Freeman, Margaret. Papers, 1859–1872. .10 foot.
Homemaker. Correspondence (1859–1872) between Margaret Freeman in Springfield, Illinois, and her children in Texas. The Freeman family owned land near Lancaster and Starlight, Texas, and was engaged in homesteading and cattle ranching. Many of the letters describe farm and ranch life, cattle drives, and family news. These letters also contain information about local politics and racial attitudes.

Item:


5. August 27, 1867: From John Lasswell to Lou Freeman re: impending rain, a picnic, and asking Lou to write him often.

6. August 11, 1867: From John Lasswell to Lou Freeman re: a neighbor who had been kicked in the head by a horse and personal matters.

7. September 29, 1867: From Ellen to her cousin Mollie Freeman re: marriages and births in and around Starlight, Texas.

8. December 21, 1867: From Taylor Freeman to his mother, Margaret Freeman re: a trip into town (Starlight, Texas) and plans for Christmas.

9. May 18, 1868: From Susan Leydel to Mollie Freeman re: local news from Lancaster, Texas.

10. June 13, 1868: From Lou White to Mollie Freeman re: who has been sick in Lancaster, Texas.

11. February 5, 1871: From Winfield ("Winnie") Freeman to his sister Mary re: his social activities and farming.
12. February 5, 1871: From Lou to Mary re: her social activities. Lou writes about many of the same things as Winnie did in letter 11.


14. February 17, 1871: From Lou to Margaret re: coming home on the first train and her visit to Texas. Also a letter from Margaret to Mary re: Lou's visit to Texas (February 21, 1871).

15. February 21, 1871: From Lou to Mary re: Lou's troubles in getting home because of the weather.

16. March 6, 1871: From Lou to Mary re: church, their mother and other local news.

17. March 12, 1871: From Winnie to Mary re: his not getting to his farm because Uncle John came by, other news about Uncle John, and how Winnie's own farm is doing.

18. March 19, 1871: From Lou to Mary re: election of Society officers at a meeting, and other happenings at church; discussion of the Illinois state legislature.

19. March 26, 1871: From Lou to Mary re: the weather, social activities, music lessons and the state legislature.

20. April 16, 1871: From Lou to Mary re: Mother doing the washing, Lou finishing a dress, maligning the Illinois legislature, and local news. This letter has a small piece of a "Sweet shrub" attached.


22. August 13, 1871: From Lou to Mary re: company visiting, finishing a quilt, farm news, and news from Mother.

23. July 2, 1871: From Lou to Winnie re: news about the livestock and farm, and news from Mother. This letter was written on Illinois House of Representatives stationery.

24. July 21, 1871: From Lou to Mary re: Mother's headache, farm news, the weather, and other local news.


27. No date: From Taylor to Margaret re: starting school, Aunt Pat's rheumatism, and Lancaster, Texas news.

28. February 13, ????: From Margaret to Mary re: Mother being helpless, worrying about Taylor, and boarders at the Freeman home.

29. April 8, ????: From Winnie to Father re: farm news.

30. November 23, ????: From John Huff (?) to A. Freeman re: farm business and accounts.

31. August 29, ????: From Taylor to Mary re: the hot springs in Hot Springs, Arkansas, and a political meeting. Also, a Hot Springs doctor's business card.

32. No Date: From Taylor to Mary re: election day and "the valey is full of […] and some white people two. I expect there will be some fighting this after noon that is if they can get any whiskey" (sic). Also, news about how many baths he has taken and not being sure when he will be coming home.

33. No date, no names (perhaps from Lou to Mary): Mentions a small fire in the bedroom, and local news.