
Creator: C. M. Silva & Son

Title: C. M. Silva & Son Correspondence

Date (inclusive): 1874-1886

Extent: 1.4 linear feet

Abstract: Charles M. Silva (1823-1894) and his son Edward B. Silva (1854-1952) operated C.M. Silva & Son, a nursery specializing in fruit trees and plants, in Newcastle, California. This collection contains 135 letters written to C. M. Silva & Son from 1874-1879. Also included is one volume of outgoing correspondence from July to December 1886. The correspondence discusses growing fruit trees and plants, orders for their fruit and plant stock, shipping procedures, the quality of their products, and account debits and credits.

Physical location: Researchers should contact Special Collections to request collections, as many are stored offsite.

Repository: University of California, Davis. General Library. Department of Special Collections.

Davis, California 95616-5292

Collection number: D-417

Language of Material: Collection materials in English

Biography

Charles M. Silva (1823-1894) was a native of Richmond County, New York who moved to California in 1849. A resident of Newcastle, California from 1864 to 1894, Silva first planted several fruit trees and strawberry vines there in 1868. He was one of the first to discover the adaptability of Newcastle's soil for growing fruit trees and plants and became one of the pioneers of the fruit and nursery business in Placer County. Silva and his son, Edward, operated a nursery, C.M. Silva & Son, in Newcastle.

In 1870, the Silvas had about ten acres under cultivation, and although their fruit trees had not matured, they received approximately nine hundred dollars per acre each year from different kinds of berries. They marketed five tons of strawberries in 1870, averaging twenty cents per pound. They shipped thirty thousand dollars worth of fruit in 1874 and the business had doubled annually for the preceding four years. In 1875, they had thirty acres planted in fruit trees and strawberries.

Charles Silva had three children: Edward Burton Silva (February 16, 1854-April 24, 1952), Jennie Culver (July 17, 1858-April 27, 1941) and Elizabeth Oldham (September 7, 1860-June 14, 1948). He passed away on November 7, 1894.

Sources:

Gittings, Samuel Evans. *The foundations of Placer County horticulture, 1850-1900*. Auburn, CA: Placer County Historical Society, 1996.

Lardner, William Branson. *History of Placer and Nevada counties, California: with biographical sketches of the leading men and women of the counties who have been identified with their growth and development from the early days to the present*. Los Angeles, Calif. : Historic Record Company, 1924.

Obituary of Charles M. Silva. *Placer Republican*, November 9, 1894.

Scope and Content

The collection contains 135 incoming letters to C.M. Silva & Son from 1874-1879. One volume of outgoing letters from July to December 1886 is also included.

Correspondents include other nurserymen such as J. Capps and Sons of Mt. Pulaski, Illinois, McKinley Brothers of Los Angeles, John Rock of San Jose, and Shinn's Nurseries of Alameda County and fruit and produce merchants such as M.T. Brewer of Sacramento and Hixson, Justi and Co. of San Francisco, among others. Also present are three letters from Edward Payson Roe, a novelist and cultivator of small fruits. The correspondence discusses growing fruit trees and plants, orders for Silva's products, shipping procedures, the quality of Silva's products, and account debits and credits.

Arrangement of the Collection

The collection is arranged in two series: Incoming and Outgoing.

Related Material

The Nursery and Seed Catalog Collection (O-009) contains price lists and descriptive circulars from C.M. Silva & Son from 1878-1887.

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

C.M. Silva & Son
Silva, Charles M., 1823-1894
Silva, Edward B., 1854-1952
Rock, John, 1836-1904
Roe, Edward Payson, 1838-1888
Shinn's Nurseries
J. Capps and Sons
Newcastle (Calif.)--History
Nurseries (Horticulture)--California
Nursery growers
Strawberries--California

Access

Collection is open for research.

Processing Information

Sara Gunasekara processed this collection and created and encoded this finding aid.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], C. M. Silva & Son Correspondence, D-417, Department of Special Collections, General Library, University of California, Davis.

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Series 1 Incoming 1874-1879

Physical Description: 135 letters

Scope and Content Note

Arranged alphabetically by correspondent and then chronologically.

Box 1:1 **J. Beman & Co. 1877 September 5**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:2 **Berriman, Thomas 1879 March 20**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:3 **Blowers, R.B. 1878 March 8**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:4 **Blowers, R.B. 1878 August 25**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:5 **M.T. Brewer and Co. 1876 June 24**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:6 **M.T. Brewer and Co. 1877 April 23**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:7 **M.T. Brewer and Co. 1878 November 29**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:8 **Brown, S.W. 1878 December 5**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:9 **Brown, S.W. 1879 April 11**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

- Box 1:10 **Burrel, E. undated**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:11 **J. Capps and Son 1874 October 15**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:12 **J. Capps and Son 1876 April 3**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:13 **J. Capps and Son 1876 July 28**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:14 **J. Capps and Son 1877 May 14**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:15 **J. Capps and Son 1877 September 6**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:16 **J. Capps and Son 1878 September 17**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:17 **J. Capps and Son 1878 October 22?**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:18 **J. Capps and Son undated**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:19 **Carville, Matthew 1878 April 24**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:20 **Case, A.B. 1877 October 15**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
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- Box 1:21 **Clark, E.P. 1877 February 21**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:22 **Coghill, A.J. 1877 July 28**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:23 **Cooper, A.J. 1878 December 10**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:24 **Co-operative Nursery and Fruit Company of Los Angeles County 1878 December 8**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:25 **A.H. Cummings and Co. 1877 June 7**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:26 **Downing, Charles 1877 June 20**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:27 **H.M. Engle and Son 1877 April 14**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:28 **H.M. Engle and Son 1877 May 31**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:29 **H.M. Engle and Son 1877 October 3**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:30 **Fenton, Ellen 1878 April 11**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note

Box 1:31 **W.L. Ferris Jr. and Co. 1876 November 28**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:32 **W.L. Ferris Jr. and Co. 1877 January 8**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:33 **W.L. Ferris and Co. undated**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:34 **Ferris, Minard and Co. undated**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:35 **Fox, Bernard 1878 April 24**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:36 **Fox, Bernard 1878 June 6**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:37 **Gardner, C.C.? 1879 May 26**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:38 **Gillet, Felix? 1878 April 20**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:39 **Hallenbach, G.W. 1879 February 27**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:40 **A. Hance and Son 1874**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:41 **A. Hance and Son 1878 May 20**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

- Box 1:42 **A. Hance and Son 1879 September 19**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:43 **Haynes, E. undated**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:44 **Hines, J.W. 1878 August 25**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:45 **Hixson, Justi and Co. 1878 July 11**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:46 **Hixson, Justi and Co. 1878 August 22**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:47 **Hixson, Justi and Co. 1878 August 26**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:48 **Hixson, Justi and Co. 1878 August 31**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:49 **Hixson, Justi and Co. 1878 September 17**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:50 **Hixson, Justi and Co. 1878 October 1**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:51 **Hixson, Justi and Co. 1878 October 11**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note

Box 1:52 **Hixson, Justi and Co. 1878 December 23**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:53 **Hixson, Justi and Co. 1879 April 9**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:54 **Hixson, Justi and Co. 1879 June 6**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:55 **Howe and Hall 1875 June 17**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:56 **Howe and Hall 1876 June 23**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:57 **Howe and Hall 1878 September 2**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:58 **Johnson and Sugden 1877 May 25**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:59 **Kesler, C.W. 1878 April 25**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:60 **Lolor, Charles P. 1877 August 31**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:61 **Loomis, Harry 1879 March 31**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:62 **McKinley Bros. 1878 March 18**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

- Box 1:63 **McKinley Bros. 1878 April 2**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:64 **McKinley Bros. 1878 April 6**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:65 **McKinley Bros. 1878 April 29**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:66 **McKinley Bros. 1878 November 8**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:67 **McKinley Bros. 1878 December 20**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:68 **McKinley Bros. 1879 January 27**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:69 **W. McRay and Sons 1876 February 14**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:70 **Nyland, V. 1877 November 9**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:71 **Ogier, A.M. 1878 June 8**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:72 **Ogier, A.M. 1878 August 14**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note

- Box 1:73 **Ohlandt, N. 1879 February 14**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:74 **Orange Judd Company Publishers 1878 October 4**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:75 **Richter, J. 1877 April 18**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:76 **Rock, John 1876 December 22**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:77 **Rock, John 1877 January 25**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:78 **Rock, John 1877 April 13**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:79 **Rock, John 1877 May 16**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:80 **Rock, John 1877 June 11**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:81 **Rock, John 1877 September 20**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:82 **Rock, John 1878 January 10**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:83 **Rock, John 1878 June 14**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
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- Box 1:84 **Rock, John 1878 September 10**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:85 **Rock, John 1878 November 5**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:86 **Roe, E.P. 1878 February 25**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:87 **Roe, E.P. 1878 September 9**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:88 **Roe, E.P. 1878 September 14**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:89 **San Francisco Journal of Commerce 1878 August 27**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:90 **Shinn's Nurseries 1876 September 12**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:91 **Shinn's Nurseries 1876 November 15**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:92 **Shinn's Nurseries 1876 December 13**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:93 **Shinn's Nurseries 1876 December 19**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note

Box 1:94	Shinn's Nurseries 1876 December 25 Physical Description: Scope and Content Note
Box 1:95	Shinn's Nurseries 1877 February 14 Physical Description: Scope and Content Note
Box 1:96	Shinn's Nurseries 1877 April 12 Physical Description: Scope and Content Note
Box 1:97	Shinn's Nurseries 1877 May 18 Physical Description: Scope and Content Note
Box 1:98	Shinn's Nurseries 1877 September 14 Physical Description: Scope and Content Note
Box 1:99	Shinn's Nurseries 1877 October 25 Physical Description: Scope and Content Note
Box 1:100	Shinn's Nurseries 1877 November 22 Physical Description: Scope and Content Note
Box 1:101	Shinn's Nurseries 1877 December 22 Physical Description: Scope and Content Note
Box 1:102	Shinn's Nurseries 1878 January 14 Physical Description: Scope and Content Note
Box 1:103	Shinn's Nurseries 1878 May 21 Physical Description: Scope and Content Note
Box 1:104	Shinn's Nurseries 1878 August 1 Physical Description: Scope and Content Note

- Box 1:105 **Shinn's Nurseries 1878 September 12**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:106 **Shinn's Nurseries 1878 November 7**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:107 **Shinn's Nurseries 1878 November 20**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:108 **Shinn's Nurseries 1878 November 25**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:109 **Shinn's Nurseries 1878**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:110 **Shinn's Nurseries 1879 May 24**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:111 **Shinn's Nurseries 1879 June 28**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:112 **Sibley, W.E. 1878 April 1**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:113 **Sibley, W.E. 1878 August 9**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:114 **Sibley, W.E. 1878 December 19**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note

Box 1:115 **Sisson, Wallace and Co. 1878 November 1**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:116 **Somers, William 1878 February 14**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:117 **Smith, James F. 1878 January 4**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:118 **Somers, William 1878 April 3**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:119 **Somers, William undated**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:120 **Warren, Col. 1878 November 14**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:121 **Warren, Col. 1878 November 18**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:122 **Warren, Col. 1879 March 6**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:123 **Warren, Col. 1879 May 20**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:124 **West, W.B. 1877 December 18**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Box 1:125 **West, W.B. 1878 January 8**

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

- Box 1:126 **West, W.B. 1878 January 14**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:127 **West, W.B. 1878 February 9**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:128 **West, W.B. 1878 December 9**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:129 **C.W. Westbrook's Nurseries and Fruit Farm 1878 October 4**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:130 **Whitney, John 1877 March 5**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:131 **C.G. Wickersham and Co. 1879 April 12**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:132 **Williams, E. and J.C. 1878 April 14**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:133 **Williams, E. and J.C. 1878 April 10**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:134 **Wright, W.G. 1878 March 31**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note
- Box 1:135 **Unidentified 1878 April 8**
Physical Description:
Scope and Content Note

Box 1:136

Unidentified 1878 October 8

Physical Description:

Scope and Content Note

Wrapped Volume Series 2 **Outgoing 1886 July 26-December 18**

Physical Description: 1 volume

Scope and Content Note