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LUTHER BURBANK PAPERS

1883-1938

0.67 linear ft.

Luther Burbank (1849-1926) began his work in horticulture in his birthplace, Lancaster, Massachusetts, where he raised seeds and vegetables for market. He moved to Santa Rosa, California in 1875 in order to pursue his work in a warmer, longer growing season. Burbank became world famous for his time-saving methods of plant breeding and grafting, especially orchard stock. He developed hundreds of new varieties of flowers, fruits, vegetables and trees as well as grain varieties some of which produced as much as 20% more. In spite of his great contributions to horticulture, particularly the California fruit industry, Burbank never became wealthy because plant patent laws were not enacted until four years after his death. Mr. Burbank's garden office was moved to Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village in 1928, a gift of his widow, Elizabeth Waters Burbank.

This collection includes Burbank's plant sales records from 1883-84, hybridization seed yields in 1891, and an extensive list of foreign seeds, with his comments. There are also numerous personal calling cards from world-wide visitors, correspondence from school children, and a small collection of greeting cards and post cards.

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| BOX 1 | 1-1 | Advertising and Trade Cards |
| | 1-2 | Calling Cards |
| | 1-3 | Calling Cards |
| | 1-4 | Circular, 1915 |
| | 1-5 | Correspondence, Children's Letters, 1906 |
| | 1-6 | Correspondence, Miscellaneous |
| | 1-7 | Ephemera; Mottoes, Poems |
| | 1-8 | Leaflets, 1907 |
| | 1-9 | Notebooks, 1883-1884, 1891 |
| | 1-10 | Notebook, Foreign Seeds, 1907 |
| | 1-11 | Patents, 1938 |
| | 1-12 | Photograph, ca. 1915 |

BOX 2 J Greeting Cards; Christmas, 1906-1916, n.d.
Greeting Cards; Miscellaneous, 1912-1915
Post Cards ; Australian Plants, n.d.
" " ; Bermuda Plants, n.d.
" " ; Bermuda Scenes, 1919, n.d.
" " ; Burbank Plants, n.d.
" " ; Burbank Residences, 1911, n.d.
" " ; California Scenes, 1914,1915, n.d.
" " ; Flowers, fruits, trees, n.d.
" " ; Foreign Countries, 1914, n.d.
" " ; Massachusetts Scenes, n.d.
" " ; Mottoes/Poems, n.d.
" " ; Santa Rosa Scenes, n.d.
" " ; United States--Miscellaneous, 1913,1914,1921