

CORBETT, BOSTON(1832-

Papers

4 boxes, 1854-1913.

Two of these boxes, 1854-1887, Letters to Boston Corbett, many asking for his autograph, others on church matters, invitations to lecture and preach,

donor, probably George A. Huron, no record.

The other two boxes, 1887-1913, relate to Huron's guardianship of Corbett; an imposter claiming Corbett's pension and property, and legal proceedings against him.

donor, Mrs. May Huron Hale, 1935

Corbett, Boston

Born 1832

1?

1863-1865 served in ~~the~~ a New York regiment in Civil War, promoted to sergeant

From July 12, 1864 to November 1, he was in Andersonville prison.

Shot John Wilkes Booth.

1865-1869 worked at his trade(hatter) in New York.

1869-1870 he was a Camden, N. J. in charge of a mission.

1878 he came to Kansas and settled on a claim near Concordia.

1887 was doorkeeper at Legislature.

Became insane and was sent to the asylum in 1887.

George A. Huron, appointed his guardian

He escaped from the asylum in May 1888. Nothing more heard from him.

KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 Manuscripts Department

Corbett, Boston
 [Papers.] 1854-1972

Folder List

<u>MS No.</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Items</u>
			<u>Letters received</u>	1866-1888	
887	1	1		1866	
887	1	2		1868	
887	1	3		1869	
887	1	4		1876	
887	1	5		1878	
887	1	6		1879	
887	1	7		[188_]	
887	1	8		1880	
887	1	9		1881	
887	1	10		1882	
887	1	11		1883	
887	1	12		1884	
887	1	13		1885	
887	1	14		1886	
887	1	15		1887	
887	1	16		1888	
			<u>Correspondence of George Huron, guardian, concerning Boston Corbett</u>	1887-1913	
887	2	1		1887	
887	2	2		1888	
887	2	3		1889	
887	2	4		1890	
887	2	5		1891	
887	2	6		1892	
887	2	7		1893	
887	2	8		1894	
887	2	9		1895	
887	2	10		1896	
887	2	11		1897	
887	2	12		1899	
887	2	13		1900	
887	2	14		1901	
887	2	15		1902	
*	2	16		1903	
*	2	17		1904	
887	2	18		1905	
887	2	19		1908	
887	2	20		1910	
887	2	21		1911	
887	2	22		1913	

<u>MS No.</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Items</u>
*	2	23	<u>Reminiscences of Corbett</u>	[ca.1900]- 1972	2
	2	24	<u>Papers relating to the impersonation of Corbett by John Corbit</u>		
*	2	24		[undated]- 1898 May 10	24
887	2	25		1898 May 24- 1900 July 23	24
*	2	26		1900 July 26- 1905 Oct. 16	24
*	2	27	<u>Personal documents</u>	1855-188[6]	7
*	2	28	<u>Papers relating to military service</u>		
	2	29	<u>"Was Booth killed by Corbett?" (Week by week, 27 July 1935)</u>	1935 July 27	
	2	30	<u>MS. concerning the killing of Booth</u>		
*	2	31	<u>Papers relating to the killing of Booth</u>	1865-1897	7
887	2	32	<u>Pension for military injuries</u>		
*	2	33	<u>Papers relating to church service</u>	1870-1877	2
	2	34	<u>In re: Boston Corbett, insane: Reporter's notes</u>	[n.d.]	1

* Some documents in this folder have been microfilmed on MS-887.

MICROFILM
MS 887

Corbett, Boston, b. 1832.

Boston Corbett-George A. Huron collection [microform], 1855-1913
(bulk 1866-1877).

1 microfilm reel ; 35 mm.

Boston Corbett was born Thomas H. Corbett in London, U.K., in 1832. He came to America with his parents in 1839 and settled in Troy, N.Y. Boston was apprenticed as a hatter in Connecticut. His wife died during childbirth in 1855. Boston changed his name after attending a Methodist revival in Boston. During the Civil War, he joined the 16th New York Cavalry and was later confined at Andersonville Prison but is best known for killing John Wilkes Booth, assassin of President Abraham Lincoln. After the War, he was a Methodist Episcopal minister in Camden, N.J. He came to Kansas and homesteaded in Cloud County in 1878. He served as an assistant doorkeeper in the Kansas House of Representatives in 1887, but his eccentric behavior caused him to be committed to the State Insane Asylum, Topeka. He escaped the following year and supposedly went to Mexico.

Collection, 0.6 ft.(2 boxes), containing letters received by Boston Corbett, 1866-1888, and the correspondence of George Huron, his guardian, 1887-1913. In addition, there are reminiscences of Corbett; personal documents; papers relating to his military service, injuries, & pension; items pertaining to Corbett killing John Wilkes Booth; and information on Corbett's insanity, 1855-1935.

Microfilm. Topeka, Kan. : Kansas State Historical Society, 1973; roll MS 887, lab no. 12459.

Originals held by the Kansas State Historical Society (Topeka).

Collection, no. 318.

Non-Civil War papers: separated from George A. Huron's other papers by the donor prior to donation.

Civil War records, 1861-1865: gift, Topeka State Hospital (Kan.), 1970.

Remainder of collection: gift, Mary Huron Hale, 1935.

Information on literary rights available from the Kansas State Historical Society (Topeka).

Finding aid available at the Kansas State Historical Society (Topeka) and on the microfilm.

1. Booth, John Wilkes, 1838-1865. 2. Corbett, Boston, b. 1832.
3. Huron, George A. 4. Lincoln, Abraham, 1809-1865-Assassination.
5. Andersonville Prison. 6. Kansas. Legislature (1887). House of
Representatives. 7. Kansas State Insane Asylum (Topeka, Kan.)
8. American letters-United States-History-19th century. 9. Hat trade.
10. Insanity. 11. Mental illness. 12. Methodists-Biography.
13. Psychiatric hospitals-Kansas. 14. Cloud County (Kan.)-History.
15. United States-History-Civil War, 1861-1865. 16. United States-
History-Civil War, 1861-1865-Prisoners and prisons. i. Huron, George
A. ii. *Other title*: Boston Corbett collection.

KHi Library and Archives Microfilm cabinets in Reference Room.