

P1452 Mattocks, Brewer, 1841-1934.
Brewer Mattocks and family papers, 1830-1911, 1945, 2007
0.75 cubic feet (2 boxes).

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

EBENEZER BREWER MATTOCKS (Brewer) was born on September 12, 1841 in Keeseville, New York, the son of Reverend John and [Mary] Elizabeth Brewer Mattocks. In 1856 he moved to St. Paul with his father and his step-mother, Fanny Haywood Mattocks. There he was employed as a drug clerk until 1859 when he returned east to attend the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. Following his 1861 graduation from that school, he joined the Union army and was mustered-in as hospital steward of the Minnesota Infantry's Second Regiment on June 27, 1861. He was transferred to the Seventh Regiment on June 30, 1863 and appointed assistant surgeon. During his service with the Seventh Regiment he was able to attend the St. Louis Medical College and received his medical degree on March 4, 1864. He served with his regiment until April 27, 1865, when he was placed in charge of St. Mary's Hospital in Montgomery, Alabama. In mid-July he returned to his regiment and was mustered-out on August 16, 1865.

Following the war he returned to St. Paul and established a medical practice. He also served as the St. Paul city physician and health officer (1867-1871, 1874-1880) and Ramsey County deputy coroner (1870) and physician (1874-1882). In 1882 he moved to Faribault, Minnesota, where he continued his medical practice until his retirement in 1900.

Brewer was an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic, Masons, Minnesota Historical Society, and Minnesota State Medical Society. He was also the author of several volumes of poems and of *Minnesota as a Home for Invalids*, the first medical book published by a Minnesota physician.

He married Emma L. Norton (daughter of Julius Norton) of Montgomery, Alabama on November 28, 1865. They had three children: Ebenezer Brewer, Jr. (1867-), Norton (1869-1955), and Ellen Requir (1873-).

Brewer died at the Minnesota Soldiers Home in Minneapolis on February 25, 1934.

Brewer's father, Reverend JOHN MATTOCKS, was born on July 19, 1814 in Peacham, Vermont, the son of John and Esther Newell Mattocks. He was graduated from Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont in 1832 and practiced law until 1836, when he entered the Yale Theological Seminary in New Haven, Connecticut. Following his 1838 graduation he became

pastor of the Keeseville, New York Congregational church. In 1856 he accepted the pastorate of the First Presbyterian Church of St. Paul. He also served as St. Paul's superintendent of schools (1860-1872) and as a member of the city's board of education (1859-1872).

Reverend Mattocks was married three times. His first wife, [Mary] Elizabeth Brewer, whom he married on October 30, 1838, died in 1851. They had eight children: John (1839-), Ebenezer Brewer (1841-1934), George (1844-1844), Julia (1845-), Helen Peabody (1846-), Susan Chandler (1848-1848), Francis (1849-1850), and Charles Finch (1851-1853). Mattocks married Fannie Haywood in 1852 and, following her 1869 death, married Juliette A. Potter in 1870. He had four children with his second wife: Walter Haywood (1856-), James Selby (1860-), Sherwood Spencer (1863-), and Fannie Thompson (1867-). He had one child by his third wife: Jessie Potter (1874-).

Reverend Mattocks died of apoplexy on November 13, 1875.

Biographical data was taken from *Minnesota Historical Society Collections*, XIV, "Minnesota Biographies" (St. Paul: MHS, 1912), p. 496; and John Mattocks, *Genealogy of the Mattocks Family* 1885 (Chicago, 1885).

Cheryl N. Thies
June 1984

Frank Hennessy
October 1993

Alex Kent
June 2011

1776D
1778D28
14,862
16,271
16,608

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1.

Correspondence, undated and 1830-1911. (5 folders)

The Civil War letters of Minnesota soldier and doctor E. Brewer Mattocks from 1861-1865:

Transcriptions compiled by Gerrie Diettrich, 2007

Non Civil War letters of Minnesota soldier and doctor E. Brewer Mattocks, 1830-1911:

Transcriptions compiled by Gerrie Diettrich, circa 2011

Box 2.

Diary of E. Brewer Mattocks, 1864-1865. (2 volumes in 1 folder)

Diary of E. Brewer Mattocks (1864): Transcription compiled by Gerrie Diettrich, 2007

Military Papers, 1861-1865, 1904.

Photographs, undated and 1864-1901, 1945.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The papers were originally housed in a scrapbook and two diaries kept by Brewer Mattocks. Due to the rapidly deteriorating condition of the scrapbook, it was dismantled in June, 1984. Since the scrapbook's contents were arranged in no apparent date or subject order they were divided into four chronologically arranged series: correspondence and related papers (1830-1897, 1907), military papers (1861-1865, 1904), photographs (1864-1901), and diaries (1864-1865).

Letters, certificates, appointments, military orders and reports, legal documents, and photographs provide genealogical and personal data on members of the Mattocks family and information on John Mattocks' divinity studies, Brewer's pharmacy and medical studies and his Civil War service with the Second and Seventh Minnesota infantries, and social life in New England and St. Paul. The two diaries detail Brewer's activities and military life as the Seventh Minnesota's assistant surgeon.

The following folder and volume descriptions further describe each section's and volume's contents.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PAPERS

Correspondence and Related Papers, undated and 1830-1897, 1907. 5 folders

This section is composed mainly of correspondence between John Mattocks, Brewer Mattocks, and other family members. John's papers deal mainly with his divinity studies (1837), the illness and death of his first wife, Elizabeth (1850-1851), and his continuing relationship with Brewer (1851-1865). Brewer's papers mainly detail his years in pharmacy school (1859-1861), military service (1861-1865), courtship of Emma L. Norton (1865), and medical study in London (1871-1872).

The following annotated folder list further details this section's contents.

Undated and 1830-1862 (2 folders)

Three groups of letters dominate the content of these folders. The early letters (1830-1851) consist mainly of correspondence between John Mattocks and members of Elizabeth Brewer's family. Included are letters from John to Elizabeth detailing his studies at the Yale Theological Seminary (Dec. 1837), from John to Elizabeth's parents, Ebenezer and Julia Brewer, announcing Elizabeth's and his safe departure following their wedding (Oct. 1838), from Elizabeth to her sister Julia (Feb. 1843) and her mother (ca.1840, 1850) discussing her children and her ill health, and from John to the Brewers detailing Elizabeth's illness and death from consumption (April-May 1851).

The middle group (1851-1861) includes letters from John Mattocks to Brewer, who lived with his Brewer grandparents following his mother's death (Oct. 1851-Jan. 1852); from John Mattocks, Jr. to his brother Brewer, advising him to stay in St. Paul since employment opportunities were not good in Keeseville (Nov. 1857-April 1859); and between Brewer and his father and step-mother while he was attending the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, with comments on his religious activities, course work, studying, operations he observed, his decision to be a surgeon, graduation, his decision to join the Union army, and St. Paul society (Dec. 1859-June 1861).

The final letters (May 1861-1862) begin the correspondence between Brewer and various members of his family during his Civil War service. Included are letters from John, Jr., telling his brother to wait for the draft (May 1861); from Brewer detailing his duties as hospital steward (Dec. 1861), his feelings on the evils of war, a furlough visit to his Brewer grandparents in Pittsburgh (April 1862), military rail travel (Aug. 1862), duties overseeing two thousand convalescent soldiers at the Nashville city barracks (Sept. 1862), the regiment's journey from Fort Snelling to Louisville (Oct. 1862), and his illness with typhoid (Dec. 1862); and from his father and stepmother describing St. Paul social events, the city's work to aid the Union (Feb. 1862), and the Dakota War (Sept. 1862).

Other papers in the folders include a copy of the 1666 will of James Mattocks, the first Mattocks to emigrate from England to America; an 1839 sermon written by Reverend John Mattocks and his membership certificates in the Central American Education Society (Dec. 1839), American Colonization Society (April 1840), American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (May 1840), and American Home Missionary Society (Aug. 1841); Brewer Mattocks' first poem entitled "My Mother" (1854); a letter of introduction for Brewer from his first employer, St. Paul apothecary William H. Wolff (Sept. 1859); and letters to Brewer from J. H. Stewart detailing his activities as the First Minnesota Infantry's surgeon (July 1861) and offering Brewer a medical partnership in St. Paul (Feb. 1862).

1863-1870

Continues Brewer's war correspondence (1863-1865), with comments on his St. Louis medical school attendance (Feb. 1864), camp at Paducah, Kentucky (April 1864), an expedition into Mississippi including the Battle of Tupelo (July-Aug 1864), the pursuit of General Price in Missouri (Fall 1864), the battle of Nashville (Dec. 1864), camps near New Orleans and on Dauphin Island in Mobile Bay (March 1865), St. Paul social news (April 1865), President Abraham Lincoln's assassination (April 1865), and his parents' acceptance of his marriage plans (July 1865).

A series of love-letters between Brewer and Emma L. Norton of Montgomery, Alabama, were written during his return to St. Paul prior to their marriage (Jan.-Oct. 1865). Included are a poem about Emma written by Brewer (Jan.) and details of his trip to St. Paul, with comments on a visit to John, Jr. in Chicago (Aug.), his medical partnership with J. H. Stewart (Aug.) and his daily medical activities, his amputation of an arm at the shoulder, possibly the first operation of its kind done in St. Paul (Sept.), visits to Fort Snelling and to Minnehaha and St. Anthony Falls (Oct.), and his upcoming trip to Montgomery (Oct.).

Also included in this folder are a pencil sketch of Brewer done by Chaplain Elijah E. Edwards (1865); Brewer's 1865 and 1866 medical licenses; a letter from Fanny Haywood Mattocks to her step-daughter Nellie (Helen) describing Emma, her trousseau, and St. Paul social activities (Jan. 1866); Brewer's handwritten roster of the first informal meeting of the Grand Army of the Republic held in Minnesota (ca.1866); his membership certificates in the Minnesota Historical Society (Oct. 1867) and Minnesota State Medical Society (June 1869); and his appointment as Ramsey County deputy coroner (Sept. 1870).

1871-1872

Consists mainly of letters between Brewer and Emma during Brewer's six months of medical study in London (Nov. 1871-April 1872). Brewer's letters describe his visits to relatives in Chicago, Pittsburgh, and Haysville, Pennsylvania (Nov.); shipboard activities (Dec. 10); visits to Westminster Abbey (Dec. 18) and the zoological gardens (Dec. 29); studies, lectures, and surgeries he attended, and hospitals he visited; the publication of his letters in the St. Paul Pioneer; the possibility of his participation in an African expedition to locate Dr. David Livingstone (Feb. 2); and his return voyage (April 22). Emma's letters deal mainly with home activities, the children, her business dealings, and St. Paul society, and include comments on her wishes for him to study "female troubles" (Jan. 7) and details of the family's smallpox vaccinations (Feb. 13).

CATALOGER'S NOTE: The first fifteen of Brewer's letters, most of which are undated, were numbered 1 through 15 (in pencil in the upper right hand corner of the sheet) by the cataloger in order to maintain their sequence.

Also contained in this folder are letters to Brewer concerning his grandfather Ebenezer Brewer's estate (Feb. 1871), Brewer's financial accounts of his trip to England (Nov. 1871-March 1872), and his agreement to serve as ship's surgeon in lieu of return passage fee (March 1872).

1879-1911

Includes letters from Norton Mattocks to his mother Emma describing his Christmas wishes (Nov. 1879), from Brewer, Jr. to his father in Pine City, Minnesota requesting that Brewer return with Indian moccasins for Norton and himself (Dec. 1880), and from Brewer to James J. Hill forwarding the first copy of his book, *Mea Culpa! A Song of Repentance* (Oct. 1889).

There are also two groups of letters Brewer Mattocks wrote to his children and grandchildren during two trips to New York. The letters during the first trip (Jul.-Aug. 1906) describe Brewer's visit to Keeseville, New York, New York City, and Vermont. Topics include visits with relatives, Mattocks family history and genealogy, and childhood memories. The second trip (1911) was a three-week visit to New York City and the letters discuss the people Brewer met and places he visited.

This folder also contains Brewer's 1887 Minnesota medical license and a manuscript note and newspaper clipping related to Brewer's presentation of his scrapbook to the Minnesota Historical Society (Aug. 9, 1907).

Military Papers, 1861-1865, 1904

Correspondence, orders, passes, certificates, and reports kept by Brewer during his service with the Minnesota Infantry's Second and Seventh regiments. Many of the documents contain Brewer's handwritten explanatory notes. Included are his appointment as Seventh Regiment assistant surgeon (June 1863); his muster-in roll (July 1863); letters from the Seventh Regiment's captain, A. K. Skaro, and colonel, Stephen Miller (Sept. 1863); several captured Confederate scouting reports (Jan.-Feb. 1864); numerous reports and invoices detailing medical stores (1864-1865); the order for Brewer to take charge of St. Mary's Hospital, Montgomery, Alabama (April 1865); correspondence and documents concerning the hospital's operation (April-July 1865); telegrams and the order recalling Brewer to his regiment (July 1865); and his discharge (Aug. 1865) and pension (Sept. 1904) certificates.

Photographs, undated and 1864-1901

Photographs documenting the Mattocks and related families from Vermont governor John Mattocks through the grandchildren of Brewer Mattocks. Many of the photographs were photocopied in June, 1984, the copies retained, and the originals transferred to the Society's audio-visual library.

The photographs are all undated unless otherwise noted in the following description. Included are photographs of Governor John Mattocks and his burial plot in Peacham, Vermont; members of the Reverend John Mattocks' family, including John, his wives (Mary Elizabeth Brewer, Fanny Haywood, and Juliette Potter), and his children (John, Jr., Ebenezer Brewer, Walter, Helen, and Jessie); various members of the Ebenezer Brewer family; the St. Paul and Faribault, Minnesota homes of Reverend John and Brewer Mattocks, respectively; the family of Brewer Mattocks, including Brewer (1862-1865, 1892), his wife Emma (1887, 1894), his children (Brewer, Jr., Norton, and Ellen), and several of his grandchildren; and various members of the Julius Norton family.

VOLUME LIST

Diaries, 1864-1865

2 volumes

Kept by Brewer Mattocks during his service as Seventh Regiment assistant surgeon, the daily entries detail such things as the weather, church services and prayer meetings, daily mileage while on marches, his medical duties, correspondences he maintained, camp life and army life in general, his health, and social activities. The following annotations highlight any special events or subjects described in each volume. They also list any additional notations or listings found in the volumes.

CATALOGER'S NOTE: Prior to the collection's 1984 recataloging Volumes 1 and 2 were Volumes 2 and 3, respectively.

Vol. 1. 1864

Includes comments on the removal of patients from St. Louis to "small pox islands" (Jan.); viewing of the General Tom Thumb entertainment troupe (Jan.); Brewer's activities at the St. Louis Medical College, particularly lectures and studying (Jan.-Feb.) and examinations (March 1-2); receipt of his medical degree (March 4); camp life at Paducah (April) and LaGrange (June), Kentucky, with comments on the erection of a hospital at the latter; participation in a battle near Tupelo, Mississippi (July), on marches during most of August through December, and in battles on the Tallahatchie River (Aug.) and at Nashville (Dec.); and the formation of a Christian Association and his election to its vice-presidency (Oct.-Nov.). Also contains a number of financial entries, his will dated December 15, 1864 on the "eve before the Nashville battle," and a note dated April 6, 1891 revoking the above will.

Vol. 2. 1865, Jan. 1-May 19.

Contains entries detailing Brewer's hospital duty near Eastport, Tennessee (Jan.); travel by steamer to New Orleans (Feb.); camp life near New Orleans (Feb.-March), with comments on attending Mardi Gras, and on Dauphin Island, Mobile Bay (March); participation in the siege of Spanish Fort (March-April); his assignment to St. Mary's Hospital in Montgomery,

Alabama (April-May); and comments on President Abraham Lincoln's assassination (April 29-30). Also includes financial memoranda and a photograph of Brewer taken February 28, 1865 in New Orleans.



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