KERSHAW, JOSEPH BREVARD, 1822-1894.
Joseph Brevard Kershaw papers, 1852-1894 (bulk 1861)

Emory University
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Kershaw, Joseph Brevard, 1822-1894.
Title: Joseph Brevard Kershaw papers, 1852-1894 (bulk 1861)
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 205
Extent: .25 linear ft. (1 box)
Abstract: Papers relating to Joseph Brevard Kershaw, South Carolina soldier and statesman.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access
Unrestricted access.

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Source
Purchase, 1938.

Citation
[after identification of item(s)], Joseph Brevard Kershaw papers, Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Processing
Processed by SS, February 1971.

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Collection Description

Biographical Note
Joseph Brevard Kershaw (January 5, 1822-April 13, 1894) was a South Carolina soldier and statesman. He was born in Camden, South Carolina where he studied law. He was admitted to the bar in 1843. He served one year as a lieutenant in the Mexican War and then returned to South Carolina. After resuming his law practice he was twice elected to the state legislature and became a member of the secession convention in 1860. Entering the war as a Colonel of the 2nd South Carolina Volunteers, he was present at the firing of Sumter and First Manassas. His promotion to brigadier general came in 1862 and for major general in 1864. He commanded a division of the 1st Corps., Army of Northern Virginia. In 1865 he was captured and sent to Fort Warren. After the war he returned to South Carolina and was elected a state senator. He was elected judge in 1877 and held that position until failing health forced his resignation in 1893. He became postmaster of Camden until his death.

Scope and Content Note
The collection consists primarily of seventeen miscellaneous items relative to Joseph Brevard Kershaw mainly from 1861. These include a list of defaulters of the 2nd South Carolina Volunteers; a bill from the exchange Hotel, Richmond, Virginia for the breakfasts of 100 Palmetto Guards; a pass signed by W. Porcher Miles, A.D.C. to General Beauregard; supply lists; an unidentified sketched campaign map; and various orders and transactions of regimental business sent to Col. J.B. Kershaw from the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac. There are also two non-Civil War letters to Kershaw. The first, dated October 20, 1852, is from Maxcy Gregg asking for support for Mr. De Treville in an upcoming election: a clipped autograph of Maxcy Gregg is included. The other letter, dated April 24, 1894, is from W.B. Bachelder of the Gettysburg Battlefield Commission thanking Kershaw for the information he gave them about the battle.
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