

American Antiquarian Society

Manuscript Collections

---

**NAME OF COLLECTION:**

Toll, Charles Hansen, Letters, 1868-1878

**LOCATION:**

Octavo vols. "T"

---

**SIZE OF COLLECTION:**

1 octavo volume (223 p.)

---

**SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON COLLECTION:**

For biographical information on Toll, see *Toll-Wolcott Genealogy*, vol. 4 (n.p.: n.s., n.d.); see also *National Cyclopedia of American Biography* (New York: James T. White, 1944), vol. 31, p. 441.

---

**SOURCE OF COLLECTION:**

Gift of Dr. Charles H. Toll

---

**COLLECTION DESCRIPTION:**

Charles Hansen Toll (1850-1901), the son of Abel and Sarah Toll, graduated from Hamilton College in 1872. He continued his studies in the law office of Frank Hiscock and was admitted to the New York Bar in 1874. He moved to Colorado in 1875 for his health and to seek the greater opportunity of the West. Settling in Del Norte, Col., he opened a small law office and was soon elected county judge. In 1878, he was elected to the Colorado Legislature and from 1881 to 1883 served as Colorado's Attorney General. He then quit politics and continued his successful private law practice in Denver, specializing in mining litigation.

This collection is a typed copy of Toll's letters, for the period 1868 to 1878, to his family. It includes two letters Toll wrote while a student at Hamilton College. Most of the letters, however, describe his journey to Colorado and his early years living in Del Norte, trying to establish a law firm. Toll supplied lengthy descriptions of the people he met, mining operations and the Western landscape. He also describes some of his early law cases and his financial difficulties.