



State of Tennessee
Department of State
Tennessee State Library and Archives
403 Seventh Avenue North
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312

PARKES, LENAMAY GREEN, 1869-1952
PAPERS, 1886-1958

Processed by Marianne R. Malone
Date completed: Oct. 5, 1961
Prepared for microfilming by Kimberly Mills
Date completed: Dec. 8, 2006

Location: II-G-1
Accession numbers: 517, 1393
Mf. accession number: 1804

INTRODUCTION

The diaries and scrapbook of Lenamay Green Parkes (1869-1952), wife of James Hanner Parkes, were given to the Manuscript Section of the Tennessee State Library and Archives by her daughter, Mrs. R. Lynn Farrar, McCrory Lane, Kingston Springs, Tennessee, through the agency of Mrs. Roy Avery on behalf of the Colonial Dames Manuscript Collecting Program. The collection occupies .40 linear feet in shelf space and has approximately six volumes and a few loose items. The literary rights in the unpublished writings of Lenamay Green Parkes in this collection and other collections of papers in the custody of the Manuscript Section have been dedicated to the public. Single photocopies of unpublished writings may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Lenamay Green Parkes Papers are composed of one scrapbook, three diaries, and a few miscellaneous items covering the period from 1886 through 1954. The bulk of the material is in the late 1800s and early 1900s. The scrapbook contains many detailed accounts of unusual parties, both for children and adults, given by Mrs. James Hanner Parkes (the former Lenamay Green), who was a noted Nashville, Tennessee hostess. Of interest to the student of passing customs and folk ways are the old nursery rhymes, "play party" games, contests and songs. Included also in the scrapbook is a history of the Boom Camp Club organized in Nashville in 1895. This club was an informal social group composed of friends who enjoyed "camping out" in an area on the Caney Fork river near Walling, Tennessee.

The three diaries are full and informative accounts of an extended European trip taken by Miss Green with her uncle and aunt, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Young, from August 25, 1886 to June 24, 1887. These accounts frequently point out European customs of that period.

Two account books for "Household and Personal Expenses" have been added to the papers. They are for the dates 1886-1892 and 1892-1893. The accounts are carefully kept, listing every conceivable expense from street car fare and church collection to baby shoes. These little volumes would be an excellent source of study for prices during this period.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Mrs. James Hanner Parkes, the former Lenamay Green, was born in 1869 and died in 1952. She was the daughter of Josephine Searcy and William Green, granddaughter of Mary Elliston and Dr. Alexander Little Page Green. Her father and grandfather were both Methodist ministers. Mrs. Parkes was educated at the Atheneum in Columbia, Tennessee and at Price's School in Nashville. She married in 1891.

CONTAINER LIST

Folders

1. Diary, August 23, 1886
2. Diary, December 18, 1886
3. Diary, April 5, 1887
4. Entertainment ideas: Contests, plays and ballads, 1954, n.d.
5. Memory and Announcement Book, 1895-1938
6. Photographs: Boom Camp and others, ca. 1918
7. Expense Account Books: Household and Personal, 1886-1892; 1892-1893