

Title: Smith, Jabez and Bessie Papers

Reference Code: Mss-1365

Inclusive Dates: 1860 – 1956

Quantity: 2.4 cu. ft. total

Location: WC, Sh. 025 (1.5 cu. ft.)
LC, Sh. 004 (0.9 cu. ft.)
OS XLG (1 item)
OS LG “S” (6 items)
OS SM “S” (7 items)

Scope and Content: The collection mainly consists of documents relating to Bessie Smith’s activities as well as her sister, Harriet Smith. One file each are of legal documents of their parents, Jabez and Fannie Smith. Included are correspondence and documents relating to various Christian and pacifist organizations; stories, essays and poetry written by Bessie; documents relating to Bessie’s education and teaching career; and travel materials and diaries. Materials cover subjects with Christian themes as well as temperance, U.S.-Soviet relations, peace movements, anti-conscription movements, professional writing and publishing, education, and the Masons.

Access and Use: No restrictions

Language: English

Notes: The collection was processed by R. Fuhrman, June 15, 1989, and added to by Steve Daily, Feb. 8, 1996.

Arrangement:

Folder Heading	Box #	File #
Miscellaneous travel pamphlets (undated)	1	1
Miscellaneous travel pamphlets (1896-1958)	1	2
Travel diaries, Bessie Smith (1909-1939)	1	3
Jabez Smith: deeds, stock certificates, and miscellaneous legal papers (c.1865-1909)	1	4
Legal documents, Fannie Smith (1885)	1	5
Harriet Smith’s last will and testament (1936)	1	6
Legal Documents, Bessie Smith (1880-1957)	1	7
40 th Annual convention of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers notebook (1936)	1	8
Bessie Smith, collected poetry	1	9
Bessie Smith, Poetry	1	10
Bessie Smith, essays	1	11
Bessie Smith, stories and essays sent to publishers	1	12

Correspondence with publishers (1923-1949)	1	13
Professional writing newsletters, writer's digest (1922-1952)	1	14
Writing development and education (1909-1945)	1	15
Harriet Smith, personal writings	1	16
Bessie Smith, teaching applications and resumes (1917-1942)	1	17
Teaching Material (1924-1957)	1	18
Bessie Smith correspondence (c.1907-1955)	1	19
Harriet Smith correspondence (1938-1954)	1	20
Temperance Literature (c.1925-1959)	1	21
Masonic Lodge pamphlets (1940-1942)	1	22
U.N. Literature (1935-1955)	1	23
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) meeting notes (c.1945-1955)	1	24
WILPF activities and correspondence (c.1943-1957)	1	25
Miscellaneous pamphlets, pacifist and WILPF	1	26
Fellowship of Reconciliation (1941-1946)	1	27
Beale Club (1940-1941)	1	28
Camp Farthest Out (1941-1957)	1	29
Youth Education and missions (c.1927-1953)	1	30
Immanuel Presbyterian Church (1945-1953)	1	31
United Churchwomen (c.1948-1957)	2	32
Christian Missions (c.1928-1958)	2	33
Christian Fellowship (1926-1955)	2	34
Bessie Smith Miscellaneous (undated)	2	35
Bessie Smith Miscellaneous (c.1921-1953)	2	36
Religious Publications (undated)	2	37
Religious Publications (1906-1954)	2	38
Religious Publications (1906-1954)	2	39
Church notes (1941) and Wedding Book (1897)	2	40
Obituaries of Jabez and Harriet	2	41
SCRAPBOOKS	LOCATION	
Buildings in Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, West Virginia as well as noted people, 1902, 1905	LC, Sh. 004	
Miscellaneous clippings, 1880s-1900s	LC, Sh. 004	
Miscellaneous clippings, 1890s-1900s	LC, Sh. 004	
Political clippings, 1904	LC, Sh. 004	
Trip to Washington, D.C. and Boston, G.A.R. parade, 1902, 1904	LC, Sh. 004	
Military Records of Jabez M. Smith, 1899	LC, Sh. 004	
Trip to G.A.R. Encampment at Boston and Washington, D.C. 1902, 1904	LC, Sh. 004	
Coal strike and misc. clippings, 1902-1906	LC, Sh. 004	
Trip to G.A.R. Encampment at Denver, 1905	LC, Sh. 004	
Miscellaneous clippings, 1906-1915	LC, Sh. 004	
Miscellaneous clippings, 1905-1906	LC, Sh. 004	

Clippings, photos, correspondence on displays at Smith's store, 1907-1908	LC, Sh. 004
Miscellaneous clippings, 1907-1911	LC, Sh. 004
Miscellaneous clippings, 1910-1911	LC, Sh. 004
OVERSIZE ITEMS	LOCATION
Certificate of thank for honorable service for Jabez M. Smith, Company A, 39th Regt., Wisconsin Infantry, Dec. 15, 1864	OS SM "S"
Certificate of membership in Milwaukee Valley Consistory of Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite for Jabez, April 27, 1906	OS SM "S"
Certificate of completion for a home course from the Roberson School of Personality for Bessie Jenkins Smith, March 31, 1926	OS SM "S"
Diploma from 7th District School of the Milwaukee Public Schools for Bessie, July 3, 1895	OS SM "S"
Diploma in industrial arts from Boothbay Studios Summer School of Art for Bessie, Aug. 16, 1929	OS SM "S"
Certificate of membership from Tripoli Temple for Jabez, April 20, 1906	OS SM "S"
Map of Northern Baptist Assembly: Green Lake, WI	OS SM "S"
Membership certificate in E.B. Wolcott Post No. 1 for Jabez Smith, 1912	OS LG "S"
Washington High School diploma of Bessie Jenkins Smith, 1900	OS LG "S"
Curry School for Teachers diploma of Bessie Jenkins Smith, 1928	OS LG "S"
University of Wisconsin Bachelor of Philosophy Normal Course Diploma of Bessie Jenkins Smith, 1919	OS LG "S"
State Normal School Kindergarten Training diploma of Bessie Jenkins Smith, 1903	OS LG "S"
Marriage certificate for Jabez Smith and Fanny MacReading, June 14, 1876 (portrait photos attached)	OS LG "S"
Certificate of membership in Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Free Masonry Wisc. Consistory for Jabez Morris Smith, April 19, 1906	OS XLG