

McLean County Museum of History

John McFee Collection

Processed by

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Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 Box
COLLECTION DATES:	1850-1921
RESTRICTIONS:	None
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	

Brief History

John McFee (1830-1877) was a well-known farmer, who also bred Berkshire swine. He lived four miles west of Bloomington. According to the article about his death, he was "in good circumstances, owning a large and well-cultivated farm. He was much respected by his neighbors" (Item 1.1). Born in Jefferson County, Ohio, he and his wife and oldest child Pulaski moved to Atlanta, Illinois, in 1856. In 1860, they settled on a farm two miles south of Twin Grove.

He died of lockjaw after his right leg was amputated by Drs. Crothers and Hill. While taking a heavy load of lumber from Bloomington to his farm, he was thrown from his wagon when the horses shied and his right leg was run over by the wagon wheel.

Scope

This collection contains various receipts for items purchased and for real estate transactions conducted by John McFee.

Folder Inventory

Folder 1: McFee Family

- 1.1 "Died of Lockjaw," *Pantagraph*, September 8, 1877.
- 1.2 "John McFee" family information, <findagrave.com>, printed May 10, 2021, 2pp.
- 1.3 "Death Comes to Pulaski McFee, 69," *Pantagraph*, October 10, 1921, about oldest son.
- 1.4 Business card for John McFee, Berkshire Swine.
- 1.5 McLean County Agricultural Society Fair Exhibitor's Ticket for John McFee, September 13--16, 1870.
- 1.6 Letter to John McFee from Thornton McFee, September 1859. Handwritten "crossed" letter, ink faded, with photocopy and note "Letter written in 1859 by my great grandfather, Thornton McFee, to my grandfather, John McFee."

Folder 2: Receipts

The receipts in this folder are not itemized because most are in fragile or poor condition. They appear to be for various items, such as sewing machines, items of clothing, and hardware. Some are merely for payment of balance on account. Most are dated from late 1850s and 1860s.

Folder 3: Real Estate Transactions

This folder contains documents relating to several real estate transfers for John McFee and Pulaski McFee in McLean County and Logan County in the 1860s, 1870s and early 1900s. They are handwritten and mostly on fragile paper.

Folder 4: Miscellaneous

- 4.1 Flyttrensbevis (moving license) in Swedish. Apparently is permission for [indecipherable] to move from Sweden to America, dated July 3, 1885.

- 4.2 Letter to J. McFee from Adam Rankin, November 26, 1868, with envelope.
- 4.3 Letter to Dear Sir, signature unclear, apparently about payment of a debt, December 16, 1889.
- 4.4 Six envelopes addressed to John McFee, Atlanta, Illinois.
- 4.5 Two envelopes addressed to John McFee, Bloomington, Illinois.