About This Collection

Michael McEachern McDowell was the author of a number of horror novels, including *The Amulet* (1979), *Cold Moon Over Babylon* (1980), and *The Elementals* (1981), as well as six serialized novels known as the *Blackwater* series (1983). He also has screenwriting credits for Tim Burton's *Beetlejuice* and *The Nightmare Before Christmas*, and wrote for the TV series *Tales from the Darkside*. The Michael McDowell Death Collection is comprised of 76 boxes, and spans the years 1616 – 2005. The collection was assembled by McDowell based on his interest in the subject matter, and includes correspondence, photographs (including photographic prints, daguerreotypes, tintypes, ambrotypes, and stereographs), memorial cards, jewelry, hairwork, scrapbooks, ledgers, news clippings, and artifacts. The **Psychics and Spiritualism** series, which includes boxes 35 through 43, contains a comparatively extensive group of spirit photographs and Spiritualism-related materials, including photographs are identified as the work of Edward Wyllie, William Mumler, Frederick Hudson, and others.

The collection is currently housed in the Charles Deering McCormick Library of Special Collections, Deering Library, Level 3, 1970 Campus Drive, Evanston, Illinois.

About This Document

This document represents the contents of **Box 40**, **Folder 21** of the collection. It is a loose collection of 4 spirit photographs by William Mumler. The photographs are undated, but each carries a "W. H. Mumler" stamp on the back, along with his 630 Broadway, NY address. Three if the photographs feature men, all with short, mostly illegible annotations. A fourth photograph features a woman and included a small slip of paper with notes regarding the Boston Almanac, four addresses, and several dates, which may be the previous owner's attempt to identify the subject or place the date of the photograph. It is unknown if the paper is properly placed with the correct photograph, and notes "Silver Engraver," which might be better assigned to one of the male subjects given the time period. Two of these photographs (the woman and writing man) were featured in the famous May 8, 1869 *Harper's Weekly* cover engraving on the Mumler trial.

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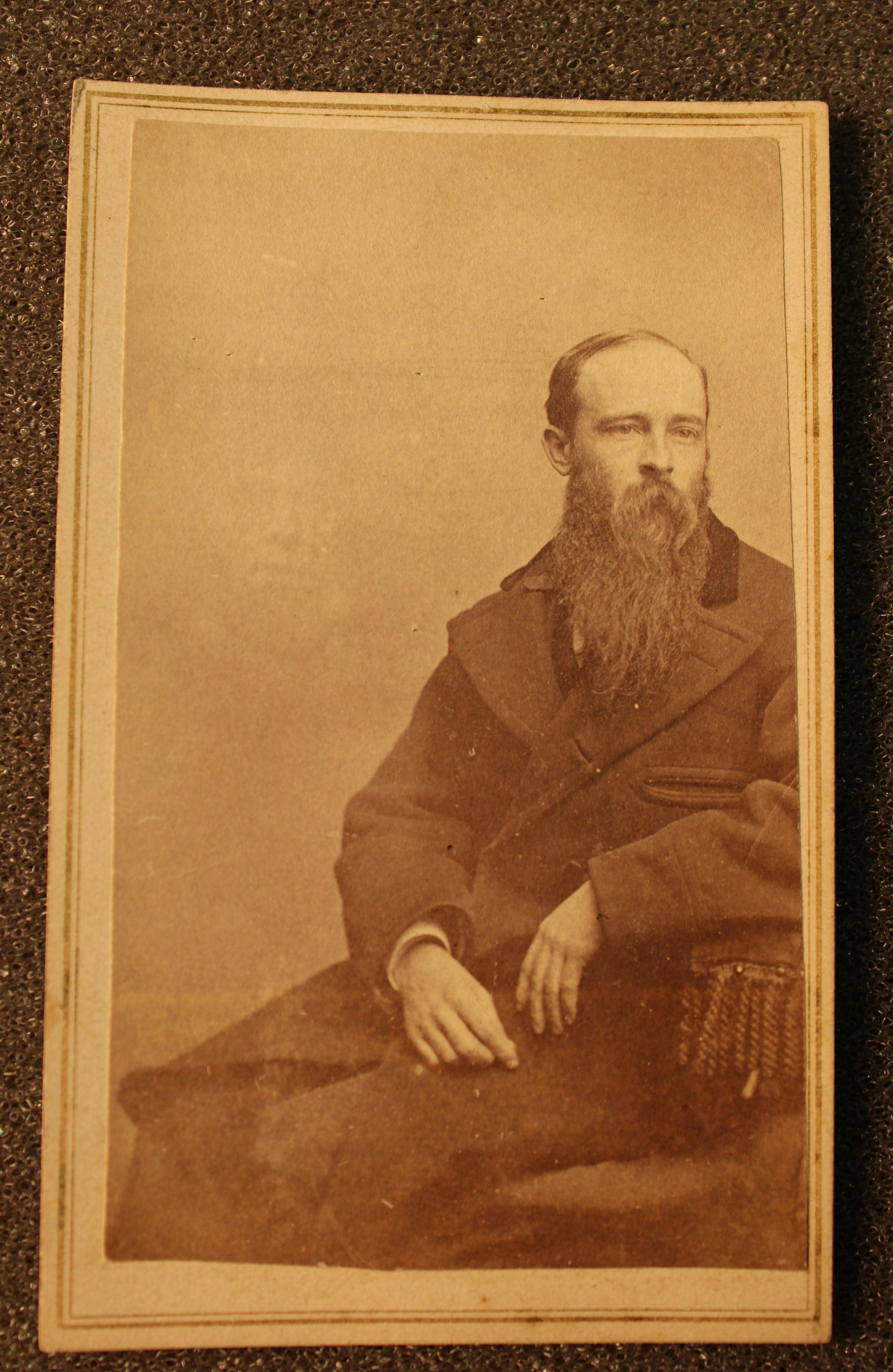
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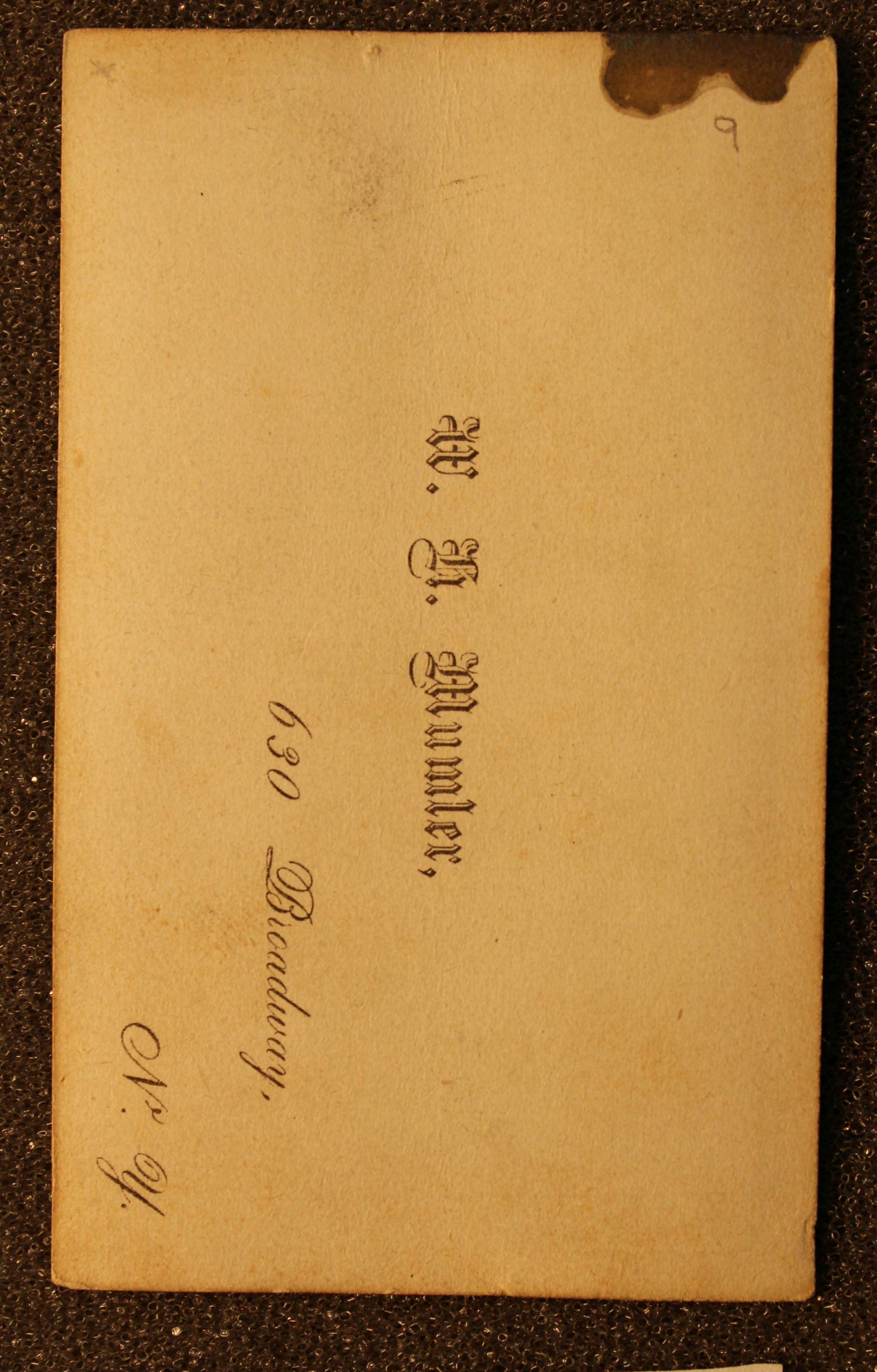


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