A Guide to the Microfilm Edition of

RECORDS OF ANTE-BELLUM SOUTHERN PLANTATIONS FROM THE REVOLUTION THROUGH THE CIVIL WAR

Series J

Selections from the Southern Historical Collection, Manuscripts Department, Library of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Part 8: Tennessee and Kentucky

UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS OF AMERICA
Records of Ante-Bellum Southern
Plantations from the Revolution
through the Civil War

General Editor: Kenneth M. Stampp

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Southern Historical Collection, Manuscripts Department,
Library of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Part 8:
Tennessee and Kentucky

Associate Editor and Guide Compiled by
Martin Schipper

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INTRODUCTION

The impact of the ante-bellum southern plantations on the lives of their black and white inhabitants, as well as on the political, economic, and cultural life of the South as a whole, is one of the most fascinating and controversial problems of present-day American historical research. Depending upon the labor of slaves who constituted the great majority of the American black population, the plantations were both homes and business enterprises for a white, southern elite. They were the largest, the most commercialized, and on the whole, the most efficient and specialized agricultural enterprises of their day, producing the bulk of the South’s staple crops of tobacco, cotton, sugar, rice, and hemp. Their proprietors were entrepreneurs who aspired to and sometimes, after a generation or two, achieved the status of a cultivated landed aristocracy. Many distinguished themselves not only in agriculture but in the professions, in the military, in government service, and in scientific and cultural endeavors.

Planters ambitious to augment their wealth, together with their black slaves, were an important driving force in the economic and political development of new territories and states in the Southwest. Their commodities accounted for more than half the nation’s exports, and the plantations themselves were important markets for the products of northern industry. In short, they played a crucial role in the development of a national market economy.

The plantations of the Old South, the white families who owned, operated, and lived on them, and the blacks who toiled on them as slaves for more than two centuries, have been the subjects of numerous historical studies since the pioneering work of Ulrich B. Phillips in the early twentieth century. The literature, highly controversial, has focused on questions such as the evolution and nature of the planter class and its role in shaping the white South’s economy, culture, and values; the conditions experienced by American blacks in slavery; the impact of the “peculiar institution” on their personalities and the degree to which a distinct Afro-American culture developed among them; and, finally, the sources of the tension between the proslavery interests of the South and the “free labor” interests of the North that culminated in secession and civil war.

Research materials are plentiful. Census returns and other government documents, newspapers and periodicals, travelers’ accounts, memoirs and autobiographies, and an abundance of polemical literature have much to tell historians about life on ante-bellum plantations. The autobiographies of former slaves, several twentieth-century oral history collections, and a rich record of songs and folklore are significant sources for the black experience in slavery. All the historical literature, however, from Phillips to the most recent studies, has relied heavily on the enormous collections of manuscript plantation records that survive in research libraries scattered throughout the South. These manuscripts consist of business records, account books, slave lists, overseers’ reports, diaries, private letters exchanged among family members and friends, and even an occasional letter written by a literate slave. They come mostly from the larger tobacco, cotton, sugar, and rice plantations, but a significant number survive from the more modest estates and smaller slaveholdings whose economic operations tended to be less specialized.

Plantation records illuminate nearly every aspect of plantation life. Not only business operations and day-to-day labor routines, but family affairs, the roles of women, racial attitudes, relations between masters and slaves, social and cultural life, the values shared by members of the planter class, and the tensions and anxieties that were inseparable from a slave society all are revealed with a fullness and candor unmatched by any of the other available sources. Moreover, these records are immensely valuable for studies of black slavery. Needless to say, since they were compiled by members of the white master class, they provide little direct
evidence of the inner feelings and private lives of the slave population. But they are the best sources of information about the care and treatment of slaves, about problems in the management of slave labor, and about forms of slave resistance short of open rebellion. They also tell us much about the behavior of slaves, from which historians can at least draw inferences about the impact of slavery on the minds and personalities of its black victims.

Deposited in southern state archives and in the libraries of many southern universities and historical societies, the number of available plantation records has increased significantly in recent decades. Our publication is designed to assist scholars in their use by offering for the first time an ample selection of the most important materials in a single microfilm collection. Ultimately it will cover each geographical area in which the plantation flourished, with additions of approximately four new collections annually. A special effort is being made to offer the rarer records of the smaller slaveholders and to include the equally rare records of the plantations in the last quarter of the eighteenth century; however, the documentation is most abundant for the operations of the larger plantations in the period between the War of 1812 and the Civil War, and their records will constitute the bulk of our publication.

Kenneth M. Stampp
Professor Emeritus
University of California at Berkeley
NOTE ON SOURCES

The collections microfilmed in this edition are holdings of the Southern Historical Collection, Manuscripts Department, Academic Affairs Library of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27599. The descriptions of the collections provided in this user guide are adapted from inventories compiled by the Southern Historical Collection. The inventories are included among the introductory materials on the microfilm.

Historical maps, microfilmed among the introductory materials, are courtesy of the Map Collection of the Academic Affairs Library of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Maps consulted include:
- Thomas G. Bradford, Comprehensive Atlas, 1835;
- Robert Mills, Atlas of South Carolina, 1825; and

EDITORIAL NOTE

The Reel Index for this edition provides the user with a précis of each collection. Each précis gives information on family history and many business and personal activities documented in the collection. Omissions from the microfilm edition are noted in the précis and on the microfilm. Descriptions of omitted materials are included in the introductory materials on the microfilm.

Following the précis, the Reel Index itemizes each file folder and manuscript volume. The four-digit number to the left of each entry indicates the frame number at which a particular document or series of documents begins.
Description of the Collection

This collection contains the correspondence, financial and legal items, writings, volumes, miscellaneous items, pictures and newspaper clippings of Calvin Jones, his son Montezuma Jones, and their descendants.

The first, and largest, series contains correspondence and financial and legal items of the Jones family. Most of the correspondence relates to Calvin Jones and documents his life as a doctor, officer in the militia, editor of the Raleigh, North Carolina, Star, plantation owner, and general businessman. There is some family correspondence, particularly during the years 1839 to 1846, when Jones’s children were away at school and Jones himself traveled abroad, and during the years 1880 to 1929 in which there are scattered family letters from the Jones family descendants. The majority of the financial papers relate to Montezuma Jones and document his career as a planter near Bolivar, Tennessee. Included in these papers are promissory notes, bills and receipts, indentures for the sale of land, and statements from cotton factors. After 1880, most of the correspondence relates to James W. Jones, son of Montezuma Jones.

The second series contains volumes, including travel journals, plantation journals, memobooks, account books, personal diaries, and exercise books. Most of the volumes belonged to Calvin Jones. Among these are several travel diaries he kept on journeys in the United States and abroad, and a plantation journal in which he described some of his agricultural experiments. The rest of the volumes belonged to Montezuma Jones, who kept several account books, and to Fannie Irene Jones, who kept several diaries.

Other materials in this collection are a group of newspaper clippings, two pictures, and fourteen rolls of microfilm. The first eight rolls of microfilm are of the Jones family papers housed in the Tennessee State Library and Archives.


Biographical Note

Calvin Jones (1775–1846) was born in Weymouth, Massachusetts, where he studied medicine and passed his examination before the officers of the United Medical Society at the age of seventeen. He practiced medicine in Massachusetts until 1795, when he moved to Smithfield in Johnston County, North Carolina. He soon became active in many phases of public life—civic, professional, political, military, social, and educational. Jones had a wide circle of acquaintances among prominent men, and there are letters from some of these persons scattered throughout his correspondence. In addition to medicine, he seems to have been interested in agriculture. He
wanted to use the most modern, scientific methods available and corresponded with several persons about farming techniques. He also kept a journal from 1820 to 1835 about his agricultural experiments in Wake County, North Carolina, and Hardeman County, Tennessee.

In 1798, Jones became an officer in the Johnston Militia Company. He continued his military career, becoming adjutant general and, after the outbreak of the War of 1812, major general of the North Carolina Militia, 7th Division. In 1819, Jones married Temperance Boddie Williams Jones (1786–1873), daughter of Major William Williams of Franklin County, North Carolina, and widow of Dr. Thomas C. Jones. By her first husband, Temperance Jones had one son, Thomas C. Jones. Calvin and Temperance Jones had several children, three of whom survived:

1. Montezuma Jones, born in 1822 at Wake Forest, married Elizabeth Wood, and died near Bolivar in 1914.
2. Octavia Rowena Jones, born in 1826 at Wake Forest, married Edwin Polk of Bolivar, Tennessee, and died in 1917.
3. Paul Tudor Jones, born in 1828 at Wake Forest, married first to Jane M. Wood and second to Mary Kirkman. He died in Corinth, Mississippi, in 1904.

Calvin Jones had a younger brother, Atlas Jones (d. 1841), who was a graduate of the class of 1804 of the University of North Carolina. There are letters from two other brothers of Calvin Jones in the collection, Andes Jones (d. 1822) and Horace Jones (d. 1828). Atlas Jones became a lawyer, and practiced at Carthage, North Carolina, and later at Raleigh. He apparently acted as a land and business agent for his brother Calvin. Andes Jones seems to have settled in the Rocky Mount, North Carolina, area and also acted as a business agent for his brother. In 1832, Calvin Jones and his family moved to Bolivar, in Hardeman County, Tennessee, to his estate of 30,000 acres. There he retired from the practice of medicine and devoted his energies to planting. Calvin Jones and his daughter Octavia made a tour of Europe in 1844. Jones died in Bolivar in 1846.

Calvin’s son, Montezuma Jones, continued to operate the plantation near Bolivar after his father’s death. Montezuma’s son, James W. Jones (1855–1934), became an attorney and member of the Tennessee legislature. For further information on the Jones family, see the inventory prepared by the Tennessee State Library and Archives in Series 5.

(Parts of this biographical note were adapted from a sketch of Calvin Jones by Edward Preble in the Dictionary of American Biography, pp. 163–164.)

Series 1. Correspondence, Writings, and Financial and Legal Items (1785–1929 and undated)

This series comprises correspondence, writings, and financial and legal items of Calvin Jones, his son Montezuma Jones, and other family members.

Subseries 1.1. (1785–1838) This subseries consists chiefly of letters to Calvin Jones from various acquaintances and business associates. Among those whose letters or writings appear in this series are President John Adams, who wrote an address in 1798 to the officers of the Johnston Regiment of Militia in North Carolina, of which Jones was a member; Benjamin Williams, governor of North Carolina and Jones’s friend; Joseph Caldwell, president of the University of North Carolina, who wrote to Jones about troubles at the university; Davy Crockett, who wanted to lease land Jones owned in Tennessee; President James Madison, who agreed to subscribe to a magazine that Jones was planning to publish; and John P. Ervin, Felix Grundy, and John R. Eaton, who, representing the citizens of Nashville, sent an invitation to Jones to dine. Also included are a number of receipts, promissory notes, and bills and accounts for items he purchased.

Many of the letters between 1785 and 1810 are addressed to Doctor Calvin Jones, first at Smithfield, North Carolina, and later at Raleigh. These are letters he received from other doctors, who discussed their cases, and from patients wanting advice or attendance on illnesses. Jones was apparently interested in new methods of medical treatment, as is indicated by a letter he received from Benjamin Williams, former governor of North Carolina, who was in Fayetteville undergoing shock treatment from an electrifying machine to benefit his nervous system and
restore his sight. Among other diseases, doctors wrote him about treatments for hydrocele and
gonorrhea.

In 1811, some of the letters are addressed to General Jones, at this time involved with the
state militia. In 1808, Jones was made adjutant general, and, in 1812, major general of the North
Carolina Militia, 7th Division. Most of the letters are on routine military business, such as the
appointment of officers and arrangements for a military muster. However, in 1812, there are a few
letters from William Hamilton about the defense of Mobile Bay and other matters. Also included is
a letter, dated 15 July 1813, from Governor J. S. Barbour of Virginia to Jones accepting his offer
of a corps of volunteers to help guard the Virginia coast. Atlas Jones, brother of Calvin Jones,
wrote in 1813 praising him for keeping the coasts free of the enemy.

In addition to being in the militia, Jones was involved in various business interests at this
time, including co-ownership of the Star with Thomas Henderson, Jr. between 1810 and 1815.
Scattered in the papers during these years are bills and receipts for the newspaper, and some
correspondence, chiefly from friends, about obtaining subscriptions. In the spring of 1819, a few
letters refer to Jones’s efforts to start an agricultural journal, the Farmer’s Magazine. John Taylor,
former president of the Agricultural Society of Virginia wrote to him on the subject, as did James
Madison.

Jones remained in the militia until his resignation around 1821. In 1823, he was apparently
appointed postmaster at Wake Forest. He also went back into medical practice in partnership with
Hamilton Taylor, as is indicated by a circular advertising their business. He remained at Wake
Forest until 1831, when he moved with his family to Bolivar, Tennessee. During the period before
1931, Calvin, accompanied by his son Montezuma, apparently went panning for gold in Burke
County, North Carolina. Both father and son wrote to Temperance Jones describing their
experiences. A few other financial items and letters indicate that Calvin owned a gold mine in
North Carolina.

After Calvin’s move to Tennessee, many of the items relate to his farming activities. He
received letters from his cotton factors in New Orleans about his cotton sales and the cotton
market in England. Also included is a letter, dated 11 November 1835, from Thomas J. Shelton,
requesting to be re-employed as Jones’s overseer for 1836, expressing his desire to do a better
job in the future, by being tougher on the hands, and explaining past failures. In 1836, there is a
letter from Farrington & Son about making a cotton gin for Calvin and a letter from B. F. Richards
about breeding Calvin’s horses. Calvin had earlier shown interest in different farming techniques.
Included in 1822 is a copy of a letter written by Calvin to the American Farmer about techniques
for fertilizing fields with lime. He also received a letter from Pomroy Jones about farming
techniques for corn and wheat in 1829.

Many items relate to Calvin’s land transactions in North Carolina and Tennessee. He bought
and sold numerous parcels of land in both states. Included are letters, receipts, indentures, and
records of entries of land. His brother Atlas Jones acted as his agent in many of his business
deals and paid taxes on some of the parcels of land. In 1820 and 1821, most of the letters are
about Calvin’s efforts to purchase land. Another large portion of the items relate to the repayment
of loans owed to Calvin. Included is correspondence from debtors and individuals whom Calvin
employed to collect on his debts.

There are also a few items that relate to slavery and slaves. In 1805, there is a letter from B.
Williams (governor Benjamin Williams) about two runaway slaves belonging to Jones who had
run away and been caught and jailed. Also included is a typed copy of a letter written by Calvin
on 28 December 1830 to Governor Montfort Stokes about a rumored slave insurrection.

Items of interest include the following:

1791: 17 August, Starling Marshall in Petersburg, to his brother John, about social news and
having seen an orangutan.


1795: 21 April, Dr. Morse in Charlestown [signature cut off] to Dr. Calvin Jones in Smithfield,
North Carolina, asking for certain information and corrections about the geography of North
Carolina for his book.
1798: Ebenezer Jones to his son Calvin, giving advice about his future. An address, dated 5 July, from President John Adams to the officers of the Johnston Regiment of Militia in the State of North Carolina.

1800: Surveyors reports for Edmond Stevens in Cumberland and Johnston counties. Land grant to Ezekial Polk on Sugar Creek in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

1801: John C. Osborn of New Bern, to Dr. Calvin Jones of Smithfield, about medical matters. Indenture, Ephraim Reese and Noah Woodard, for Tennessee land. 5 August, Col. Will. Polk at the Supervisor’s Office in Raleigh, to Dr. Jones at Smithfield, about land titles.


1803: Alexander Tate to Calvin Jones about jury duty. Atlas Jones of Chapel Hill to his brother Calvin about his studies and expenses at the University.

1804: 12 September, Dr. Benjamin Rush of Philadelphia to Calvin Jones, discussing in detail the treatments of a patient. 7 December, Dr. Robert Fener (?) at Coal Arbor to Dr. Jones at Raleigh, sending a lump of tin and mentioning a forthcoming Medical Society meeting and court.

1805: A bill from October 1804 to February 1805 for Dr. Jones in Philadelphia. 11 May, letter from John S. Fall in Alamance (Guilford County), who was studying medicine at home, about hoping to come up for examinations in December and mentioning possible arrangements to spend time learning under Dr. Calvin Jones or Dr. Cox. 5 July, Moses Hopkins in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, to Jones, about a sum being collected as judgment following the last federal court, and commenting on Barnabas Bidwell’s oration at Sheffield and the Democrats and national politics.

1806: 9 January, Samuel Latham Mitchill in Washington to Jones about a medical case and some current medical literature. Mitchill (1764–1831) was a U.S. senator from New York, physician, naturalist, and professor. 28 March, Dr. James Webb of Hillsboro to Dr. Jones in Raleigh, asking for information about hydrocele.

1807: 9 June, John C. Osborn, a North Carolinian settling in New York to practice medicine, to Dr. Jones as secretary of the North Carolina Medical Society, about his prospects in New York and the schism between the Medical Society and the professors of the College in New York. He requested a certificate of his membership in the Medical Society of North Carolina and discussed establishing “the Medical Institution in North Carolina.” 21 November, Col. R. Sutherland of Wakefields to Calvin Jones in regard to certain lands and commenting on legislation about court arrangements and the organization of banking.

1808: 14 May, letter of General Hardy Bryan of Smithfield, offering to stand for election as a Monroe elector in Johnston, Wake, and Granville counties, North Carolina. 16 October, Gerd Banks of Mount Pleasant, paying $20 on account to General Jones.

1809: 29 February, John W. Guion to General Calvin Jones in Raleigh about social and personal activities.

1810: Two letters from George Swain of Asheville, North Carolina, one describing how he became the local medical practitioner and one describing one of his cases. 25 March, Josiah Crudup of Louisburg to Dr. Jones about a medical condition. May, Patsy Brickell to Jones about a legal matter. 13 July, Dr. James Bogle of Louisburg to Jones about the money he owed him, the tediousness of his present employment, his eagerness to get into active medical practice, his use of an electrical machine to cure diseases, and his pupil (Newton).

1811: Affidavit of A. R. Ruffin, taken before a committee of inquiry into the official conduct of Samuel Lowry. 4 September, a copy of a letter from Calvin Jones at the attorney general’s office in Raleigh to Lt. Col. John Williams, Johnston Regiment, about a case in court involving Williams. 5 September, Reverend Joseph Caldwell in Chapel Hill, to Calvin Jones about recent disturbances among the students and the measures taken to correct the situation. 29 September, Calvin Jones in Raleigh to Col. McDonald, about laws governing the election of officers in the state militia in North Carolina. 13 October, William Arrington in Warrenton to General Calvin Jones about a legal matter in connection with the militia; also about a medical complaint. Letter to
Samuel Norsworthy, member of the House of Commons from Johnston County, from “Peter Quiz.”

1812: 28 January, Captain William W. Hamilton to General Calvin Jones of Raleigh about the defense of Mobile Bay and other matters. 27 April, Governor William Hawkins of North Carolina to Jones (fragment). 29 May, William S. Hamilton at Bayou Sarah near St. Francisville, Louisiana, to General Calvin Jones of Raleigh, evidently answering a request for information about a man named Wise, a gambler. Calvin Jones to General Croom about military matters. Also a photostat copy. June, petition to the governor of North Carolina from Wake County citizens urging his action in connection with recent legislation concerning the method of choosing electors. 29 July, Governor William Hawkins to Jones, inquiring whether returns were in so he could make a choice of officers. 12 November, draft of an unfinished letter by Calvin Jones at the adjutant general’s office in Raleigh.

1813: James Roosevelt of New York to Calvin Jones and Thomas Henderson. William Gilmour of Petersburg to Jones about financial matters. 10 June, Daniel Bowen of Boston to Jones at Raleigh in response to a request to purchase a watch-face for Jones. 15 July, Governor Barbour of Virginia to Jones, accepting his offer of a corps of volunteers to aid in the defense of Virginia. Cadwallader Jones to Calvin Jones accepting an appointment as aide-de-camp. 17 August, Governor David Stone to Jones about becoming a colonel in the United States Army.

1814: 20 July, order from Robert William, adjutant general of the militia of North Carolina, to Calvin Jones, major general of the 7th Division, about mobilizing 7000 men for immediate service if needed.

1816: Robert Bolling of Petersburg about the erection of public buildings in Petersburg. Dr. Jesse F. Jones about collecting from Jones’s debtors. Printed dinner invitation to Jones from James Madison.

1817: Colonel James J. Hill to Major General Calvin Jones about his problems in raising a regiment from the Louisburg, North Carolina, area. 17 March, order from Major General Calvin Jones for a regimental muster at Halifax. 20 May, Halifax County, Robert Fenner’s oath as aide-de-camp to Maj. Gen. Jones. 2 June, Halifax County, Cadwallader Jones’s oath as inspector of the 7th Division. 23 September, Atlas Jones at Pittsboro to his brother Calvin, mentioning a recent trip to the big bend of the Tennessee and other matters. 6 November, Colonel Thomas G. Polk to Jones about clemency in the case of Andrew Walker.


1818: May, Martha Jones to Temperance B. Jones. 26 May, invitation from the citizens of Nashville to Calvin Jones, signed by John P. Ervin, Felix Grundy, and John R. Eaton.

1819: John Taylor of Caroline, Port Royal, Virginia, to Jones about his advancing age and curtailing his agricultural activities. 15 January, James D. Massenburg of Southampton County, Virginia, to Jones. 24 January, Moses Mordecai to Jones regarding arrangements for collecting from the firm of the late John M. Johnson. 28 June, James Madison to Calvin Jones about purchasing a subscription to the Farmers Magazine. 6 August, letter from George Swain of Asheville to Jones, requesting his assistance for the Rev. Nathan Harrison and his blind son Thomas. 24 August, Thomas Watson of New Bern concerning a rolling press and a printing order for Jones. 8 December, John Beckwith of Salisbury about a medical case, his desire for digitalis seed for planting, and geological specimens.

1820: Calvin Jones to Temperance, about buying land. John C. McLemore of Nashville, Tennessee, about collecting from Jones’s debtors and the results of his inquiries about land for Jones in Tennessee. 20 November, agreement about lands between Calvin Jones of North Carolina and Samuel Polk and Joseph Porter of Tennessee. Calvin Jones to George Outlaw of Windsor, Bertie County, North Carolina, about paying his debts.

1821: Sworn deposition about Simon Alderson of Beaufort County and his heirs. Andes Jones of Rocky Mount to his brother Calvin, about collecting the latter’s claims. DeWitt Clinton of Albany, New York, thanking Jones for a pamphlet. 8 November, Stephen Outerbridge of Louisburg to Jones, acknowledging receipt of money for Lucy Cargill Massenburg. 15 November,
John Beckwith of Salisbury discussing prospects for his making a living practicing medicine in one of several places under consideration.

1822: Copy of Calvin Jones's letter to John Grey Blount about fertilizers and farming methods. 3 January, John D. Hawkins to Jones at Wake Forest, returning a harness. 6 February, Moses Hopkins at Great Barrington about ordering a cart from New England, training oxen, using plaster of Paris for soil building, and other items evidently in answer to questions from Jones. 20 July, Calvin Jones at Wake Forest to Elizabeth Freeman at New Bern, about settling her father's estate. 21 August, Joel King at Louisburg to Jones, requesting that he remit boarding fees for Marriam Massenburg to Jordan Thomas. 6 December, John S. Skinner in Baltimore, asking for the J. Cooper article on saving seed corn, which had been published by Jones.

1823: Calvin Jones's appointment as postmaster at Wake Forest, North Carolina.

1824: Fifth Annual Report of the Raleigh Peace Society, of which Jones was president.

1826: Horace Jones of Troy, New York, to his brother Calvin, about purchases he had made for him.

1827: 25 February, Belus Jones about a debt he owed his uncle Calvin.

1828: Mary Collins to her nephew Calvin Jones, about her youth and staying with Jones's mother when he was a baby. 17 January, Nancy McGibbon in Baltimore, to Temperance Jones, thanking her for past hospitality and inquiring about her friends and relatives. 22 September, A. G. Glynn of Washington, D.C., about Masonic business and political issues.

1829: Pomroy Jones of Westmorland, New York, to Calvin Jones about agricultural methods. 4 October, Temperance Jones at Wake Forest to her husband while he was in Lexington, North Carolina, giving him news from home and discussing his search for a gold mine.

1830: Calvin Jones to his wife, written from James Town, about the progress of his business. 28 December, Jones to Governor Montfort Stokes about a rumored slave insurrection (typed copy).

1830–1835: Scattered personal letters to Calvin Jones from friends left behind in Wake Forest and Smithfield, North Carolina, giving information about friends and conditions in North Carolina. Several of these letters were from David Thomson of Smithfield.

1831: Colonel Davy Crockett to Calvin Jones about selling his lands to pay his debts and his desire to lease some of Jones's Tennessee lands.

1832: 19 December, Henry A. Donaldson at Wake Forest to Calvin Jones at Bolivar, Tennessee, giving him news of home and family and commenting on state and national political affairs.

1834: 21 April, William Donaldson at Wake Forest to Jones in Tennessee, about Jones's business interests and affairs in North Carolina, including his gold mines and debts due him.

1835: Calvin Jones, Bolivar, Tennessee, to William D. Lindeman, a Raleigh bookseller, who wanted information about business conditions in western Tennessee. 25 May, H. A. Donaldson in Wake Forest to Calvin Jones, about business arrangements, the Constitutional Convention in Raleigh, William Donaldson's plans to go to Texas, and H. A. Donaldson's plans to move his family to Mobile, Alabama. 11 June and 24 July, Calvin Henderson of Somerville, Tennessee, to Jones, in regards to Jones's suit against John Cole. Willis Reeves of Fayette County, Tennessee, about a judgement in a lawsuit and crops. 6 August, letter from Dr. Benjamin Winslow Dudley of Lexington, about his medical principles. 4 September and 20 December, John Houston Bills to Jones. 22 October, Edmund D. Jarvis of Nashville about business conducted in the House of Representatives. Also included are similar letters dated 23 November 1835 and 23 January and 17 September 1836. 11 November, to Jones from his overseer, Thomas G. Shelton. 13 November, Atlas Jones to his brother, Calvin, concerning litigation over land, collecting debts, and the departure of Col. Davy Crockett with a band of thirty armed men. 2 December, Calvin Jones to Edmund D. Jarvis, a rough draft of a letter about land claims, criticism of the administration and local law enforcement, and remarks on Col. Davy Crockett. 8 December, Judge John Sibley of Natchitoches, Louisiana, about the Texas Revolution and a fight involving Major Haskell and a man named Sears.

1836: 23 February, Hon. W. C. Dunlap of Washington, D.C., to Calvin Jones. 5 April, John M. Felder of Orangeburg, South Carolina, concerning Jones's claim against Needham Davis. 2 September, Joab Wilson to Calvin Jones with directions for building a cotton gin wheel.
1837: 26 December, W. H. Wood to General Edwin Polk, about the death of Polk’s mother. Edwin Polk was Calvin Jones’s son-in-law. Item concerning the examinations of students attending Lafayette Academy in Hardeman County, Tennessee. Calvin Jones served on the board of examiners.

Subseries 1.2. (1839–1846) This subseries consists chiefly of letters between members of the Jones family. Several of the children were away at school during these years and wrote home to their parents. Letters from Montezuma Jones at the University of North Carolina from 1841 through 1843 are included. He wrote about events, such as helping a neighbor put out a fire in his room and seeing a patriot’s corpse (Lewis Williams) pass through town. He also wrote about his health, his studies, and his finances. Also included is a letter from Elisha Mitchell, professor at the University of North Carolina, to Calvin Jones, containing information on Montezuma’s account balance. Montezuma periodically mentioned “Gov Swain” in his letters, referring to the president of the University of North Carolina, David Lowry Swain, who apparently was the son of Calvin Jones’s old friend, George Swain of Asheville. Octavia Jones was apparently attending school in Columbia, Tennessee, in 1841 (possibly at Columbia Female Institute) and received a few letters. Paul Jones attended school in La Grange in Alabama in 1845 and received letters from his brother Montezuma and sister Octavia.

In 1844, Calvin Jones and his daughter Octavia took a trip to Europe. Included in the papers are his passport and letter of introduction and several letters to them from friends and relatives. Calvin wrote from Paris to his son Paul describing his trip, especially visits to Versailles and the Louvre.

Also included are scattered letters to and from other family members, letters from friends, a few business letters to Calvin, and a letter to James Wood (relationship to Jones unknown) from a man whose overseer had caught one of Wood’s slaves.

The series ends in 1846 with the death of Calvin Jones on 20 September 1846. An epitaph for Jones is included in the papers.

Subseries 1.3. (1847–1879) This subseries consists chiefly of the business papers of Montezuma Jones, son of Calvin Jones. Most of the papers are bills, receipts, promissory notes, indentures for land, loan agreements, tax receipts, and other financial and legal documents. There is little correspondence, and the letters that are included chiefly relate to business matters.

Most items document either Montezuma’s efforts to grow and sell cotton or his land transactions. Included are statements from cotton factors, receipts for shipping, and other items relating to the cotton trade. Montezuma chiefly used cotton factors in Memphis, Tennessee. He used a number of different firms and seemed to change firms fairly frequently. Papers representing his land transactions include indentures and correspondence about land sales. A large portion of the papers are bills and accounts for supplies. There are also bills of sale for slaves which are found in the papers and an 1850 letter from a man who caught several of Montezuma’s runaway slaves.

Montezuma was also involved in business interests outside the cotton trade. Papers show that, in 1855, he contracted to do work on the Mississippi Central and Tennessee Railroad, and in 1858, he lent money to several of his cousins to start a business about which they wrote him.

There are only a few items relating to the Civil War. They include a letter from William R. Johnston in 1862 about acquaintances serving in the army and news of the war. Johnston occasionally wrote to Montezuma about the progress of his crops and was probably an overseer for him. Also included is a letter from F. T. Wood about a party of Yankees who took his stock and threatened to burn his house down. There are also a permit, dated 1864 and issued by the U.S. government, that allowed Montezuma to transport and sell cotton in Memphis, and a certificate allowing him to vote in 1865. Some items show that he hired freedmen to work for him, and there is an 1867 document showing that Montezuma transported 40 freedmen from Georgia to Bolivar, Tennessee, under the auspices of the federal government.

The few personal items include a letter in 1853 to Octavia Jones Polk from her cousin, who mentioned, among other things, that she and her family had managed to get out of Vicksburg before yellow fever appeared. There are two letters written during the Civil War by R. H. Wood, who was serving in the Confederate army, to his parents. His exact relationship to the Jones family is unclear. He wrote about the army’s movements and gave his opinion of General Polk.
Wood was stationed at Camp Columbus and Camp Beauregard. In 1866, Tempie (Temperance?) Jones, believed to be the daughter of Montezuma Jones, wrote from school in Florence, Alabama. In 1872, Paul Tudor Jones, Jr. received a letter from Chapman Maupin about prestigious medical schools in Germany; Paul was apparently planning to study medicine. There are a group of personal letters to William Jones, son of Paul Tudor Jones, in 1876 and 1877, containing family news.

**Subseries 1.4. (1880–1929)** This subseries consists chiefly of correspondence, some business and some personal, of James W. Jones, an attorney, member of the Tennessee legislature, and son of Montezuma Jones. Scattered letters of other members of the Jones family are also included. Among the letters to James W. Jones is one from Senator John Sharp Williams in which he gives his views on an eight-hour work day for railroad workers.

The letters for the year 1919 are chiefly thank you notes to Marshall DeLancy Haywood, who wrote a book on Calvin Jones and sent it to libraries and other prominent associations and individuals.

**Subseries 1.5. (Undated)** Undated items have been arranged by type of item: correspondence, financial items, miscellaneous items. There is one folder of undated correspondence, about half family letters and half letters from acquaintances and business associates. Included are several letters to Calvin Jones and a letter to Montezuma Jones about treating a boy (slave?) for a disease of the jawbone. Also included is a letter written by Edwin Polk, husband of Octavia Jones Polk, about Indian mounds in his fields in Tennessee.

Writings appear to have been chiefly written by Calvin Jones, although almost none of them are signed. Included is a speech to the Masons, some military writings, letters to the editors of the Star and the American Farmer, writings on religion, resolutions made by a railroad company, and directions and instructions for doing various agricultural tasks and treating illnesses.

Financial items consist chiefly of bills and receipts. Among the miscellaneous items are surveyors reports and legal documents.

**Series 2. Journals, Memobooks, and Other Volumes (1811–1872 and undated)**

This series comprises thirty volumes. Volumes have been re-arranged in subseries by owner, except for two school notebooks that appear in Subseries 2.4. The majority of the volumes belonged to Calvin Jones; the others belonged to Montezuma Jones and Fannie Irene Jones.

**Subseries 2.1. Journals, Memobooks and Other Volumes of Calvin Jones (1811–1846 and undated)**

**Subseries 2.1.1. Travel Journals (1813–1844)** This subseries comprises twelve volumes. Calvin Jones kept six journals of his travels in the United States and abroad. He included descriptions of people and places, descriptions of his own activities, lists of expenses, and charts showing the mileage between different cities.

Volume 1 (formerly volume 2) describes a trip he made to Washington, D.C., in 1815. He traveled by stage from Raleigh, North Carolina, to Washington, spent several weeks there, and then returned on horseback through Harpers Ferry, down the Shenandoah Valley, and across the Blue Ridge. While in Washington he attended meetings of the House and the Senate, dined with politicians, and wrote extensive descriptions of his experiences and the people he met. He discussed soldiers' rations, state militias, illnesses and cures, the peace settlement ending the War of 1812, newspaper publishing, Congressional debates, pleadings before the Supreme Court, political prejudices, and natural marvels. Volumes 2 (formerly volume 25) and 3 (formerly volume 26) contain a typescript of Volume 1.

Volume 4 (formerly volume 3) is a journal of Calvin’s trips between 1813 and 1817 in North Carolina and a trip to Columbia, South Carolina. Included are descriptions of places and tables of distances. There is no typescript of this volume.

Volume 5 is a journal of Calvin’s travels in 1818 into Tennessee and north Alabama, Mississippi, and Georgia, to look for land to buy. He included descriptions of the places he passed through, including Cherokee and Chickasaw Indians; individuals he met; and patients he treated, chiefly for diseases of the eye. Volumes 6 (formerly volume 27) and 7 (formerly volume 28) contain a typescript of volume 5.
Volume 8 (formerly volume 6) contains accounts of Calvin’s journeys in Tennessee in 1820. He included accounts of the money he spent on the journey and the distances between places in miles. There is no typescript of this volume.

Volume 9 and volume 10 (formerly volumes 13 and 14) are accounts of Calvin’s trip abroad in 1844 with his daughter Octavia. Part of the journal is written by Calvin and part by Octavia. They traveled through towns in France, Germany, Belgium, England, and Ireland, and described the places they traveled through, people they met on their journey, and food they ate. Also included are copies of letters written by Calvin to his son Montezuma and his wife Temperance. Volumes 11 and 12 (formerly volumes 30 and 29) contain typescripts of volumes 9 and 10.

**Subseries 2.1.2. Farm Journal (1820–1835)** This subseries comprises one volume. Volume 13 (formerly volume 7) is a farm journal kept by Calvin Jones over a period of years between 1820 and 1835. The front of the volume contains an index of topics, which is followed by several pages of daily entries of work done on his plantations between 1820 and 1834. There are only a few entries for each year. Initially he wrote about his plantations in Wake Forest, and later, about his plantations in Tennessee. The rest of the volume appears to be divided into various topics with entries, sometimes chronological daily entries and sometimes miscellaneous jottings, containing all different types of information. Some of the headings are Plows, Plowing, Farming Enquiries, Miscellaneous Enquiries to be made in the American Farmer, and Hogs. He wrote entries on various farming techniques as well as his own research and observations. For example, he described an experiment he did to see the amount of salt needed by hogs. Under the topic Spinning and Weaving he noted the total production of his slaves for the year and wrote that he would pay a woman $60 a year to supervise this work. There is also a section on overseers in which Calvin described in detail the faults of several of his overseers and also their good qualities. He wrote about his experiments with corn and tips on growing cotton. He wrote descriptions of a cotton machine and several other machines. Toward the end of the volume, there is a list, not in Calvin’s handwriting, of slaves on E. Polk’s farm. E. Polk was probably Edwin Polk, husband of Octavia Jones.

**Subseries 2.1.3. Memobooks (1822–1846 and undated)** This subseries contains seven volumes. Volumes 14 through 20 (formerly volumes 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 23, and 24) are pocket sized memobooks kept by Calvin Jones between the years 1822 and 1846. In them, he jotted down notes and memoranda, including lists of people to whom to write and topics to consult them on, lists of things he had to do and buy, notes on farming activities, and occasional journal entries. Volume 17, which is for the year 1844, contains several journal entries while he was on his trip abroad.

**Subseries 2.1.4. Other Volumes (1811–1816)** This subseries comprises two volumes. Volume 21 (formerly volume 1) is a list of balances due Doctor Calvin Jones for S. Fuller to collect, dated 1811. Volume 22 (formerly volume 4) is a State Bank check book dated 1816.

**Subseries 2.2. Account Books of Montezuma Jones (1851–1872)** This subseries comprises four volumes. Volumes 23 through 26 (formerly volumes 15, 16, 19, and 20) are four account books and ledgers apparently kept by Montezuma Jones. Included are amounts owed to him by various individuals and a few accounts for supplies.

**Subseries 2.3. Journal and Scrapbook of Fannie Irene Jones (1869–1871 and undated)** This subseries comprises two volumes. Volume 27 (formerly volume 17) is a journal kept by Fannie between 1869 and 1871 when she was in her early teens. There are only a few entries for each year. In them, Fannie wrote about events during Christmas in 1869, her return to school, her school friends, studying, and other activities at school. She also mentioned two families of Gypsies camping near town and seeing an organ grinder and his monkey perform one day. Volume 28 (formerly volume 18) is an undated scrapbook of newspaper clippings pasted in an old ledger. The articles are on many different topics. Included are several biographical sketches of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and other leaders of the woman’s suffrage movement.

**Subseries 2.4. Exercise Books (Undated)** This subseries comprises two volumes. Volume 29 (formerly volume 21) is an undated Latin exercise book. Volume 30 (formerly volume 22) is an undated writing exercise book kept by William Jones.
Series 3. Newspaper Clippings (1819–1865 and undated)
This series comprises newspaper clippings covering various topics. Included are a few Civil War clippings; a biographical sketch of Calvin Jones; a page from a newspaper dated 1819, including advertisements for slave sales and runaways; and a supplement to the *Globe* requesting proposals for carrying mail in several northern states.

Series 4. Pictures (1908 and undated)
This series comprises two pictures. The first picture is of an unidentified little girl, dated 1908. The second picture is an undated mountain landscape with waterfall.

Series 5. Microfilm (1784–1940 and undated)
Included is an inventory to the Jones Family Papers among the holdings of the Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee. A microfilm copy of that collection is available to researchers at the Southern Historical Collection. In addition to describing the papers on the microfilm, the inventory contains biographical information on the Jones family.

The Southern Historical Collection also holds a microfilm copy of typed transcriptions of letters written to various individuals by Calvin Jones and letters to Jones by Atlas Jones, David Jarrett, Thomas C. Jones, Col. Robert H. Dyer, and John C. McLemore. Also included are notes on the Whitten family of Hardeman County, Tennessee.

Reel 1

**Introductory Materials**

0001 Introductory Materials. 23 frames.

**Series 1. Correspondence, Writings, and Financial and Legal Items, 1785–1929 and Undated**

*Subseries 1.1: 1785–1838*

0024 Description of Subseries 1.1. 7 frames.
0031 Folder 1, 1785–1801. 39 frames.
0070 Folder 2, 1802–1804. 33 frames.
0103 Folder 3, 1805–1809. 53 frames.
0156 Folder 4, 1810–1811. 56 frames.
0212 Folder 5, 1812. 39 frames.
0251 Folder 6, 1813. 71 frames.
0322 Folder 7, 1814. 70 frames.
0392 Folder 8, 1815–1819. 70 frames.
0462 Folder 9, 1820–1821. 46 frames.
0508 Folder 10, 1822–1824. 52 frames.
0560 Folder 11, 1825–1829. 71 frames.
0631 Folder 12, 1830–1833. 64 frames.
0695 Folder 13, 1834. 59 frames.
0754 Folder 14, January–June 1835. 62 frames.
0816 Folder 15, July–December 1835. 65 frames.
0881 Folder 16, 1836. 75 frames.
0956 Folder 17, 1837–1838. 20 frames.

Reel 2

*Calvin Jones Papers cont.*

**Series 1. Correspondence, Writings, and Financial and Legal Items, 1785–1929 and Undated cont.***
Subseries 1.2: 1839–1846
0001 Description of Subseries 1.2. 1 frame.
0002 Folder 18, 1839–1842. 73 frames.
0075 Folder 19, 1843–1844. 49 frames.
0124 Folder 20, 1845–1846. 42 frames.

Subseries 1.3: 1847–1879
0166 Description of Subseries 1.3. 1 frame.
0167 Folder 21, 1847. 41 frames.
0208 Folder 22, 1850–1851. 80 frames.
0288 Folder 23, 1852. 74 frames.
0362 Folder 24, 1853. 67 frames.
0429 Folder 25, 1854. 43 frames.
0472 Folder 26, 1855. 45 frames.
0517 Folder 27, 1856–1857. 77 frames.
0594 Folder 28, 1858–1859. 66 frames.
0660 Folder 29, 1860. 43 frames.
0703 Folder 30, 1861–1862. 71 frames.
0774 Folder 31, 1863–1865. 45 frames.
0819 Folder 32, 1866. 74 frames.
0893 Folder 33, 1867. 47 frames.
0940 Folder 34, 1868. 59 frames.

Reel 3

Calvin Jones Papers cont.
Series 1. Correspondence, Writings, and Financial and Legal Items,
1785–1929 and Undated cont.

Subseries 1.3: 1847–1879 cont.
0001 Folder 35, 1869. 41 frames.
0042 Folder 36, 1870–1871. 49 frames.
0091 Folder 37, 1872. 68 frames.
0159 Folder 38, 1873–1879. 102 frames.

Subseries 1.4: 1880–1929
0261 Description of Subseries 1.4. 1 frame.
0262 Folder 39, 1880–1899. 55 frames.
0317 Folder 40, 1900–1915. 43 frames.
0360 Folder 41, 1916–1919. 42 frames.
0402 Folder 42, 1920–1929. 38 frames.

Subseries 1.5: Undated
0440 Description of Subseries 1.5. 1 frame.
0441 Folder 43, Correspondence. 89 frames.
0530 Folder 44, Writings. 86 frames.
0616 Folder 45, Writings. 77 frames.
0693 Folder 46, Financial Materials. 55 frames.
0748 Folder 47, Miscellaneous. 49 frames.

Series 2. Journals, Memobooks, and Other Volumes,
1811–1872 and Undated

Subseries 2.1.1: Calvin Jones Travel Journals (1813–1844)
Reel 4

*Calvin Jones Papers cont.*

**Series 2. Journals, Memobooks, and Other Volumes, 1811–1872 and Undated cont.**

**Subseries 2.1.1: Calvin Jones Travel Journals (1813–1844) cont.**

0001 Folder 51, Volume 4, 1813–1817. 57 frames.
0058 Folder 52, Volume 5, 1818. 69 frames.
0127 Folder 53, Volume 6, Typed Transcription of Volume 5 (Part 1). 87 frames.
0214 Folder 54, Volume 7, Typed Transcription of Volume 5 (Part 2). 62 frames.
0276 Folder 55, Volume 8, 1820. 36 frames.
0312 Folder 56, Volume 9, 1844. 69 frames.
0381 Folder 57, Volume 10, 1844. 26 frames.
0407 Folder 58, Volume 11, Typed Transcription of Volumes 9 and 10 (Part 1). 59 frames.
0466 Folder 59, Volume 12, Typed Transcription of Volumes 9 and 10 (Part 2). 125 frames.

**Subseries 2.1.2: Calvin Jones Farm Journal, 1820–1835**

0591 Description of Subseries 2.1.2. 1 frame.
0592 Folder 60, Volume 13, 1820–1835. 231 frames.

**Subseries 2.1.3: Calvin Jones Memobooks, 1822–1846 and Undated**

0823 Description of Subseries 2.1.3. 1 frame.
0824 Folder 61, Volume 14, 1822–1823. 34 frames.
0858 Folder 62, Volume 15, 1828 and Undated. 18 frames.
0876 Folder 63, Volume 16, 1840–1841. 27 frames.
0903 Folder 64, Volume 17, 1844. 19 frames.
0922 Folder 65, Volume 18, 1833–1846. 40 frames.
0962 Folder 66, Volume 19, Undated. 36 frames.
0998 Folder 67, Volume 20, 1843 and Undated. 19 frames.

Reel 5

*Calvin Jones Papers cont.*

**Series 2. Journals, Memobooks, and Other Volumes, 1811–1872 and Undated cont.**

**Subseries 2.1.4: Calvin Jones Other Volumes, 1811–1816**

0001 Description of Subseries 2.1.4. 1 frame.
0002 Folder 68, Volume 21, List of Balances, 1811. 19 frames.
0021 Folder 69, Volume 22, Check Book, 1816. 13 frames.

**Subseries 2.2: Account Books of Montezuma Jones, 1851–1872**

0034 Description of Subseries 2.2. 1 frame.
0035 Folder 70, Volume 23, 1851–1866. 150 frames.
0199 Folder 72, Volume 25, 1869–1871. 73 frames.
0272 Folder 73, Volume 26, 1870–1872. 39 frames.
Subseries 2.3: Journal and Scrapbook of Fannie Irene Jones, 1869–1871 and Undated
0311 Description of Subseries 2.3. 1 frame.
0312 Folder 74, Volume 27, Journal, 1869–1871. 21 frames.
0333 Folder 75, Volume 28, Scrapbook, Undated. 130 frames.

Subseries 2.4: Exercise Books, Undated
0463 Description of Subseries 2.4. 1 frame.
0464 Folder 76, Volume 29, Latin Exercise Book, Undated. 19 frames.
0483 Folder 77, Volume 30, William Jones, Writing Exercise Book, Undated. 9 frames.

Series 3. Newspaper Clippings, 1819–1865 and Undated
0492 Description of Series 3. 1 frame.
0493 Folder 78, 1819–1865 and Undated. 72 frames.

Series 4. Pictures, 1908 and Undated
0565 Description of Series 4. 1 frame.
0566 Folder P-921/1–2. 5 frames.

Series 5. Microfilm, 1784–1940 and Undated
0571 Description of Series 5. 1 frame.
0572 Folder 79, Inventory of Jones Family Papers, Tennessee State Library and Archives. 45 frames.

Harding and Jackson Family Papers, 1819–1895, Davidson County, Tennessee

Description of the Collection
This collection comprises correspondence, financial and legal papers, speeches, Supreme Court opinions, clippings, account books, horse breeding records, a bank book, and a political notebook relating to members of the Harding and Jackson family.

Correspondence consists chiefly of letters from business associates, political friends, and other acquaintances rather than family members. William Giles Harding received letters on his horse breeding activities and his kashmir goat breeding business. William Hicks Jackson received letters on his involvement with a number of agricultural organizations in the 1870s. Howell Edmunds Jackson corresponded about political and legal issues after his election as senator and appointments as U.S. circuit court judge and Supreme Court justice. There is also a group of letters written by Elizabeth Harding to her husband, William Giles Harding, in 1862 when he was imprisoned by federal troops at Fort Mackinaw, Michigan, in which she discussed conditions in Nashville under the Union occupation and family and plantation affairs, including comments on crops, animals, and slaves.

There are only a few financial and legal papers, most of which relate to the kashmir goat business. Other papers include documents from William Hicks Jackson’s involvement in farmers’ organizations, Supreme Court opinions written by Howell Edmunds Jackson, and printed speeches by other political figures. Also included are clippings about Belle Meade plantation, and account books of John and William Giles Harding containing records for boarding and breeding horses.

Biographical Note

John Harding (1777–1865) was born in Virginia. Around 1805, he moved to Tennessee and established the Belle Meade Plantation. His wife was Susannah Shute.

William Giles Harding (1808–1886) was the son of John Harding. He attended the University of Nashville and the American Literary, Scientific, and Military Academy in Middletown, Connecticut (later Norwich University in Norwich, Vermont), run by Alden Partridge. His first wife was Selene McNairy, with whom he had one son, John. His second wife was Elizabeth McGavock (d. 1867), with whom he had two daughters: Selene, who married William Hicks Jackson, and Mary, who married Howell Edmunds Jackson. William Giles Harding lived first at Stone’s River Farm, where his son John later lived, and then at Belle Meade, where he raised kashmir goats and race horses. He was a brigadier general in the Tennessee militia and was usually referred to as General Harding.

William Hicks Jackson (1835–1903), the son of Dr. Alexander Jackson and his wife Mary Hurt, lived in Jackson, Tennessee, attended West Tennessee College, graduated from the United States Military Academy, and served in the United States army until 1861. He then became an officer in the Confederate army, rising to the rank of brigadier general. After the war, he managed his father’s cotton plantation until his marriage in 1868 to Selene Harding, at which time he became associated with William Giles Harding in the management of Belle Meade. After Harding’s death, Jackson continued to operate Belle Meade as a partner of his brother Howell Edmunds Jackson, who married Harding’s daughter Mary. William Hicks Jackson was active in the farmers’ movement. He belonged to the Tennessee Agricultural and Mechanical Association and the Grange and sat on the Tennessee Bureau of Agriculture.

Howell Edmunds Jackson (1832–1895) was also a son of Dr. Alexander and Mary Hurt Jackson. He was a graduate of West Tennessee College, the University of Virginia, and the law school of Cumberland University. He married first Sophia Malloy and, in 1874, Mary Harding. He practiced law in Memphis and Jackson, Tennessee, and served as a member (Democrat) in the Tennessee legislature. He was a member of the United States Senate from 1881 to 1886, judge of the United States Circuit Court and the Circuit Court of Appeals from 1886 to 1893, and associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States from 1893 to 1895.

Series 1. Correspondence (1826–1911 and undated)

**Subseries 1.1. (1826–1829)** This subseries consists chiefly of correspondence of William Giles Harding with classmates and other friends during his years at school. He attended the American Literary, Scientific, and Military Academy in Middletown, Connecticut, run by Alden Partridge, between 1826 and 1828, and studied law in Litchfield, Connecticut, in 1829. Letters discuss school days and the current activities of the correspondents.

**Subseries 1.2. (1830–1854)** This subseries consists chiefly of scattered letters to William Giles Harding over a 25-year period. Harding began overseeing the horse breeding operations at Belle Meade Plantation sometime in the 1830s, and, by the 1840s, there were frequent letters to him from others involved in horse breeding and racing. Correspondence from many different individuals is scattered and covers many different topics.

In 1838, there is a group of letters to Harding and G. C. Childress from friends who were attempting to mediate in a disagreement between the two men, who were apparently contemplating a duel.

Included in 1841 is a photostatic copy of a letter to Harding from Sam Houston, who wrote about being unable to pay his debt to William because of poor conditions in Texas. He also complained about government corruption.
In 1844 and 1849, Harding received two letters from R. R. Rice. One discussed removing his filly from Harding's care because of financial difficulties; the other discussed politics, agriculture, and the death of one of his sons.

Between 1850 and 1852, most of the letters to Harding are from his friend H. W. Paynor. In addition to letters about business, horses, and the activities of their mutual acquaintances, Paynor wrote about his plantation in Louisiana. He described working on his levee as well as the dancing and praying parties of his slaves and also discussed politics, including a recent speech by Daniel Webster. In January 1852, Paynor wrote indicating that he had lost his plantation, and, in March, Harding received letters reporting Paynor's death.

Also included in 1850 are a group of letters of introduction written for Harding by his friends. Harding and his family evidently took a trip to New England, and the letters are addressed to various individuals in the North.

Scattered throughout this subseries are printed circulars from Alden Partridge about his efforts to expand the American Literary, Scientific, and Military School.

There are also a few items addressed to individuals other than Harding. These include an 1850 letter to Dr. Jackson from J. W. McCullough about the state geologist's report and about Jackson's sons, particularly Howell, who were doing very well at school. In 1853, there is a letter from William Jackson at West Point, to his brother Howell, describing his studies and leisure activities.

**Subseries 1.3. (1860–1861)** This subseries consists chiefly of correspondence about the United Cashmere Company, William Giles Harding's kashmir goat company. Harding was apparently working in a partnership with R. Williamson, who traveled about the country selling goats, while Harding bred them at Belle Meade. There are a number of letters from R. Williamson to Harding about the business, including accounts of sales of goats to various individuals.

**Subseries 1.4. (1862)** This subseries consists chiefly of typed transcriptions of letters written to William Giles Harding between April and September 1862, while he was imprisoned by federal forces in Detroit and at Fort Mackinaw, Michigan. Most of the letters were written by his wife, Elizabeth McGavock Harding, with a few written by his daughter, Selene. He also received letters from his nephew, Randall Southall, who was in prison at Johnson's Island; from a Mr. Hague, who worked for him at the plantation; from his sister, M. Southall; from his daughter-in-law Maggie; and from a friend named Randal M. Ewing. One letter, dated 25 August 1862, was apparently dictated to a friend by one of his slaves, Susannah.

Elizabeth's letters include descriptions of life in Nashville under the occupation by Union troops. She wrote about the constant fears of citizens in Nashville of arrest and confiscation of their property. Prominent men in Nashville, including clergymen, were being arrested and sent to prison if they refused to take the oath of allegiance to the United States. In particular, Elizabeth was worried over a recent proclamation allowing officers to choose new mounts if they needed them. She feared that the thoroughbreds at Belle Meade would be taken. Elizabeth wrote of her attempts to gain permission from General Johnston to visit Harding in prison, and she told of her efforts to make it possible for him to stay in a hotel during her visit.

Elizabeth's letters also include minute descriptions of life at Belle Meade, including comments on the health of everyone at the plantation. She wrote about daily activities, visits of neighbors, and short trips made by herself and her daughters. She kept her husband up-to-date on the activities of his friends, letting him know who had been arrested and who were suspected of taking the oath. She described to him the progress of the crops and the condition of the horses.

In July, Elizabeth made several attempts to visit Harding, but failed in her efforts. Federal troops were restricting the movements of individuals, and she feared leaving the plantation in case they confiscated property. She mentioned that the slaves had offered her their gold pieces to use for the trip because they knew it was difficult to obtain cash. Toward the end of July, the situation in Nashville grew worse, as it appeared the Confederates would attempt to retake the town.

Letters to Harding continue through August. The final letter is an unfinished one from Harding to Elizabeth, dated 24 September 1862.

**Subseries 1.5. (1863–1867)** This subseries consists chiefly of letters to William Giles Harding from R. Williamson in reference to their kashmir goat business. Williamson continued to
travel about selling goats and reporting on his sales to Harding, who would then ship the animals. Also included are a few letters to R. Williamson from William F. Moellen, who was selling goats for Williamson.

There are two letters to members of the Jackson family in this series. One, dated 1866, is to General William H. Jackson about training his horse. The other is to Howell Jackson from his father, Alexander Jackson, about his plantation and the state of his cotton crop. He expected to make quite a bit of money from his 1866 crop.

Also included is a letter to Harding from T. L. Witter of the Texas Rangers, thanking him for his hospitality and giving him news of the army. The letter is undated but was apparently written during the Civil War.

Subseries 1.10. (Undated) This subseries consists of three undated letters: one letter to John Harding, a fragment to William Giles Harding, and one letter to an unknown recipient, possibly from M. Easen.

Series 2. Financial and Legal Items (1826–1895 and undated)

This series consists of miscellaneous financial and legal items relating to John Harding, William Giles Harding, William Hicks Jackson, and Howell Edmunds Jackson.

Included are some accounts and legal agreements executed by William Giles Harding, a few bills and receipts, an account of sale of cotton bales by Josias Nichol (relationship to Harding and Jackson family members unknown), and several bills for drugs and groceries purchased by Howell Jackson. There are also a few items relating to horse breeding and racing, including an agreement by the Walnut Jockey Club Association, of which William Giles Harding was a member, to lease a race track.

Beginning in 1859, there are a number of items relating to the kashmir goat business, including certificates of sale for goats by the United Cashmere Company. Between 1863 and 1865, most of the documents are William Giles Harding’s receipts.

Series 5. Account Books and Other Volumes (1819–1879 and undated)

This series consists chiefly of account books kept by members of the Harding and Jackson families. The volumes have been arranged into three subseries by owner.

Subseries 5.1. John Harding Account Books (1819–1838) This subseries consists of ten account books kept by John Harding between 1819 and 1838. Although the books were kept annually, memoranda for later years were frequently jotted down in an earlier volume. For example, the volume for 1830 also includes some accounts and lists for 1831 and 1832.

John Harding kept records of money owed to him by various individuals, chiefly for the care of horses, including transporting them and having them shod. He also kept records of money owed to him for clover hay, fodder, corn, and cotton. In volume 1, there is an account with Rubin Graham, who is listed as “a free negro,” for the care of his brown horse.

Harding also jotted down miscellaneous information in the front and back of the volumes. Included in volume 1 is a list of apple trees he got from Richard Drury. Included in volume 3 are some horse breeding notes. Other notes include some cures for horse diseases in volume 4, and notes in volume 9 on the number of bales of cotton made and delivered from 1830 through 1832.

Subseries 5.2. William Giles Harding Account Books and Other Volumes (1839–1879)

Subseries 5.2.1. Account Books (1839–1844) This subseries comprises two account books similar to those kept by John Harding for the boarding and care of different horses.

Subseries 5.2.3. Bank Book (1846–1849) This subseries comprises a bank book of William Giles Harding with the Union Bank of Tennessee.

Subseries 5.3. J. J. B. Southall Receipt Book (1840–1851) This subseries consists of receipts made out to J. J. B. Southall by individuals for various amounts, chiefly for money received from executions. It is probable that Southall was a lawyer who was involved in collecting on judgments in lawsuits.

Omissions

A list of omissions from the Harding and Jackson Family Papers is provided on reel 7, frame 0667. Omissions include Subseries 1.6–1.9, Correspondence, 1871–1911; Series 3, Other
Reel 5 cont.

Introductory Materials

0617 Introductory Materials. 17 frames.

Series 1. Correspondence, 1826–1911 and Undated

Subseries 1.1: 1826–1829
0634 Description of Subseries 1.1. 1 frame.
0635 Folder 1, 1826–1829. 82 frames.

Subseries 1.2: 1830–1854
0717 Description of Subseries 1.2. 1 frame.
0718 Folder 2, 1830–1839. 35 frames.
0751 Folder 3, 1840–1845. 50 frames.
0801 Folder 4, 1849–1854. 74 frames.

Subseries 1.3: 1860–1861
0875 Description of Subseries 1.3. 1 frame.
0876 Folder 5, 1860–1861. 43 frames.

Subseries 1.4: 1862
0919 Description of Subseries 1.4. 1 frame.
0920 Folder 6, January–June 1862. 51 frames.
0971 Folder 7, July–September 1862. 37 frames.

Reel 6

Harding and Jackson Family Papers cont.

Series 1. Correspondence, 1826–1911 and Undated cont.

Subseries 1.5: 1863–1867
0001 Description of Subseries 1.5. 1 frame.
0002 Folder 8, 1863–1867. 51 frames.

Subseries 1.10: Undated
0053 Description of Subseries 1.10. 1 frame.
0054 Folder 18, Undated. 8 frames.

Series 2. Financial and Legal Items, 1826–1895 and Undated

0062 Description of Series 2. 1 frame.
0063 Folder 19, 1826–1859. 54 frames.
0117 Folder 20, 1860–1895. 79 frames.
0196 Folder 21, Undated. 13 frames.

Series 5. Account Books and Other Volumes,
1819–1879 and Undated
Subseries 5.1: John Harding Account Books, 1819–1838
0209 Description of Subseries 5.1. 1 frame.
0210 Folder 28, Volume 1, 1819 [and 1820]. 95 frames.
0305 Folder 29, Volume 2, 1820 [and 1821]. 116 frames.
0421 Folder 30, Volume 3, 1821 [and 1822]. 123 frames.
0544 Folder 31, Volume 4, 1823 [and 1824]. 122 frames.
0666 Folder 32, Volume 5, 1825 [and 1824–1826]. 94 frames.
0760 Folder 33, Volume 6, 1826 [and 1825–1827]. 124 frames.
0884 Folder 34, Volume 7, 1827 [and 1828]. 107 frames.

Reel 7

Harding and Jackson Family Papers cont.

0001 Folder 35, Volume 8, 1828–1829 [and 1830]. 139 frames.
0140 Folder 36, Volume 9, 1830 [and 1831–1832]. 178 frames.
0318 Folder 37, Volume 10, 1837–1838. 87 frames.

Subseries 5.2.1: William Giles Harding Account Books, 1839–1844
0405 Description of Subseries 5.2.1. 1 frame.
0406 Folder 38, Volume 11, 1839–1841. 94 frames.
0500 Folder 39, Volume 12, 1842–1844. 57 frames.

Subseries 5.2.3: William Giles Harding Bank Book, 1846–1849
0557 Description of Subseries 5.2.3. 1 frame.
0558 Folder 41, Volume 14. 19 frames.

Subseries 5.3: J. J. B. Southall Receipt Book, 1840–1851
0577 Description of Subseries 5.3. 1 frame.
0578 Folder 42, Volume 15. 89 frames.

Omissions
0667 List of Omissions from the Harding and Jackson Family Papers. 1 frame.

Polk, Brown, and Ewell Family Papers, 1803–1859,
Maury and Davidson Counties, Tennessee; also North Carolina

Description of the Collection
This collection consists of the personal, financial, business, and military papers of the Polk, Brown, and Ewell families, from 1803 to 1896. The bulk of the collection contains the military papers and personal correspondence of Richard Stoddert Ewell, Confederate general, and his stepson and assistant adjutant general (A.A.G.) George Campbell Brown during the Civil War; and their financial, business, and personal papers following the war, especially regarding the Spring Hill plantation in Maury County, Tennessee. The collection also contains both family correspondence between William Polk and his son Lucius Junius Polk in the 1830s and 1840s, regarding the management of William Polk's land in Tennessee, and related financial papers; and scattered correspondence for the Polk and Campbell families from 1803 to 1887.

The collection is arranged as follows: Series 1. Papers of the Polk and Campbell Families, 1803–1859—Subseries 1.1. 1803–1848 and Subseries 1.2. 1852–1859; Series 2. Papers of the

Biographical Note

The Polk, Campbell, Brown, and Ewell families were all prominent in Tennessee in the nineteenth century. The Polk family was originally from North Carolina. Colonel William Polk (9 July 1758–14 January 1834) of Raleigh, N.C., owned over 100,000 acres of land in Tennessee. He had several children by his second wife, Sarah Hawkins Polk (fl. 1801–1806), including sons Lucius Junius Polk (1802–1870) and Leonidas Polk (1806–1864). Lucius Junius Polk, residing in Maury County, Tennessee, acted as his father’s agent in that state, managing his land and supervising his plantations. Around 1829, he married Mary Eastin Polk (fl. 1840–1860), and they had several children, including Sarah Rachel, Eliza, George Washington, and Susan (“Susie”) Rebecca (b. 1847).

George Washington Campbell (8 February 1769–17 February 1848) was born in Scotland and immigrated to Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, in 1772. He later moved to Knoxville, Tennessee, where he became a prominent lawyer and judge, U.S. senator, secretary of the treasury under James Madison, and diplomat to Russia. He married Harriet Stoddert, daughter of Benjamin Stoddert, and had several children, including George Washington Campbell, Jr. (d.1857) and Lizinka Campbell (1820–1872). (Lizinka Campbell’s name is given as “Leczinksa” by some sources, but her family consistently used the spelling “Lizinka.”) Lizinka Campbell married James Percy Brown in 1834 and had two children, Harriet (“Hattie”) Stoddert Brown and George Campbell (“Campbell”) Brown (d.1893). James Percy Brown died in 1844, and Lizinka Campbell Brown inherited his estate and that of her brother, who had died in Europe in 1857, including the Spring Hill plantation in Maury County, Tennessee.

Richard Stoddert Ewell (8 February 1817–25 January 1872) was born in the Georgetown section of Washington, D.C., the son of Dr. Thomas and Elizabeth Stoddert Ewell. He was the cousin of Lizinka Campbell Brown. His brother was Benjamin Stoddert Ewell (10 June 1810–19 June 1894), professor and president of the College of William and Mary in Virginia. Richard Stoddert Ewell graduated from West Point in 1840 and served in the Mexican War. Upon the secession of Virginia from the Union in 1861, he resigned his commission in the U.S. Army and joined the Confederate Army as a brigadier general. He commanded a division under Stonewall Jackson in the 2nd Corps of the Army of Northern Virginia. In August 1862, he lost his leg at Groveton. He returned to command the 2nd Corps on the death of Jackson in May 1863. He was relieved of command in May 1864 due to injury and was appointed to command the defense of Richmond. After the evacuation of the Confederate capital, he fought again with the Army of Northern Virginia until his capture at the Battle of Saylor’s Creek in April 1865. He was held as a prisoner of war at Fort Warren in Massachusetts until July 1865. In 1863, he had married his cousin and close friend, Lizinka Campbell Brown. After his release, they returned to her Spring Hill plantation in Maury County, Tennessee, where they established a successful farm, along with plantations in Bolivar County, Mississippi.

Major George Campbell Brown, Ewell’s assistant adjutant general (A.A.G.) and the son of Lizinka Campbell Ewell, married Lucius Junius Polk’s daughter Susan after the war, and helped his mother and step-father manage the Spring Hill plantation and land in Tennessee and Mississippi. Upon the deaths of Ewell and his wife in 1872, he took over the running of the Spring Hill plantation until his death in 1893.

Series 1. Papers of the Polk and Campbell Families (1803–1859)

This series consists chiefly of correspondence between members of the Polk family of North Carolina and Tennessee, and correspondence and papers of the Campbell family of Tennessee.

Subseries 1.1. (1803–1848) This subseries comprises correspondence of Lucius Junius Polk and of his wife Mary Eastin Polk, and miscellaneous papers relating to the Polk and Campbell families.

The correspondence is between Lucius Junius Polk of Maury County, Tennessee, and his father William Polk of Raleigh, North Carolina, regarding the former’s management of his father’s lands in Tennessee. The letters discuss growing cotton and corn, the establishment of a hemp
farm and attempts to build a cotton gin, raising hogs, blacksmithing, and farm machinery and equipment. Other topics include slave insubordination and problems with overseers; the buying and selling of slaves; problems with land disputes and with other agents in Tennessee; Tennessee state politics and national elections; conducting business and legal matters in Tennessee; and family news from Tennessee and North Carolina. There are other letters, including several to Lucius Junius Polk from his brother Leonidas Polk and his mother Sarah Hawkins Polk, and letters between Lucius Junius Polk’s wife Mary Polk and her family, discussing family news, politics, the election of Andrew Jackson, and a comparison Martin Van Buren and John C. Calhoun.

Other papers include documents for land purchases in Tennessee and Mecklenburg County, North Carolina; a printed copy of a political speech by George Washington Campbell in 1809; a certificate of indenture between George Washington Campbell and John Overton (1766–1833); a bill of sale for slaves; and a letter to David Hubbard on an appointment to the Choctaw Commission.

Subseries 1.2. (1852–1859) This subseries comprises correspondence of George Washington Campbell, Jr. and his sister Lizinka Campbell Brown, with some correspondence of the Polk family.

Letters to Lizinka Campbell Brown from her brother George Washington Campbell, Jr. describe his travels in Europe, 1852–1857. There are also letters from George Washington Campbell, Jr. to other family members and friends, and a letter to Lizinka Campbell Brown regarding her brother’s death in France of tuberculosis.

From 1853 to 1859, Lizinka Campbell Brown corresponded with her cousin and fiancé Richard Stoddert Ewell, then a captain in the United States Army in New Mexico, about a variety of topics. The letters discuss family news; a description of a slave insurrection and slave escapes; her views on slavery and secession; her relationships with her overseers and her dislike of overseers and slaves; his possible appointment as U.S. Army Paymaster; politics and secession; the Indian Wars, and William Walker’s return from Nicaragua. There are also several letters between other members of the Ewell and Brown families.

Correspondence of the Polk family for this period consists of letters from Lucius Junius Polk to his daughters and to various individuals regarding business matters and land purchases, and one from his brother Leonidas Polk in Philadelphia.

Omissions
A list of omissions from the Polk, Brown, and Ewell Family Papers is provided on reel 7, frame 1018. Omissions include Series 2, Papers of the Brown and Ewell Families, 1860–1896 and Series 3, Volumes, 1863–1885. Descriptions of omitted materials are included with the introductory materials included with this collection.

N.B. Related collections included in the present edition are the Polk and Yeatman Family Papers, the George Washington Polk Papers, and the Dillon and Polk Family Papers. The Gale and Polk Family Papers at the Southern Historical Collection are included in UPA’s Southern Women and Their Families in the 19th Century: Papers and Diaries, Series A, Part 3. Other related collections among the holdings of the Southern Historical Collection include the Campbell Brown Diaries; the Leonidas Polk Papers; the Lucius Junius Polk Papers; and the Eli S. Coble Papers. A related collection among the holdings of the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, is the Leonidas Polk Papers.

Reel 7 cont.

Introductory Materials

0668 Introductory Materials. 16 frames.

Series 1. Papers of the Polk and Campbell Families, 1803–1859
Subseries 1.1: 1803–1848
0684 Description of Subseries 1.1. 1 frame.
0685 Folder 1, 1803–1810. 10 frames.
0695 Folder 2, 1823–1826. 87 frames.
0782 Folder 3, 1827–1829. 63 frames.
0845 Folder 4, 1830–1839. 24 frames.
0869 Folder 5, 1840–1848. 22 frames.

Subseries 1.2: 1852–1859
0891 Description of Subseries 1.2. 1 frame.
0892 Folder 6, 1852–1855. 50 frames.
0942 Folder 7, 1856–1859. 76 frames.

1018 List of Omissions from the Polk, Brown, and Ewell Family Papers. 1 frame.

Polk and Yeatman Family Papers, 1773–1861,
Maury County, Tennessee; also North Carolina

Description of the Collection
This collection comprises personal and business papers of three generations of the Polk and Yeatman family of North Carolina and Tennessee. Materials through the 1830s are chiefly letters and legal papers of William Polk of Raleigh, dealing with his widespread land speculation in North Carolina and Tennessee and his position as federal internal revenue supervisor for North Carolina. There are also, particularly in the 1820s, items relating to the treatment of slaves on North Carolina plantations. Papers from the 1830s through the 1890s relate mainly to the Maury County, Tennessee, cotton plantations of Lucius Junius and Will Polk, including some items about the treatment of slaves; to Henry Clay Yeatman’s law practice; and, particularly from 1840 to 1861, to the political and personal life of John Bell. Later materials relate to various enterprises in which Polk family members were involved, including a dry goods store and livestock firms. There is much family correspondence, especially after 1861, and scattered business and personal items of members of the related Hawkins, Devereux, and Rayner families.

Most bills and receipts, as well as account ledger sheets, relating to family members appear in Series 2. Miscellaneous Materials include a small number of clippings and a tintype, ca. 1910s, of an unidentified woman.

Volumes include ledgers and letter copy books of William Polk, 1797–1834; notebooks and accounts of Lucius Junius Polk, 1821–1872; and letterpress copies of Henry Clay Yeatman’s letters, 1818–1876.


Biographical Note
William Polk (1758–1834) was a member of a prominent Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, family and a Revolutionary War officer. He moved to Raleigh, where he became a bank president, holder of extensive lands (at one point owning over 100,000 acres in Tennessee), trustee of the University of North Carolina, and civic leader. His first wife was Grizelda Gilchrist, with whom he had two sons, Thomas G. and William J., who was the father of Confederate general Lucius Eugene Polk (1833–1892). William Polk later married Sarah Hawkins, with whom he had twelve children, among whom were Leonidas (1806–1864); Mary, who married George E. Badger; Susan, who married Kenneth Rayner; and Lucius Junius, who married first Mary Ann Eastin (niece of Mrs. Andrew Jackson) and, later, Ann Pope.
Lucius Junius Polk (1802–1870) graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1822. He then moved to Maury County, Tennessee, where he became a planter. One of his sons, Will, helped run the Maury County plantation and later ran a dry goods store. Will and other Polk family members were also involved in the trading and breeding of livestock. Lucius’s son-in-law was Henry Clay Yeatman (d. 1910), Nashville lawyer and Confederate colonel. Yeatman was the son of Jane Erwin Yeatman Bell and the step-son of John Bell, United States senator and presidential candidate.

Series 1. Correspondence and Other Papers (1773–1915 and undated)

This series consists of correspondence, legal and financial materials, and other papers of Polk and Yeatman family members. Materials before 1840 are chiefly about business matters, but there are also many documents that relate to both local and national political issues. Later materials relate chiefly to family matters. There is little material that discusses the Civil War directly.

Subseries 1.1. (1773–1833) This subseries consists chiefly of materials about William Polk’s business dealings in Mecklenburg County and Raleigh, North Carolina, and in Tennessee, where Polk was accumulating large land holdings. There are many legal documents relating to purchases of land. In the 1820s, most of the letters are to William from his sons at various locations in North Carolina and Tennessee. There are a few items relating to William’s work as federal internal revenue supervisor for North Carolina, but most of the materials about this work are to be found in Series 4. Also included are many papers relating to other Polk family members, especially William’s son Lucius Junius, who settled in Tennessee around 1822. Correspondents include Sam Johnston (31 May 1824, 19 September 1825); David Swain (3 October 1831); and James K. Polk (28 November 1832).

Among the topics discussed are:
1783: surveying land in Mississippi.
1794: relaxation of the British Decree of Council respecting capture of American vessels bound for Europe and the quarrel between Spain and England on this issue.
1820: treatment of runaway slaves.
1822: poisoning of family by slaves, Andrew Jackson, establishing a town on land held by the University of North Carolina.
1823–1824: Jackson’s chances at winning the election.
1825: honoring the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence.
1829: reactions to President Jackson’s appointments.
1832–1833: nullification; Henry Clay. This series ends in 1833 with William Polk’s death (actually 14 January 1834).

Subseries 1.2. (1834–1861 and undated) This subseries consists chiefly of materials relating to William Polk’s sons, especially Lucius Junius, who had a plantation in Maury County, Tennessee, and Lucius’s son Will, who was also in Maury County. Most of the letters are to Sarah Polk, William’s widow, and mainly convey family news with occasional comments on politics and financial affairs. Beginning around 1843, there are also a few items relating to the political and business careers of John Bell, who, besides serving in Congress and running for president in 1860, owned several Tennessee coal mines. In the late 1850s, there are letters from Henry Clay Yeatman to his wife, chiefly asking for family news and reporting on various locations he visited. Included is a letter from Andrew Jackson (16 October 1836) about appointing a private secretary.

Series 2. Bills and Receipts (1780–1903)

Subseries 2.1. (1780–1833) This subseries consists chiefly of bills and receipts, but also promissory notes, account ledger sheets, and other items relating to business transactions and personal finance of William Polk and other family members.

Subseries 2.2. (1834–1861 and undated) This subseries consists chiefly of bills, receipts, and other business and personal finance items relating to the sons of William Polk, mainly Lucius Junius Polk and his plantation in Maury County, Tennessee. There are also a few items relating to Henry Clay Yeatman and his family, and to John Bell and his Tennessee coal business.
Series 4. Volumes (1797–1890)

Volumes include ledgers and lettercopy books of William Polk, 1797–1834; notebooks and accounts of Lucius Junius Polk, 1821–1872; and letterpress copies of Henry Clay Yeatman’s letters, 1866–1875.

Note that, because of its use during two different time periods, Volume 14 has been split between Subseries 4.1 and 4.2.

**Subseries 4.1. (1797–1861)** This subseries contains fourteen volumes. Volumes relate primarily to William Polk, Lucius Junius Polk, and Sarah Polk.

- **Volume 1**: August 1797–March 1801. Manuscript lettercopy book of William Polk, supervisor of internal revenue for North Carolina at Charlotte and Raleigh, containing copies of incoming and outgoing correspondence, chiefly with other revenue officials.
- **Volume 4**: 1821–1830. Notebook containing accounts of William Polk’s journey to Tennessee and notes on land in Tennessee; lists of weights of cotton bales; copies of receipts of Lucius Junius Polk; and other memoranda and accounts.
- **Volume 5**: 1821–1832. Manuscript lettercopy book, chiefly containing copies of letters of William Polk to Samuel Dickens, agent and attorney for Polk in Tennessee. Also contains copies of letters from William to Lucius Junius Polk.
- **Volume 6**: 1821–1838. Ledger of William Polk, containing accounts with doctors, lawyers, merchants, etc. Also contains accounts of Sarah Polk as executor of William’s estate, 1834–1838.
- **Volume 7**: 1821. Notebook of Lucius Junius Polk while a student at the University of North Carolina, containing notes from Professor Olmstead’s chemistry lectures and other classes.
- **Volume 8**: 1824–1837. A few copies of letters of William Polk, 1832–1833; William Polk’s accounts, 1824–1833; and accounts of William Polk’s estate, 1834–1837.
- **Volume 9**: 1831–1847; 1871. Plantation records of Ashwood Farm, Maury County, Tennessee.
- **Volume 12**: 1843–1851. Accounts of Lucius Junius Polk, including those for Sarah Polk’s estate.
- **Volume 13**: 1853–1854; 1860. Lucius Junius Polk’s lumber accounts and other items.

**Omissions**

A list of omissions from the Polk and Yeatman Family Papers is provided on reel 13, frame 0854. Omissions include: Subseries 1.3–1.4. Correspondence and Other Papers, 1862–1915 and undated (after 1861); Subseries 2.3. Bills and Receipts, 1862–1903 and undated (after 1861); Series 3. Miscellaneous Materials, 1857–1916; and Subseries 4.2. Volumes, 1866–1890. Descriptions of omitted materials are included in the introductory materials included with this collection.

**N.B.** Related collections included in the present edition are the Polk, Brown, and Ewell Family Papers, the George Washington Polk Papers, and the Dillon and Polk Family Papers. The Gale and Polk Family Papers at the Southern Historical Collection are included in UPA’s *Southern Women and Their Families in the 19th Century: Papers and Diaries, Series A, Part 3*. Other related collections among the holdings of the Southern Historical Collection include the Leonidas Polk Papers and the Lucius Junius Polk Papers. A related collection, the Leonidas Polk Papers, is among the holdings of the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee.

**Reel 8**
Introductory Materials

Series 1. Correspondence and Other Papers, 1773–1915 and Undated

Subseries 1.1: 1773–1833

0017 Description of Subseries 1.1. 1 frame.
0018 Folder 1, 1773–1779. 18 frames.
0036 Folder 2, 1784–1785. 33 frames.
0069 Folder 3, 1786–1789. 38 frames.
0107 Folder 4, 1790–1799. 65 frames.
0172 Folder 5, 1800–1813. 52 frames.
0224 Folder 6, 1814–1819. 46 frames.
0270 Folder 7, 1820–1821. 90 frames.
0360 Folder 8, January–May 1822. 45 frames.
0405 Folder 9, June–September 1822. 50 frames.
0455 Folder 10, October–December 1822. 50 frames.
0505 Folder 11, January–March 1823. 60 frames.
0565 Folder 12, April–December 1823. 62 frames.
0627 Folder 13, January–April 1824. 53 frames.
0680 Folder 14, May–December 1824. 59 frames.
0739 Folder 15, January–April 1825. 57 frames.
0796 Folder 16, May–December 1825. 77 frames.
0873 Folder 17, January–April 1826. 57 frames.
0930 Folder 18, May–December 1826. 79 frames.

Reel 9

Polk and Yeatman Family Papers cont.
Series 1. Correspondence and Other Papers, 1773–1915 and Undated cont.

Subseries 1.1: 1773–1833 cont.

0001 Folder 19, 1827. 60 frames.
0061 Folder 20, January–June 1828. 52 frames.
0113 Folder 21, July–December 1828. 52 frames.
0165 Folder 22, 1829. 56 frames.
0221 Folder 23, 1830–1831. 43 frames.
0264 Folder 24, 1832–1833. 104 frames.

Subseries 1.2: 1834–1861 and Undated

0368 Description of Subseries 1.2. 1 frame.
0369 Folder 25, 1834–1835. 113 frames.
0482 Folder 26, 1836–1837. 77 frames.
0559 Folder 27, 1838–1839. 100 frames.
0659 Folder 28, 1840–1841. 99 frames.
0758 Folder 29, 1842–1843. 81 frames.
0839 Folder 30, 1844–1846. 44 frames.
0883 Folder 31, 1847–1849. 33 frames.
0916 Folder 32, 1850–1852. 65 frames.
Reel 10

Polk and Yeatman Family Papers cont.
Series 1. Correspondence and Other Papers, 1773–1915 and Undated cont.

Subseries 1.2: 1834–1861 and Undated cont.
0001 Folder 33, 1853–1855. 60 frames.
0061 Folder 34, 1856. 51 frames.
0112 Folder 35, 1857. 61 frames.
0173 Folder 36, 1858–1859. 79 frames.
0252 Folder 37, 1860–1861. 120 frames.
0372 Folder 37a, Undated and fragments (probably before 1862). 92 frames.

Series 2. Bills and Receipts, 1780–1903 and Undated

Subseries 2.1: 1780–1833
0464 Description of Subseries 2.1. 1 frame.
0465 Folder 73, 1780–1785. 36 frames.
0501 Folder 74, 1786–1789. 32 frames.
0533 Folder 75, 1790–1793. 39 frames.
0572 Folder 76, 1794–1796. 27 frames.
0599 Folder 77, 1797–1799. 68 frames.
0667 Folder 78, 1800–1803. 64 frames.
0731 Folder 79, 1804–1806. 47 frames.
0778 Folder 80, 1807–1808. 61 frames.
0839 Folder 81, 1809. 61 frames.
0930 Folder 82, 1810–1813. 110 frames.

Reel 11

Polk and Yeatman Family Papers cont.

Subseries 2.1: 1780–1833 cont.
0001 Folder 83, 1814–1816. 52 frames.
0053 Folder 84, 1817. 64 frames.
0117 Folder 85, 1818–1819. 81 frames.
0198 Folder 86, 1820–1824. 66 frames.
0264 Folder 87, 1825. 64 frames.
0328 Folder 88, 1826. 85 frames.
0413 Folder 89, 1827–1829. 70 frames.
0483 Folder 90, 1830–1833. 58 frames.

Subseries 2.2: 1834–1861 and Undated
0541 Description of Subseries 2.2. 1 frame.
0542 Folder 91, 1834–1836. 75 frames.
0617 Folder 92, 1837–1839. 63 frames.
0680 Folder 93, 1840–1843. 60 frames.
0740 Folder 94, 1844–1849. 106 frames. [frame counter skips from 0807 to 0908]

Reel 12

Polk and Yeatman Family Papers cont.

Subseries 2.2: 1834–1861 and Undated cont.
0001 Folder 95, 1850–1851. 33 frames.
0034 Folder 96, 1852. 43 frames.
0077 Folder 97, 1853–1861. 78 frames.
0155 Folder 97a, Undated (probably before 1862). 49 frames.

Series 4. Volumes, 1797–1890

Subseries 4.1: 1797–1861
0204 Description of Subseries 4.1. 1 frame.
0205 Folder 104, Volume 1, William Polk, Lettercopy Book, August 1797–March 1801. 84 frames.
0743 Folder 107, Volume 4, William Polk, Notebook, 1821–1830. 36 frames.

Reel 13

Polk and Yeatman Family Papers cont.

Subseries 4.1: 1797–1861 cont.
0001 Folder 109, Volume 6, William Polk, Ledger, 1821–1838. 261 frames.
0262 Folder 110, Volume 7, Lucius Junius Polk, Notebook, 1821. 55 frames.
0317 Folder 111, Volume 8, William Polk, Account Book and Lettercopy Book, 1824–1837. 103 frames.

Omissions

0854 List of Omissions from the Polk and Yeatman Family Papers. 1 frame.

George Washington Polk Papers, 1793–1857,
Maury County, Tennessee; also Alabama and North Carolina

Description of the Collection
This collection is composed of scattered 19th century papers of members of the Polk and related families and extensive 20th century papers about them. Early papers are chiefly of Lucius Junius Polk, Mary Eastin Polk, and Lucius’s father William Polk (1758–1834), who owned much land in North Carolina. Letters pertain to politics, planting, family matters, lands, and other business interests. Included are letters from Andrew Jackson and Leonidas Polk, and papers of General John Coffee (1772–1833) of Alabama and other members of the related Coffee, Donelson, and Eastin families of Tennessee. Postbellum papers are chiefly of William Harrison
Polk (fl. 1875) of Paris, Kentucky, and George Washington Polk. The majority of these latter papers relate to George's genealogical and historical interests. Also included are George's reminiscences of his childhood during the Civil War, education at schools in Tennessee and at the University of Virginia in the late 1860s, and experiences in Texas and the West as a civil engineer working primarily on the westward expansion of railroads.

The collection is arranged as follows: Series 1. Family Papers—Subseries 1.1. 1793–1857 and Subseries 1.2. 1865–1897 and undated [not included] and Series 2. Genealogical and Family History Materials [not included].

Biographical Note

George Washington Polk (b. 1847) was the son of Lucius Junius Polk (1802–1870), planter of Maury County, Tennessee, and Mary Ann Eastin Polk (1810–1847), niece of Mrs. Andrew Jackson. He was also the nephew of Episcopal Bishop and Civil War General Leonidas Polk (1806–1864).

George Washington Polk was educated in Tennessee schools and attended the University of Virginia from 1867 to 1868, where he studied engineering. He worked as a civil engineer, chiefly involved in the westward expansion of railroads. He eventually settled in San Antonio, Texas.

Polk was married on 29 October 1885 to Jane Jackson, daughter of George Moore and Sarah Cabell Perkins Jackson of Florence, Alabama, and descendant of James Moore, governor of South Carolina, 1700–1703. The Polks had three children, all of whom were born while the couple lived in Houston, Texas: George Washington, Jr. (b. 1889); Jane Jackson (b. 1893; married George Gill Ball); and Harrison Jackson (b. 1896).

In his later years, Polk generated a tremendous correspondence with members of the Polk and related families about family history.

Series 1. Family Papers (1793–1897)

Subseries 1.1. (1793–1857) This subseries consists chiefly of family correspondence and other items, including the following items described below. Note that there are a few typed transcriptions of letters and other items scattered throughout this series.

1793: Typed copy of Tennessee land grant to Thomas Polk for service as a colonel on the Continental line in the American Revolution.
1800: 10 November, Thomas Jackson to Col. William Polk in regard to claims for western lands.
1809: Deed to George Doherty for 300 acres in Maury County, Tennessee (North Carolina western lands), signed by John Sevier.
1812: 8 August, Thomas Eastin to John Coffee, a bill for two quires of blanks and advances for the “Examinor.” 21 October (typed copy), William Polk to his wife Sarah in Raleigh telling her about his trip and the wedding of Tom (Polk?) and Mary in Salisbury.
1813: 14 January, William Eastin to Mrs. Coffee about supplies of hogs, salt, and other business.
1814: 25 July, William Eastin’s bill to General John Coffee for supplies. 17 October (typed copy), William Polk to Governor William Hawkins, stating his attitude toward the proposed peace with Britain and offering his services to his country.
1815: Bills and receipts of William Eastin.
1820: 1 November, William Eastin’s bill to General John Coffee for general merchandise and supplies. 4 November, William Polk in Nashville to his wife in Raleigh, mentioning the lottery for priority of entry in the surveyors office, his business (lands) in Nashville, and the family at home.
1821: 12 March (typed copy), Philomen Hawkins, Pleasant Hill, to his daughter Mrs. Sarah Polk.

1822: 23 February, William Polk, Washington, D.C., to his wife, describing a voyage from Petersburg to Baltimore and thence by stage to Washington. His activities in Washington included visits to the president, Secretary Crawford, various cabinet members, and the House of Representatives. In this seven page letter, Polk also describes a party at the French Minister's, invitations received, and social activities.

1824: 17 January, William Eastin, Florence, Alabama, to Captain John Donelson, Sr., Davidson County, Tennessee, mentioning business with the Chickasaw Indian Agency, slaves whom Donelson may buy from Eastin or take off his hands temporarily, and Eastin's financial needs. 21 May, John Catron, Nashville, to William Polk of North Carolina giving details concerning Tennessee land titles, legal complications, and advice on procedures. 27 November, William Eastin, Bainbridge, Alabama, to Captain John Donelson chiefly about family matters. Also included in this year is an agreement among six endorsers to share equally the responsibility for endorsing a note for William Eastin to the Tennessee Bank at Franklin. There is also a list of accounts sold by William Eastin to John Donelson and others, dated ca. 1824–1825.

1825: 17 April, Lucius J. Polk to his father William Polk, reporting on the family's business (lands) in Lincoln County and other business matters such as notes held, etc. 18 April, William Eastin writes to Captain John Donelson from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Louisville, Kentucky, on his way to Florence, Alabama, by water. 13 May, Lucius J. Polk, Columbia, Tennessee, to his father William Polk enclosing bank notes and discussing business matters. In this letter he mentions having met Lafayette in Nashville and proposes endowing a professorship at Cumberland College in honor of Lafayette and Andrew Jackson. 18 July, Mrs. Sarah Polk, Raleigh, to her son Lucius J. Polk regarding family news. 22 September, William Eastin, Nashville, to General John Coffee, near Florence conducting business en route to Alabama. 5 November, Lucius J. Polk, Wills Grove, to his father about business and his matrimonial hopes.

1826: March–May, three letters from William Eastin in New Orleans to General Coffee at Florence, Alabama, reporting that Coffee's cotton was in the hands of broker Maunsell White, cotton prices and the postponement of land sales, and telling of coming down the river with Colonel Zachary Taylor whom he had agreed to send some Mexican cotton seed. 27 September, Daniel Graham, Nashville, Tennessee, to William Polk of Raleigh about the affair of honor between Sam Houston and General White of Governor Carroll's staff.

1827: 1 September, William Polk, Raleigh, to his son Lucius J. Polk giving news of other members of the family and noting that he had sent him a manifold writing apparatus for copying letters in care of Governor Branch, who was coming to Franklin, Tennessee.

1828: 24 January, Lucius J. Polk, in Washington, D.C., to his father telling of sightseeing, social events, and prominent men of the day. 22 November, Mrs. Sarah Polk to Lucius J. Polk at Columbia, Tennessee, regarding family news and the death of his uncle Benjamin Hawkins. 28 November, William Polk to Lucius J. Polk regarding business, including cotton planting and sending slaves from North Carolina to Tennessee. 21 December, Lucius J. Polk, Wills Grove, to his mother about cotton planting, business matters, and plans for Andrew Jackson's departure for Washington, D.C.


1830: 12 January, Thomas Eastin, Key West, Florida, to General Donelson regarding his arrival with his family after a tedious and expensive trip.

1831: 2 April, E. Coffee to her sister Mary Coffee, Florence, Alabama, regarding the activities of a young girl, family matters, and plans for the marriage of Lucius J. Polk and Mary Ann Eastin. May (ms. copy), Mary Coffee, Florence, Alabama, to her cousin Mary Ann Eastin, Nashville, Tennessee, describing her journey from Nashville to Florence and visits along the way, including a stay with the Polks. 7 October, Leonidas Polk, Paris, France, to his brother Lucius J. Polk about his travels and health. 20 December, Lucius J. Polk, Nashville, to his father commenting on the legislature in session, upheavals in the state supreme court, legislative bills relating to lands and railroads, cotton planting, and the construction of his house.
1832: 11 April, Andrew Jackson, Washington, D.C., to William Polk telling of the wedding the previous evening of Lucius J. Polk and Jackson’s niece Mary Ann Eastin at the White House. Jackson mentions sending a silver medal with his likeness to his namesake Andrew Jackson Polk via Lucius. 21 April, Leonidas Polk, London, England, to his father describing southern France and an outbreak of cholera in Paris. 29 September, Leonidas, Baltimore, Maryland, to his father regarding his travel plans and arrangements for transportation of his possessions. 19 October, James K. Polk, Columbia, Tennessee, to Lucius J. Polk in the legislature at Nashville, regarding political matters including the arrangement of the districts and other controversial issues.

1833: 15 January, Leonidas Polk, Palmyra, Halifax County, North Carolina, to his father describing his trip from Raleigh. In this letter he mentions a conversation with Governor Branch on politics and stops at the Pollok and Devereux plantations. 18 January, Mary Coffee, Washington, D.C., to her cousin Mary Ann Eastin Polk at Columbia, Tennessee, relating social gossip and the popularity of Fanny Kemble’s performances there and elsewhere. 28 April, Emily Donelson, Washington, D.C., to her cousin Mary Ann Eastin Polk regarding family matters and social life. 21 June (typed copy), Augustin Eastin’s will. 4 July, William Polk, Hazlewood, Tennessee, to his wife Sarah, in Raleigh, concerning viewing land claims with his sons in western Tennessee and visits with friends and relatives. In this letter he mentions Sarah’s management of the plantation and other matters in North Carolina, as well as Mary Ann Eastin Polk’s management of Lucius’s Tennessee plantation. 24 August (typed copy), William Polk’s will (proved July 1834). 25 August, Mary Ann Eastin Polk, Hamilton Place, to Mary Coffee, Florence, Alabama, asking for some seed for Pennsylvania. 7 October, Leonidas Polk, Hamilton Place, to his father relating plantation and family news.

1834: Family letters in this year include one from Leonidas Polk in Mt. Pleasant, Maury County, Tennessee, to his father concerning cotton planting and other business and one from his wife Frances A. “Fanny” Devereux Polk in Raleigh to her sister-in-law Mary A. Eastin Polk. Also included in this year is a memorandum of agreement on the division of William Polk’s estate.

1835: 2 July, Winifred Gales to Sarah Polk in Tennessee, whom Mrs. Gales misses while she is back in Raleigh to visit old friends. In this letter she describes Gaston and the North Carolina Constitutional Convention then in session, expressing herself on the religious limitations set on office-holders and giving news of friends and relatives in Raleigh.

1836: 5 February, Fanny Polk, Columbia, Tennessee, to her mother-in-law concerning news and gossip of family and neighbors, new machinery for the hemp factory, and a school with seventy pupils. 14 March, Andrew Jackson, Washington, D.C., a personal letter to Mary Ann Eastin Polk concerning his weariness with the burdens of his office, corruption, etc., and warning her husband against the political company he kept among the White Whigs (Jackson was interrupted in the writing of the letter by receipt of a dispatch from Florida). 23 March, E. D. Eastin, Hamilton Place, to Mary Coffee, Florence, Alabama, concerning social gossip and family matters. 2 April Fanny Polk to her mother-in-law about recent company, news from home, and new machinery for the hemp and plank operations. 8 April, Leonidas Polk, Breeze Hill, to his mother concerning plantation matters and giving details of the arrangement of the hemp factory and sawmill. 24 November, Leonidas Polk, Ashwood, to his mother about family property in Tennessee.

1837: 8 November, Leonidas Polk, Wheeling, Virginia (now West Virginia), to his mother, written on his way home from a journey to Baltimore and Philadelphia. 7 December Emily Eastin, Hamilton Place, to Mary Coffee concerning family news and social gossip. 12 December, Leonidas Polk, Ashwood, to his mother having just arrived from a long journey reports on his manufacture of hemp bagging, cotton planting, and family property in Tennessee.

1838: 2 February, Leonidas Polk, Ashwood, to his mother about the possibility of a discovery of lead ore and other matters. 31 December, Leonidas Polk, Columbia, Tennessee, to his mother about business, his plans for a road to Mt. Pleasant, and a proposed journey to Texas and Arkansas.

1839: 19 January (typed copy), Mary A. Eastin, Pensacola, Florida, to her cousin Mary Ann Eastin Polk following a visit to Mrs. Polk in Tennessee. 28 January, Frances A. Devereux Polk, Ashwood, to her mother-in-law concerning Leonidas’s business affairs and Tennessee gossip. 11 April, Andrew Jackson, Hermitage, to Lucius J. Polk at Columbia, Tennessee, sending a mare for
stud service, enquiring about a Mr. Brown whose address he needed, and sending messages to
the family. 11 April, relinquishment of bond of Rufus K. Polk, George W. Polk, and Andrew J. Polk
to their sister Susan in connection with their father’s estate. 20 May, Samuel Donelson,
Inglewood Place, to his sister-in-law, Mary A. Eastin Polk, concerning the death of his wife (Mrs.
Polk’s sister Eliza). 13 June, Sam Houston to Lucius J. Polk saying he was sending a friend, Tom
Edmundson, to select three of Polk’s finest setters for Houston. 28 July, Leonidas Polk, Ashwood,
to his mother commenting on his recent journey as a missionary bishop, building of the chapel at
Ashwood, plantation matters, and mill affairs. 24 October, John D. Eastin, Chapel Hill student, to
Alexander D. Coffee at Nashville about how he liked North Carolina, etc.

1840: 28 February, Lucius J. Polk, Vicksburg, to his wife Mary commenting on his trip, the
river plantations, the future of Vicksburg, and banking affairs in Mississippi. 13 April, Mary A.
Eastin Polk to her husband while he was in Mississippi concerning family news and plantation
matters.

1841: 27 March, Lucius J. Polk, on the steamboat Augusta between New Orleans and
Vicksburg, to his wife concerning the investigations by him and his brother Leonidas into the
advantages of sugar planting. 8 December (typed copy), will of John Polk of Maury county,
Tennessee.

1842: 20 January, Andrew Jackson, Hermitage, to Lucius J. Polk paying a debt in connection
with breeding a horse. 2 May, John H. Bills, Bolivar, Hardeman County, Tennessee, to Sarah
Polk, Raleigh, regarding the collection of a note due her from Thomas Hubbard. 19 June,
Leonidas Polk, Rutherfordton, North Carolina, to his brother Lucius J. Polk concerning travel to
Raleigh, business, and family matters. 10 July, J. D. Eastin, Madison County, Mississippi, to
William McClinchey about a horse. 17 July, J. D. Eastin to his cousin Alexander Coffee,
Florence, Alabama, concerning the weather, crops, economics, a horse, his neighbors in
Mississippi, and invitations to visit, etc. 23 July, promissory note from Lucius J. Polk to his
mother. 7 August, Leonidas Polk, Campbell’s Station, Tennessee, to his mother in Raleigh
concerning his journey west with his family. 15 October (ms. copy), an article about St. John’s
Church, Ashwood, which was the gift of Bishop Leonidas Polk and his brothers. This article
mentions the religious activities of both whites and slaves at the church.

1843: 13 January, Sarah Polk to her daughter-in-law Mary A. Eastin Polk, Ashwood,
Tennessee, sending presents for the grandchildren and relating news of the Rayners in Raleigh.
20 March, John D. Eastin, Columbus, Mississippi, to his uncle Stockly Donelson, Florence,
Alabama, about the termination of a lawsuit and his dread of the cold trip home in an open box.
16 April, Andrew J. Polk, Raleigh, to Lucius J. Polk at Ashwood about the death of their brother
Rufus, and complaining of their brother-in-law George Badger, who seems not to pay due respect
to their mother. 29 June, Leonidas Polk, Thibodaux, Louisiana, to Lucius J. Polk congratulating
him and their brother George W. Polk on the course they have taken in regard to the church and
discussing various business matters. 30 August, power of attorney from Sarah Polk to her son
Lucius J. Polk for the disposition of lands in Tennessee.

1844: 11 April, Leonidas Polk, New Orleans, to Lucius J. Polk about the death of Richard (?) and
some discussion of real estate and plantation matters. 6 June, Leonidas Polk, Thibodaux,
Louisiana, to Lucius J. Polk at Raleigh concerning his return from a visitation to the western parts
of the diocese and the management of some of his property in North Carolina and Tennessee.

1845: 19 February, John D. Hawkins, Henderson, North Carolina, to Lucius J. Polk at
Ashwood about business connected with the estate of Sarah Hawkins Polk’s estate and
Hawkins’s own financial condition.

1846: 21 October, John D. Eastin, Carroll Parish, Louisiana, to his uncle William Donelson,
Nashville, concerning his cotton crop, slaves, and various business matters.

1847: 15 July, Leonidas Polk, Thibodaux, Louisiana, to Lucius J. Polk at Ashwood concerning
the harvest and marketing of his cotton and wheat crops in Tennessee, corn and sugarcane
products in Louisiana, and plans for selling his plantation in Maury County, Tennessee.

1849: 27 October, Leonidas Polk, Memphis, to Lucius J. Polk concerning the convention he
was attending and business matters.

1851: 4 March, draft of letter from Lucius J. Polk, Hamilton Place, to F. H. Watkins asking
Watkins to attend to a survey before Polk left for his southern plantation. 19 September, Leonidas
Polk, Lafourche, Louisiana, to Lucius J. Polk warning Lucius not to endorse papers for Leonidas, as the risk was too great.


1857: J. D. Eastin, Bolivar County, Mississippi, to his uncle advising against the purchase of cotton lands in his neighborhood at this time as prices are high.

Omissions

A list of omissions from the George Washington Polk Papers is provided on reel 14, frame 0311. Omissions include Subseries 1.2. Family Papers, 1865–1897 and undated and Series 2. Genealogical and Family History Materials, 1900–1927 and undated. Descriptions of omitted materials are included with the introductory materials included with this collection.

N.B. Related collections included in the present edition are the Polk, Brown, and Ewell Family Papers, the Polk and Yeatman Family Papers, and the Dillon and Polk Family Papers. The Gale and Polk Family Papers at the Southern Historical Collection are included in UPA’s Southern Women and Their Families in the 19th Century: Papers and Diaries, Series A, Part 3. Other related collections among the holdings of the Southern Historical Collection include the Leonidas Polk Papers, the Lucius Junius Polk Papers, the John Coffee Order Books, and the Alexander Donelson Coffee Papers. A related collection among the holdings of the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, is the Leonidas Polk Papers.

Reel 13 cont.

Introductory Materials

0855 Introductory Materials. 17 frames.

Series 1. Family Papers, 1793–1897 and Undated

Subseries 1.1: 1793–1857

0872 Description of Subseries 1.1. 5 frames.
0877 Folder 1, 1793–1818. 38 frames.
0915 Folder 2, 1820–1825. 60 frames.

Reel 14

George Washington Polk Papers cont.

Series 1. Family Papers, 1793–1897 and Undated cont.

Subseries 1.1: 1793–1857 cont.

0001 Folder 3, 1826–1831. 53 frames.
0054 Folder 4, 1832–1834. 71 frames.
0125 Folder 5, 1835–1838. 51 frames.
0176 Folder 6, 1839–1841. 41 frames.
0217 Folder 7, 1842–1843. 46 frames.
0263 Folder 8, 1844–1857. 48 frames.

Omissions

0311 List of Omissions from the George Washington Polk Papers. 1 frame.

Dillon and Polk Family Papers, 1805–1863,
Description of the Collection

This collection comprises primarily personal letters (bulk 1866–1912) of an elite southern family. The majority of the letters were written by and to the women of the Dillon and Polk families. Most concern domestic life and family matters. There are occasional political references in Series 1, and incidental mention of business affairs are scattered throughout the collection. The five Civil War letters relate mainly to Colonel Dillon’s dissatisfaction with his rank and his chances for promotion. There are also notes, dated 15 June 1877, concerning Dillon’s recollection of General Van Dorn’s operations in 1863.

The collection is arranged in two series: Series 1. General Correspondence—Subseries 1.1. Randolph-Dillon Correspondence, 1805–1815 and undated, Subseries 1.2. Mary Eastin Polk Correspondence, 1821, 1829–1844, and undated, Subseries 1.3. Edward Dillon Correspondence, 1859–1863; and Series 2. Frances Polk Dillon Correspondence, 1866–1927 and undated [not included].

Biographical Note

Family correspondence, 1866–1912, chiefly relating to Frances Polk Dillon (1844–1912); her sisters, Sarah Rachel Polk Jones (1833–1905), Emily Donelson Polk Williams (1837–1892), and Mary Brown Polk Yeatman (1835–1890) of Maury County, Tennessee; her husband, Colonel Edward Dillon (1834–1897), of Botetourt and Rockbridge counties, Virginia; and other relatives throughout the South.

Other papers include letters from Colonel Dillon to his mother while he was serving in the U.S. and Confederate armies, 1859–1863, and the personal correspondence of earlier members of the Polk and Dillon families. Among these correspondents are Edward Dillon (fl. 1805–1815), Mary Eastin Polk (1810–1847), John Randolph (1773–1833), and Andrew Jackson (1767–1845).

Series 1. General Correspondence (1805–1863 and undated)

Subseries 1.1. Randolph-Dillon Correspondence (1805–1815 and undated) This subseries consists of letters to Edward Dillon (fl. 1805–1818) from John Randolph (1773–1833) of Roanoke, Virginia, Judith Randolph (fl. 1808–1810), Ann C. (Nancy) Randolph Morris (fl. 1805–1815), and Creed Taylor (1766–1836). Also included is Dillon’s copy of a letter to John Randolph, 11 March 1805. Letters are generally about family matters and personal business. Those from John Randolph include some descriptions of political life in Washington.

Subseries 1.2. Mary Eastin Polk Correspondence (1821, 1829–1844, and undated) This subseries consists chiefly of letters of Mary Eastin Polk (1810–1847) and her immediate family. Letters are generally about family life and personal business. They also include descriptions of Andrew Jackson’s 1829 arrival in Washington and letters from Jackson to Polk about health and family matters, 1841.

Subseries 1.3. Edward Dillon Correspondence (1859–1863) This subseries consists chiefly of letters from Colonel Edward Dillon (1834–1897) to his mother. Early letters describe his experiences in the U.S. Army in northern California at the Round Valley Indian Reservation and Fort Bragg. The five Civil War letters relate mainly to Dillon’s dissatisfaction with his rank and his chances for promotion. See also notes in Folder 6, 15 June 1877, about Dillon’s recollection of General Van Dorn’s operations in 1863.

Omissions

A list of omissions from the Dillon and Polk Family Papers is provided on reel 14, frame 0479. Omissions include Series 2. Frances Polk Dillon Correspondence, 1866–1912 and undated. Descriptions of omitted materials are included in the introductory materials included with this collection.

N.B. Related collections included in the present edition are the Polk, Brown, and Ewell Family Papers, the Polk and Yeatman Family Papers, and the George Washington Polk Papers. The Gale and Polk Family Papers at the Southern Historical Collection are included in UPA’s
Southern Women and Their Families in the 19th Century: Papers and Diaries, Series A, Part 3. Other related collections among the holdings of the Southern Historical Collection include the Leonidas Polk Papers, the Lucius Junius Polk Papers, the John Coffee Order Books, and the Alexander Donelson Coffee Papers. The Leonidas Polk Papers is a related collection among the holdings of the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee.

Introductory Materials

Series 1. General Correspondence, 1805–1863 and Undated

Subseries 1.1: Randolph-Dillon Correspondence, 1805–1815 and Undated

0322 Description of Subseries 1.1. 1 frame.
0323 Folder 1, 1805–1815 and Undated. 52 frames.

Subseries 1.2: Mary Eastin Polk Correspondence, 1821, 1829–1844, and Undated

0375 Description of Subseries 1.2. 1 frame.
0376 Folder 2, 1821, 1829–1844, and Undated. 75 frames.

Subseries 1.3: Edward Dillon Correspondence, 1859–1863

0451 Description of Subseries 1.3. 1 frame
0452 Folder 3, 1859–1863. 27 frames.

Omissions

0479 List of Omissions from the Dillon and Polk Family Papers. 1 frame.

George W. House Papers, 1820–1859,
Davidson County, Tennessee; also Alabama, Kentucky, and Mississippi

Description of the Collection

This collection comprises correspondence, receipts, and other items of the House and Hamilton families.

Letters to George House are from various family members, including his brother Sam House in Mt. Pleasant, Alabama, giving news of the family and the cotton crop. One letter describes a cure for rheumatism. A letter from his nephew W. C. Moore informs him of Moore’s father’s acquittal on a murder charge. A letter from brother-in-law Oscar Hamilton describes the state of farming and tobacco culture in Kentucky. Other letters to House are from other relatives giving family news.

Letters to Mary House are from friends in Kentucky, giving neighborhood news. Correspondence is with her mother S. B. Hamilton. A letter from J. Hilton Bostwick in Clarksville, Tennessee, concerns a gold-mining company. Several letters are from her husband, George House, during his visits to Nashville, Tennessee.

Other correspondence includes a letter from Oscar Hamilton of Clinton, Mississippi, to Mortimer Hamilton of Nashville, Tennessee, describing the cotton crop in 1847. Other items include a bank note; receipts for household expenses; a letter appointing George W. House of Hinds County, Mississippi, attorney for David T. Knox of Madison County, Alabama; a receipt for passage on the steamer Flying Dutchman; and a dental bill.

Biographical Note

George W. House was born in 1811 in Clinton, Hinds County, Mississippi. He married Mary Hamilton in 1837. Only one son, James “Jimmy” House, survived infancy. George and Mary House had relatives in Clinton, Mississippi; Mt. Pleasant and Loweville, Alabama; Russellville, Kentucky; and Nashville, Tennessee, with whom they visited and corresponded. George House,
who may have been an attorney, traveled frequently on business, living part of the year in Nashville, Tennessee. During his travels, Mary House lived with her mother and other relatives.

Reel 14 cont.

Introductory Materials

0480 Introductory Materials. 8 frames.

Papers

0488 Folder 1, 1820–1888. 83 frames.

John Houston Bills Papers, 1843–1871, Hardeman County, Tennessee

Description of the Collection

This collection consists primarily of Bills’s diary, which contains entries dated 1843–1871. There are also a few letters and miscellaneous accounts, 1841–1878. Typed transcriptions of the diary are located in Series 3 of the collection. The transcriptions contain a few minor errors.

Biographical Note

John Houston Bills (1800–1871), Tennessee planter, merchant, and friend of President James Knox Polk (1795–1849), was born in Iredell County, North Carolina, and migrated to Tennessee in 1818. He was active in the Democratic party, the Freemasons, the temperance movement, and the religious life of his community. Plantations owned by Bills included Cornucopia, Hickory Valley, and Mt. Zion in Tennessee, as well as a farm in Tunica County, Mississippi. He retained a number of overseers over the years. In 1859 he owned eighty-four slaves.

Series 1. Correspondence and Miscellaneous Accounts (1841–1878)

This series comprises correspondence and miscellaneous accounts relating to Bills and his family.

Series 2. Diary (1843–1871)

This series contains a diary kept by Bills with almost daily entries between 1843 and 1871. Typical entries are 10–25 words in length and include information on weather conditions (usually with temperature), agricultural activities and production (cotton, corn, hogs, wheat, etc.), and a brief account of Bills’s activities for that day. Bills was also careful to note prices paid and received for goods and services. Other subjects include slaves—their work, treatment, and prices; problems with overseers; relationships with freedmen after emancipation; land values; religious activities (Bills attended a variety of denominational services); and descriptions of Bills’s travels.

The Civil War prompted Bills to abandon his terse style occasionally. Longer entries reveal that he was a Douglas Democrat and a Unionist until Lincoln’s call for troops. Although Bills then threw his lot in with the Confederates, entries show that he remained pessimistic about the war’s effect on the nation. His hometown of Bolivar was occupied by Federal troops from 5 June 1862 until 9 June 1863, and, from July 1863 until October 1864, the town was subjected to raids and occupations by both sides. Bills included a lengthy description of his attempt to locate his wounded son at the Shiloh battlefield in April 1862.

Besides wartime events, activities covered in greater detail in the diary include:

1844: Bills’s trip to Pennsylvania and New York.
1851: Bills’s travels with his friend, Mr. P. Miller, to England, Scotland, France, Belgium, and Germany.

Most of the longer descriptions are located at the back of the original yearly volume. In the transcriptions, however, they are integrated chronologically.

**Series 3. Typed Transcriptions of the Diary (1843–1871)**

This series comprises a typed transcription of the original diary in Series 2. The transcriptions contain a few minor errors.

*N.B.* A related collection, the John H. Bills Family Papers, is among the holdings of the Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee. The John H. Bills Letterbook is a related collection existing on microfilm at the Southern Historical Collection.

**Reel 14 cont.**

*Introductory Materials*

0571 Introductory Materials. 9 frames.

**Series 1. Correspondence and Miscellaneous Accounts, 1841–1878**

0580 Description of Series 1. 1 frame.
0581 Folder 1, 1841–1878. 25 frames.

**Series 2. Diary, 1843–1871**

0606 Description of Series 2. 1 frame.
0607 Folder 2, 1843. 57 frames.
0664 Folder 3, 1844. 68 frames.
0732 Folder 4, 1845. 74 frames.
0806 Folder 5, 1846. 66 frames.
0873 Folder 6, 1847. 58 frames.
0931 Folder 7, 1848. 57 frames.

**Reel 15**

*John Houston Bills Papers cont.*

**Series 2. Diary, 1843–1871 cont.**

0001 Folder 8, 1849. 82 frames.
0083 Folder 9, 1851 (1850 missing). 51 frames.
0134 Folder 10, 1853 (1852 missing). 62 frames.
0196 Folder 11, 1854–1855 (most of 1855 missing). 69 frames.
0265 Folder 12, 1856. 73 frames.
0338 Folder 13, 1857. 125 frames.
0463 Folder 14, 1858. 133 frames.
0596 Folder 15, 1859. 65 frames.
0661 Folder 16, 1860. 60 frames.
0721 Folder 17, 1861. 111 frames.
0833 Folder 18, 1862. 71 frames.
0904 Folder 19, 1863. 62 frames.
Reel 16

John Houston Bills Papers cont.
Series 2. Diary, 1843–1871 cont.

0001 Folder 20, 1864. 58 frames.
0059 Folder 21, 1865. 77 frames.
0136 Folder 22, 1866. 66 frames.
0199 Folder 23, 1867. 63 frames.
0262 Folder 24, 1868. 62 frames.
0324 Folder 25, 1869. 70 frames.
0394 Folder 26, 1870. 60 frames.
0454 Folder 27, 1871. 51 frames.

Series 3. Typed Transcriptions of the Diary, 1843–1871

0505 Description of Series 3. 1 frame.
0506 Folder 28, 1843–1849. 323 frames.

Reel 17

John Houston Bills Papers cont.

0001 Folder 29, 1851–1858 (1850, 1852, and most of 1855 missing). 344 frames.
0345 Folder 30, 1859–1862. 313 frames.
0658 Folder 31, 1863–1866. 371 frames.

Reel 18

John Houston Bills Papers cont.

0001 Folder 32, 1867–1871. 348 frames.

Robert Hall Morrison Papers, 1820–1888,
Tipton County, Tennessee; also Arkansas and North Carolina

Description of the Collection
This collection consists of letters from the Reverend Dr. Robert Hall Morrison to his cousin the Reverend James Morrison, detailing personal matters, family activities, religious convictions, and Presbyterian Synod business; letters and receipts of Robert Hall Morrison from various agents managing his property in Tennessee and Arkansas; receipts and legal documents of Robert Hall Morrison for household and business expenses and payment of taxes in North Carolina, Tennessee, and Arkansas; and letters to and from other members of the Morrison family in Alabama and North Carolina, including two letters from a chaplain in the Army of Northern Virginia during the Civil War.


Biographical Note
Robert Hall Morrison, son of William Morrison (d. 1821), was born in 1798 in the Rocky River community near Concord, Mecklenburg (now Cabarrus) County, North Carolina. He attended the University of North Carolina, graduating in 1818, and studied theology at Princeton. He entered the ministry of the Presbyterian Church and was pastor to congregations in Mecklenburg and Cabarrus counties, and, later, in Fayetteville, N.C., until he became the first president of Davidson College, Mecklenburg County, in 1837. He resigned from the college in 1840 due to ill health and retired to his Cottage Home Plantation in Lincoln County, North Carolina. He continued to preach in that county at the Machpelah Presbyterian Church until his death in 1889.

Robert Hall Morrison married Mary Graham (1801–1864), daughter of General Joseph Graham of Lincoln County. They had ten children who lived to adulthood. Their sons were William W., who worked for his uncle, Senator William Alexander Graham, in the U.S. Department of the Navy; Joseph Graham, who served on General Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson’s staff during the Civil War; Robert Hall; and Alfred James. Several of their daughters were married to prominent leaders of the Confederacy: Isabella to General Daniel Harvey Hill, Mary Anna (1831–1915) to General Thomas Jonathan “Stonewall” Jackson; Eugenia to General Rufus Clay Barringer; Susan Washington to Major Alphonso Calhoun Avery; Harriet to James Patton Irwin; and Laura to Colonel John E. Brown.

Robert Hall Morrison’s elder brother, James McEwen Morrison, left North Carolina in 1816 for Dallas County, Alabama, where he served as Sheriff. In 1835, he and his family moved to Water Valley, Mississippi. James McEwen Morrison’s son, Hugh McEwen Morrison, served as chaplain in the 19th Regiment, Mississippi Volunteers, Army of Northern Virginia during the Civil War. Robert Hall Morrison’s sister Sally married Andrew Walker of Concord, Cabarrus County, North Carolina.

The Reverend James Morrison (1795–1870), son of John Morrison, was a third cousin of Robert Hall Morrison. He was born in the Rocky River community and, following graduation from the University of North Carolina in 1814, moved to Rockbridge County, Virginia, where he served as minister to the New Providence Presbyterian Church until his death. First cousins to James Morrison and third cousins to Robert Hall Morrison were the Reverend James Elijah Morrison (b. 1805) and the Reverend Elam Johnston Morrison (1800–1825), both Presbyterian ministers in North Carolina and Virginia.

Series 1. Letters to the Reverend James Morrison (1820–1859)

This series chiefly consists of letters to the Reverend James Morrison from members of the Morrison family, particularly Robert Hall Morrison.

Two letters, dated 1820s, are from the Reverend Elam Johnston Morrison in Virginia and Maryland, regarding church matters and meetings, his travels and negative impressions of New York City, and the Presbyterian Church’s friendship and rivalry with the Episcopal Church. A letter from the Reverend James Elijah Morrison in North Carolina discusses the evangelical movement in North Carolina in the 1830s, church business, and family matters.

The bulk of the correspondence is from the Reverend Dr. Robert Hall Morrison, 1820–1859. These letters detail Robert Hall Morrison’s entry into the ministry, his religious beliefs, and his activities in the North Carolina Presbyterian Synod. He also discussed in detail the congregations of his churches in the Rocky River community and in Fayetteville, North Carolina, as well as the activities of other ministers in North Carolina.

In the 1820s, Robert Hall Morrison wrote of his abhorrence of slavery and support of the Colonization Society in Sierra Leone; his feelings on the Missouri Compromise; his opinions on education and his founding of the North Carolina Education Society in 1822, and his work to establish a “Western College” in North Carolina (later Davidson College); missionary work of the Presbyterian Church; the Presbyterian Church’s rivalry with the Episcopal Church in North Carolina (“The West they cannot move. The East they will gain in a measure.”); and anecdotes concerning local preachers and members of his congregations. Other topics mentioned in the letters are the deaths of James Morrison’s mother and Robert Hall Morrison’s father; a mysterious and ultimately unsuccessful romance arranged by James Morrison between Robert Hall Morrison and Martha Lyle of Rockbridge County, Virginia; and the establishment of Ravenscroft Academy in Raleigh, North Carolina.
There is a large gap in the letters between 1823 and 1837, by which time Robert Hall Morrison was serving as president of Davidson College, had married Mary Graham, and had six children with her. He wrote mostly in the period between 1837 and 1840 of everyday life at Davidson College, including problems of discipline and punishment of the students; the low price of cotton and slaves and the poor economy; his attempts to establish a silk industry; and his advocacy of cotton and woolen mills in North Carolina as a replacement for the slave-based cotton industry. He also discussed in detail the problems Davidson College encountered in establishing its charter with the North Carolina Legislature, including that body’s criticisms of the Presbyterian Church and arguments against the school on the basis of the separation of church and state.

Following Robert Hall Morrison’s resignation as president of Davidson College and his retirement to his Cottage Home Plantation in Lincoln County, North Carolina, he became more interested in agriculture and planting, asking James Morrison for advice on crop rotation, composting, and cover-crop planting.

Regarding Davidson College, he wrote about Maxwell Chambers’s legacy of $300,000 to the school, of new buildings and expansion, and his continued troubles in trying to find competent administrators. He described finding a gold mine on his property and his attempts to mine it. He discussed his return to preaching at a new church in Lincoln County called Machpelah; his sentiments against Catholics, Mormons, and immigrants; and his anti-expansionist views against the Mexican War and the invasion of Cuba in 1851. He also commented on both United States and North Carolina elections and the handling of the Harpers Ferry incident. He was virulently anti-Secessionist and complained about the “Croakers” in the deep South calling for secession in the 1850s. He also frequently mentioned his son William W. Morrison, who worked for William Alexander Graham in the United States Department of the Navy, and his daughters Harriet, Anna, and Laura and their respective spouses James Patton Irwin, Thomas J. “Stonewall” Jackson, and Daniel Harvey Hill, including Irwin’s activities in Alabama and D. H. Hill’s teaching career in Lexington, Virginia, and Charlotte, North Carolina.

There is a typed transcription of all materials in Series 1.

Series 2. Financial Papers of the Reverend Dr. Robert Hall Morrison (1853–1888)

This series contains letters from various agents who managed property belonging to Robert Hall Morrison in Tipton County, Tennessee, and Lafayette and Sevier counties, Arkansas, as well as financial and legal documents and receipts for household expenses and taxes in North Carolina, Tennessee, and Arkansas.

From 1853 to 1860, Morrison’s agent in Tennessee was J. M. Maclin of Oak Hill. Maclin’s letters are concerned with tax payments and problems with tenants on the land; news of the new Memphis and Ohio Railroad being built in the county; local church news and religious sentiment in Tennessee; and local crops, weather, and illnesses. Other items mentioned include the exodus of many Tennessee planters to Mississippi in search of better land for cotton planting; Maclin’s involvement in the establishment of a Synodical College at La Grange, Tennessee, and the election of Daniel Harvey Hill to a chair of mathematics at the College in 1857. In 1860, Maclin died, and Morrison used a series of agents in his place: W. G. Kimbrough, Berry H. Ligor, J. W. Maclin, and C. E. Seay. Letters from these agents deal with problems with renters and taxes; the legal and financial complications of the changes between the Confederate States of America and the United States; the poor market in cotton and land prices during the Civil War; and some description of attitudes towards secession, the Civil War, and Reconstruction in Tennessee.

In 1858, Morrison purchased land in Lafayette County, and later Sevier County, Arkansas, and employed Cornelius J. Duffee to be his agent in that state. Duffee’s letters are primarily concerned with land prices, taxes, and some local news, including the burning of Camden, Arkansas, by arsonists and the regulations and structure of Arkansas’s “Swampland Department” and its involvement with the construction of railroads in the state. Duffee wrote extensively about the 1860 election in Arkansas and pro-Unionist sentiment in that state. He also mentioned the take-over of the United States Arsenal in Little Rock by state troops on 9 February 1861; the Arkansas legislature’s discussions of secession in 1860–1861; Arkansas’s fear of invasion by federal troops in Missouri; and the problems of conducting business during secession and the
Civil War. Duffee died in 1862. After this time, Morrison employed W. W. Andrews, J. M. Montgomery, Henry G. Rind (who resigned his post to live and teach in the Choctaw Indian Nation in Polk County, Arkansas), H. H. Cleary, B. C. Kinsworthy, and Henry Moore as his agents in Lafayette and Sevier counties, Arkansas. These agents’ letters are primarily concerned with Morrison’s problems with taxes, the construction of the Cairo and Fulton Railroad through Morrison’s land, soft land prices, and increases in taxes due to reconstruction and the Radical party in Arkansas.

There are also receipts for this period for Morrison’s household expenses in North Carolina, several financial and legal documents, and records for payment of his taxes in North Carolina, Arkansas, and Tennessee.

Series 3. Other Papers (1820–1888)

This series consists of legal documents and letters from James McEwen Morrison in Selma, Dallas County, Alabama, to his brother-in-law and attorney, Andrew Walker, in Concord, Cabarrus County, North Carolina, between 1820 and 1834. The letters discuss family matters; news of crops, illnesses, and weather; the avarice of the Presbyterian Church; the buying and selling of slaves; and the settling of Morrison’s mother’s estate in North Carolina. There is also one letter dated 1829 from Ziza Morrison in Shelbyville, Tennessee, to his cousin Andrew Walker in North Carolina, informing him of Morrison’s marriage and family news; and two letters from Hugh McEwen Morrison (son of James McEwen Morrison), a chaplain in the 19th Regiment, Mississippi Volunteers, Army of Northern Virginia to his aunt Sally Walker and uncle Cyrus Alexander in 1864, in which he discussed his war experiences (“I have seen seven battles and I have seen men mowed down like wheat and scattered life chaff yet I have not been hurt”) and news of his cousins William Morrison, Joseph Morrison, and Anna Morrison Jackson. The last letter in the series, dated 1882, is from Robert Hall Morrison to an unknown individual, answering a query about his mother’s family, the McEwens of North Carolina.

N.B. A related collection existing on microfilm at the Southern Historical Collection is the Elam Johnston Morrison Autobiography.

Reel 18 cont.

Introductory Materials

0349  Introductory Materials. 14 frames.

Series 1. Letters to the Reverend James Morrison, 1820–1859

0363  Description of Series 1. 1 frame.
0364  Folder 1, 1820–1821. 28 frames.
0392  Folder 2, 1822–1822. 15 frames.
0407  Folder 3, 1823–1825. 30 frames.
0437  Folder 4, 1837–1840. 17 frames.
0454  Folder 5, 1841–1845. 33 frames.
0487  Folder 6, 1846–1851. 21 frames.
0508  Folder 7, 1851. 21 frames.
0529  Folder 8, 1852. 21 frames.
0550  Folder 9, 1853–1859. 49 frames.
0599  Folder 10, Typed transcription of Series 1. (Letters from Elam Johnston Morrison and James Elijah Morrison are placed at the beginning of the transcription, out of chronological order. The last letter in the transcription, dated 1888, is in Series 3, Folder 23.) 198 frames.

Description of Series 2. 1 frame.
Folder 11, 1827–1848. 12 frames.
Folder 12, 1850–1854. 27 frames.
Folder 13, 1855–1856. 43 frames.
Folder 14, 1857. 51 frames.
Folder 15, 1858. 34 frames.
Folder 16, 1859. 41 frames.
Folder 17, 1860. 45 frames.

Reel 19

Robert Hall Morrison Papers cont.

Folder 18, 1861. 45 frames.
Folder 19, 1862–1868. 50 frames.
Folder 20, 1869–1871. 56 frames.
Folder 21, 1872–1876. 46 frames.
Folder 22, 1877–1888. 39 frames.

Series 3. Other Papers, 1820–1888

Folder 23, 1820–1888. 35 frames.

John Overton Papers, 1827–1830.
Davidson County, Tennessee; also Virginia

Description of the Collection
The seven letters comprising this collection (1827–1830) are from Overton’s Virginia relations. Most (4 of 7) detail the illnesses (dyspepsia and pleurisy) and death of Overton’s sister, Ann Coleman (d. 1 July 1828). Other subjects include diet, the election of 1828, and a Tennessee land dispute. Typed transcriptions are interfiled with the letters.

18 July 1827: Hawes and Ann Coleman to John Overton, description of Ann’s pleurisy, and the importance of religion.
8 March 1828: F. O. Claybrooks to Overton, continued illness and death of Ann.
2 September 1828: Hawes (Harves on transcript) Coleman to Overton, Ann’s deathbed instruction to her slaves (not detailed), the division of slaves among her heirs, and a description of her illnesses.
20 October 1828: Samuel Carr to Overton, letter introducing William Wills, congratulates the “flattering prospects of General Jackson’s election.”
22 March 1830: Hawes Coleman to Overton, account of Ann’s illness and death.
16 May 1830: E. F. Claybrooke and Elizabeth & Jas. Claybrooke to Overton, illness in family, diet advocated as cure.
15 December 1830: John Claybrooke to Overton, Tennessee land dispute and pending land transaction.

Biographical Note
John Overton (1766–1833), Tennessee pioneer, jurist, and dedicated supporter of Andrew Jackson, was born in Louisa County, Virginia. He studied law in Mercer County, Kentucky (1787), and then moved to Nashville, Tennessee, where he shared lodgings with Andrew Jackson. They
became steadfast friends and were partners in a number of speculative land ventures, including the founding of Memphis, Tennessee, in 1819.

Overton succeeded Jackson to the state Superior Court (1804–1810 and 1811–1816). He was a widely recognized authority on land legislation in Tennessee. He was also reputed to be the state’s wealthiest citizen. After his resignation from the bench in 1816, Overton committed himself to the furtherance of Jackson’s political career.

N.B. Biographical information is from the Dictionary of American Biography. A related collection existing on microfilm at the Southern Historical Collection is the John Overton Papers.

Reel 19 cont.

Introductory Materials

0273 Introductory Materials. 6 frames.

Papers

0279 Folder 1, 1827–1830. 28 frames.

Michael D. Shoffner Papers, 1777–1873, Bedford and Carroll Counties, Tennessee; also North Carolina

Description of the Collection

The majority of the collection (87 of 131 items) consists of letters from Michael Shoffner’s Tennessee relations. These Tennessee letters, dated 1822 and from 1831 to 1873, provide a continuing description of, and commentary on, living conditions, agricultural economy, church news—mainly Lutheran, construction of local railroads, Whig party politics, and local events in Bedford and Carroll counties, Tennessee, as well as a large amount of detail about the individual members of these growing and spreading families. At frequent intervals, the Tennessee relatives brought their North Carolina kin up to date on family news. There are occasional comments on national politics and general topics of current interest, such as the battle of the Alamo, the Panic of 1837, and the Mexican War. There is very little information on secession or the Civil War.

In addition to the Tennessee letters, the papers include some business communications of Michael Shoffner, related mainly to his obtaining mill stones for his grinding business. Three broadsides are interfiled with the papers (21 September 1855, 6 January 1857, 4 September 1873). The 1855 broadside is also dated 4 February 1853. There are three poems (16 April 1840 and two from 6 March 1850) interspersed with the correspondence.

There are also four slender account books, 1777–1836, of Michael Shoffner (perhaps his father) containing accounts for blacksmith work, shop work, and some general merchandise sales. The earliest entries are in German.

The collection is arranged chronologically with all correspondence and miscellaneous material included in Series 1. The four account books are in Series 2.

The collection is of primary benefit to the researcher interested in the agricultural economy of middle and western Tennessee. The letters routinely go into details of crop yields, comparative prices, and seasonal routines. While the Shoffners were slaveowners, they rarely discussed the institution or their own slaves.

Biographical Note

Michael Shoffner (d. 1874), farmer and grist miller in southern Alamance County (Hartshorn Post Office), North Carolina, was the son of Michael [?] Shoffner. Michael’s father died in Tennessee, 30 September 1838, having moved there around 1808 at age 50. The father was survived by one brother Frederick, 74 grandchildren, and 84 great grandchildren (according to letters of 28 August 1834 and 5 October 1838).
Michael Shoffner’s siblings included two brothers, John Shoffner (1787–1857), of Bedford County, central Tennessee (Duck River and Shelbyville), and Daniel Shoffner in Carroll County, western Tennessee (Crooked Creek, Huntingdon, and Sandy Bridge). Michael Shoffner was married to Sarah “Sally” Shoffner (1788–1862). He later married Mrs. Nancy Stafford Spoon. Other relations include sisters [?] Eve and Milley and nephews Jack [?] Shoffner, B. D. Shoffner, John R. Shoffner, Joel Shoffner, Alex Crapp, Michael Shoffner, and P. C. and Catherine Robertson. (Note: As a rule Michael Shoffner’s Tennessee relatives spelled the last name with only one “f” instead of two.)

Series 1. Correspondence (1822–1873 and undated)

This series consists chiefly of letters to Michael Shoffner from his brothers John and Daniel Shoffner. News of family and farm predominate. John tended to include information on state and local politics, particularly for the Whig party, and internal improvements. The Lutheran church, western lands, the Texas Revolution and Mexican War, and the general business climate were also of interest to the family.

Comments on national issues include a description of the Battle of the Alamo (14 May 1836); a “great money panic” (8 November 1837); and a detailed description of a Whig rally (29 November 1844).

In addition to the letters and accounts of Michael Shoffner’s gristmilling business (interspersed throughout the collection), there is a letter (22 July 1855) to Michael from his nephew Joel Shoffner of Bedford County, Kentucky, about his lumber milling business. Among undated items are a list of birthdates, deed, Michael Shoffner’s will, a complaint about Michael’s millwork, and two hair samples.

Series 2. Account Books (1777–1836)

Chiefly accounts for smithwork, flour, sale of merchandise, and miscellaneous labor. The first volume, 1777–1789, is in German. The rest are in English.

N.B. A related collection among the holdings of the Southern Historical Collection is the Frederic Stafford Papers.

Introductory Materials

0327 Introductory Materials. 10 frames.

Series 1. Correspondence, 1822–1873 and Undated

0337 Description of Series 1. 1 frame.
0338 Folder 1, 1822, 1831–1832. 48 frames.
0386 Folder 2, 1833–1834. 40 frames.
0426 Folder 3, 1835–1839. 76 frames.
0502 Folder 4, 1840–1848. 86 frames.
0588 Folder 5, 1850–1855. 67 frames. (No letters for 1849.)
0655 Folder 6, 1856–1860. 74 frames.
0729 Folder 7, 1861–1866, 1869, 1873, and Undated. 37 frames.

Series 2. Account Books, 1777–1836

0766 Description of Series 2. 1 frame.
0767 Folder 8, 1777–1789. 25 frames.
0792 Folder 9, 1814–1824. 110 frames.
0902 Folder 10, 1822–1817 and 1829–1836. 119 frames.

Paul F. Tavel Papers, 1837–1900,
Davidson and Stewart Counties, Tennessee
Description of the Collection
This collection relates chiefly to Paul F. Tavel’s vineyards in Stewart and Davidson Counties, Tennessee, and other agricultural efforts and studies. Also documented are his meteorological observations, and his bookbinding and bookruling business. Other family members are mentioned, but authorship and ownership of the papers and account books are rarely indicated.

The collection is arranged in two series: Series 1. Correspondence and Miscellaneous Items and Series 2. Volumes. Many of the papers and books are written in French. No translations are provided.

Biographical Note
Paul F. Tavel, probably a native of western Switzerland, arrived in the United States in 1844. Little is known of Tavel beyond his interests in agronomy and meteorology, and his trade of bookbinding. A Paul T. Tavel is also mentioned. His relationship with Paul F. Tavel is unclear. It is possible that they were the same person. All post-1873 items relate to Albert B. Tavel (fl. 1874–1900), possibly Paul F. Tavel’s son.

Series 1. Correspondence and Miscellaneous Items (1839–1900)
This series consists chiefly of letters about agricultural pursuits. Miscellaneous items include an 1839 explanation of how Paul T. Tavel came into possession of a painting by Luce Giordano (printed galley sheet with typewritten notes) and a digest of an article or open letter, dated 23 May 1853, from the Nashville Gazette on the possibility of air transportation. There are also two railroad tax receipts, dated 11 October 1861.

Series 2. Volumes (1837–1872 and undated)
This series contains four volumes. Volume 1, 1837–1838, consists of seven loose sheets from an account book detailing purchases of books, maps, and pictures and travel expenses. There is one notation for 1847–1848 included in this volume.

Volume 2, 1846–1858, is an account book in four sections. The first section, 1846–1850, is a daily census of livestock, showing births, deaths, purchases, and sales. The second section, February–October 1853, is an account book for a bookbindery. The third section, 1853–1858, is a journal of receipts and expenditures for personal, business, and household items and a budget showing totals spent for food, clothing, and books, etc. The fourth section, 1846–1854, shows accounts with various persons for supplies and cash furnished and provisions and notes received, as well as accounts for bookbinding. The writing in this section differs from that in the other three sections of the volume.

Volume 3, 1846–1872, is a weather observation record in three sections. The first section, 1846–1851, is for Dover, Stewart County, Tennessee. The second section, 1853, is for Nashville, Tennessee, records of Mr. Flower. The third section, 1855–1872, is for Nashville, Tennessee, records of Paul F. Tavel, Dry Fork of White’s Creek, Davidson County, Tennessee (details through 1865 only).

Volume 4, Undated (ca. 1850s), contains lists of household goods, clothes, books, and other personal property with prices and values attached. A list of blacksmith equipment for sale is dated ca. 1852. Also included are undated poems, songs, fables, and information on the cultivation of corn and grapes.

Reel 20

Introductory Materials

0001 Introductory Materials. 6 frames.

Series 1. Correspondence and Miscellaneous Items, 1839–1900

0007 Description of Series 1. 1 frame.
0008 Folder 1, 1839–1900. 66 frames.
Series 2. Volumes, 1837–1872 and Undated

0074 Description of Series 2. 1 frame.
0075 Folder 2, Volume 1, 1837–1838 and 1847–1848. 15 frames.
0090 Folder 3, Volume 2, 1846–1858. 238 frames.
0328 Folder 4, Volume 3, 1846–1872. 144 frames.
0472 Folder 5, Volume 4, Undated (ca. 1850s). 31 frames.

Elijah Vester Papers, 1813–1854,
Cocke and McNairy Counties, Tennessee;
also Mississippi and North Carolina

Description of the Collection
Elijah Vester (fl. 1853–1854) was a resident of Nash County, North Carolina. This small collection consists chiefly of promissory notes and receipts relating to business dealings of Vester in Nash County, North Carolina. There are also five letters sent to Vester from his relatives in Tennessee. The letters discuss agricultural crops and prices, social mobility, and William Vester’s prospects for marriage and his possible emigration to Texas. There is also a letter, dated 1 September 1838, from Vester’s father concerning planting in Hinds County, Mississippi. Two letter fragments are also included.

Introductory Materials
0503 Introductory Materials. 6 frames.

Papers
0509 Folder 1, 1813–1859. 30 frames.

Louis Marshall Papers, 1816–1878,
Jefferson and Woodford Counties, Kentucky; also Virginia

Description of the Collection
Approximately half the letters in this collection were written by Marshall’s only daughter, Agatha Logan of Louisville, Kentucky, and her cousin, Mira Madison Alexander of “Sherwood” in Woodford County, Kentucky. Seventy-five percent of the items are from 1840–1857.

Despite the family’s political connections, there are very few explicitly political items in the collection. Domestic life and familial concerns predominate. However, there are hints of broader topics. While the national debate on slavery is barely mentioned, the writers do discuss their own problems with domestic “servants.” The role of violence in Southern society may be glimpsed through the correspondents’ occasional participation in duels and feuds. There are also references to the local and national economies and to sectional tensions. However, there is very little information on the Civil War. This collection is particularly strong in descriptions of social and family life in Kentucky. Many letters discuss travel, church attendance, social calls, and neighborhood events. Letters often refer to the health and activities of slaves owned by members of the Marshall and Alexander families.

Transcriptions of most items appear in A Web of Family: Letters From A Kentucky Family, 1816–1865. Items not transcribed are listed below and are originals except where indicated:

Letters:
27 March 1818: Elisa Colston to Dr. Louis Marshall.
26 November 1841: Wm. S. R. [?] to Agatha M. Marshall, two poems.
2 December 1843: John Quincy Adams to Thomas F. Marshall, photocopy and typed transcription.
21 November 1844: Andrew Jackson to Thomas F. Marshall, photocopy and typed transcription.
29 May 1844: Necrology of Mrs. Agatha Marshall and handwritten transcript.
2 August [1860?]: D. C. Goodrich to Caleb Logan.
18 January 1878: W. L. Marshall to Edward [?].
12 September 1878: W. L. Marshall to Edward C. Mars[hall?].
28 September 1878: W. L. Marshall to Edward [?].

Newspaper clippings:
15 January 185?: [?] reviews congressional speech of Mr. Marshall.

There are also a few items in A Web of Family for which there is no corresponding original or photocopy in the collection.

Biographical Note
Louis Marshall, 1773–1866, physician, educator, and youngest brother of chief justice John Marshall (1755–1835), was born in Fauquier County, Virginia. He moved with his parents to Kentucky in 1785. After studying medicine in Europe during the 1790s, he returned to Kentucky where he settled on the family estate “Buckpond.” In 1800, he married Agatha Smith (1780–1844). He served as president of Washington College (now Washington and Lee University), 1830–1834, and was a professor and president pro tem at Transylvania College, 1838-1840.


The Marshalls also had one daughter, Agatha (1818–1858), who married Caleb Logan. She and her cousin, Mira Madison (1803–1883), who married Andrew Jonathan Alexander, wrote over half the letters contained in this collection.

N.B. Biographical information is from the Dictionary of American Biography.

Series 1. Correspondence (1816–1878 and undated)
This series consists chiefly of personal letters of the Louis Marshall family and their relations. There are no items for 1821, 1823–1829, 1831, 1834–1835, 1837, 1839, 1851, 1854, 1859, 1861–1863, and 1866–1877.

Series 2. A Web of Family (1816–1865)
This series comprises A Web of Family: Letters From a Kentucky Family, 1816–1865 containing transcriptions of many of the letters in this collection. Typescript (251 pages) of 92 letters of Marshall, Alexander, and related families of Woodford County, Kentucky, edited with a preface and introduction by Margaret R. (Mrs. Guy A.) Cardwell. Bound in two volumes. Volume I (pp. i–v, 1–200) includes a preface, introduction, and letters. Volume II (pp. 201–251) includes notes.

Reel 20 cont.

Introductory Materials
Introductory Materials

Series 1. Correspondence, 1816–1878 and Undated

- Description of Series 1. 1 frame.
- Folder 1, 1816–1838. 51 frames.
- Folder 2, 1840–1844. 55 frames.
- Folder 3, 1845–1849. 113 frames.
- Folder 4, 1850–1878 and Undated. 93 frames.

Series 2. A Web of Family, 1816–1865

- Description of Series 2. 1 frame.
- Folder 5, Volume I. 212 frames.
- Folder 6, Volume II. 53 frames.