is processed at the Basic Level (or collection level). There is no detailed inventory for this collection as it is not fully processed. To request that this collection be added to our priority list of collections to be fully processed as staffing and funding allow, please contact the Library and Archives staff.

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Sponsorship

Encoding funded by a 2008 Archives-Basic Projects grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.
