Guide to African American Genealogy-Related Documents
Prior to 1865
in the Collections
of the
Tennessee State Library and Archives

Compiled and Edited
by
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PREFACE

This work grew out of the recognition that African Americans doing genealogical research face a difficult task in locating documents related to their ancestors before 1865. Thus, this compilation is an attempt to provide researchers with references to such documents that can be found in collections within the Tennessee State Library and Archives (TSLA).

The compilation examines the many different types of finding aids and reference guides that TSLA uses to describe collections by checking for references to Negroes, Negro, slavery and slaves in manuscripts collection finding aids (original documents also often available on microfilm); microfilm only collections (collections for which TSLA does not have the originals); Supreme Court cases for East and Middle Tennessee (please note that there was no listing of court cases for West Tennessee); Acts of Tennessee, 1796-1850; Legislative petitions; and Bible records, church records, correspondence, diaries and memoirs, documents, genealogical data, and small collections.

Although the compilation is comprehensive it may not be exhaustive since it relies on the information the collection processor or reference archivist provided in the finding aid, guide or card files. Materials within the collections in most cases were not directly examined. Thus it is possible, although not probable, that a processor or archivist overlooked or failed to mention documents related to the institution of slavery or to African Americans in general.

The key thought in presenting these sources is that an African American researcher may know the first name of an ancestor, the name of the ancestor’s owner, the name of the farm or plantation, and the county in which that ancestor, farm, or plantation resided. Knowing these items will help the researcher zero in on collections that fit these criteria and then ascertain whether a particular slave is indeed an ancestor.

My colleagues Darla Brock and Susan Gordon provided invaluable assistance in the development of this guide.

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MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

ALEXANDER Family Papers, 1803-1885
Accession #1968.355; Mf. 1291; County: Smith
Box 1, folder 6: Deeds and indentures, 1813-1840 (slave deed).

BAILEY, Samuel H., Papers, 1828-1935
Accession #1991.118; County: Sumner
Box 2, folder 15: Slavery–bill of sale, 1859.
folder 16: Slavery–list, n. d.

BARCLAY, Robert Edward, Papers, 1854-1977
Accession #189, 613, 621, 1969.296, 1974.073, 1984.002; Mf. 825; County: Polk
Box 11, folder 4: Raht, J. E. Purchase and Release of Negro (slave) Edom, 1859.

BATE FAMILY Papers, 1834-1906
Accession #1991.266; Mf. 1354; County: Sumner?
Box 2, folder 32: Slavery–sale of slaves, 1809, 1834.

BELL FAMILY Papers, 1796-1927
Accession #1200; Mf. 1289; County: Dickson (Charlotte)
Box 3, folder 15: Slave deeds, 1846-1857.

BERRY, William Wells, Papers, 1838-1896
Accession #450; County: Davidson
Box 1, folder 14: Slave records, 1841-1853.

BILLS Family–John V. Wright Papers
Accession #1985.011; County: Hardeman
Box 6, folder 33: Correspondence–John Houston Bills, Incoming–Lindenberger & Co.–
Matthews, Sarah E. Matthews, Sarah E. (9 letters) to John H. Bills, I, 1856-1870, re: sick negro; complains that her husband must rely on negro women
for help.

BOYD, Nannie Seawell, Collection of Papers Relating to Montgomery Bell, 1853-1939
Accession #29; County: Dickson
Box 1, folder 8: Liberia Project–two groups of slaves sent by Bell to Liberia in
1853 and 1854.
folder 9: Will and papers relating to the estate of Montgomery Bell.

BRITT, Mary Nichols, Collection
Accession #2, 634; Mf. 1322; County: Williamson, Davidson
Box 4, folder 8: Slave deeds, 1828-1851.
BROWN, Joseph, Papers, 1772-1965
Accession #THS 6, 11, 548, 549, 1562; Mf. 747; County: Davidson, Maury
Box 1, folder 5: Correspondence re: Negroes recovered from Indians, n. d.

BROWN-EWELL Papers, 1852-1883
Accession #5, 647, 649, 1256; Mf. 816; County: Maury (?)
Box 1, folder 3: Letter 10. Nov. 26, 1856: Wrote of Fanny Kemble and the slavery question.
    folder 12: Letter 20. June 6, 1883: being in Nebraska they would escape the negro; the
            old Slave states.

BROWN-EWELL Papers, Addition, 1803-1919
Accession #1358; 1975.073; Mf. 819; County: Maury
Box 1, folder 4: Baltimore (Lorde) and Susan, 1869, re: return of hands (Negroes).
    folder 9: Cooke, W. S., 1866, re: veto Negroes hiring other Negroes to work for them.
    folder 10: Dillon, Edward (2), 1869-1870, re: small farms, Negroes and cotton.
Box 4, folder 1, 12: Brown, Campbell (189), 1866-1871, n. d., re: farm business at "Melrose"
    and "Tarpley," hiring of Negroes and Chinese.
Box 9, folder 4: Ewell, Benjamin Stoddert (2), 1866-1871, re: a Negro woman to act as a maid.
Box 18, folder 2: Accounts–Hands and Negroes (n. d.).
Box 13, folder 14: Correspondence, miscellaneous (n. d.): Porter, R. L. to Mr. Cooper, 1862, re:
    return of runaway Negroes.
Scope and Content Note: Letter by Thomas Tasker Gantt contain comments on practically every
    subject of importance during this period, such as slavery and abolition. See:
Box 2, folder 2: Gantt–Haughwont
Box 7, folder 2: Gantt, Thomas Tasker
    folder 3: Gantt, Thomas Tasker
Box 10, folder 1: Gantt, Thomas Tasker
    folder 2: Gantt, Thomas Tasker
    folder 3: Gantt, Thomas Tasker
    folder 4: Gantt (Thomas Tasker)

BUELL-BRIEN Papers, 1805-1943
Accession #267; Mf. 829; County: Smith (?)
Box 18, folder 2: Deeds, slave, 1854-1860.

BURFORD, David, Papers, 1810-1915
Accession #1985.015; Mf. 1181; County: Smith
Box 1, folder 9 (Letters): Negro slave hired out has a very lame leg.
    Folder 10 (Letters): Negroes and other property will be sold from father-in-law’s estate–
            possibility that note could be settled if D. B. would purchase any of
            the slaves.
Box 2, folder 1 (Letters): Price of Negroes “dull.”
    Folder 7 (Letters): Bill of sale for Negro slaves.
Box 3, folder 45: Sale of slaves, 1821, 1829, 1833, 1838.
CAMPBELL, Michael, Papers, 1797-1914
Accession #1982.074; County: Davidson
Box 1, folder 4: Bills of sale for slaves, 1802-1847, n.d.
  folder 11: Indenture of servant.
  folder 18: Receipt for slaves.

CARTMELL, Robert H., Papers, 1849-1915
Accession #1968.027; 1974.142; Mf. 1076; County: Madison (Jackson)
Box 1, folder 10: Beginning in 1853, diaries cover numerous subjects including slavery.

CHAPMAN, Leonard F., Family Papers, 1786-1959
Accession #THS 621; Mf. 1210; County: Bedford
Box 1, folder 7: Bill of sale, slaves, 1803-1856.
Box 1, folder 12: Scott, John (4) to Robert S. Singleton, 1818-1848, re: opposes the trading of Negroes; mentions personal slaves.
  folder 13: O'Reilly, James (2) to John Scott, April 1823, re: examining Negro man’s head.
  folder 13: Scott, Joshua (9) to John Scott, 1829-1846, re: slave runaways.
  folder 15, 16: Scott, Robert (21) to John Scott, 1810-1837, re: fear of a slave uprising.
Box 4, folder 3: Scott, Sarah (3) to John Scott, 1822-1825, re: mentions slaves.
Box 5, folder 8: Singleton, Martha (3) to Robert L. Singleton, 1838-1849, re: slave violence.

CHAPMAN Family Papers, 1848-1881
Accession #1969.009; Mf. 1256; County: Campbell
Folder 7: Chapman, Jason (2), 1852-1855, re: outbreak of Negroes.

CHEAIRS-HUGHES Family Papers, 1636-1967
Accession #1988.021; Mf. 1178; County: Maury (Spring Hill)
Box 1, folder 5: Bill of sale—sale of slaves, Pointer, Samuel A., 1852.
  folder 6: Bill of sale—sale of slaves, Stone, P.P. to A.A. Myrick, 1853.
  folder 19: Cheairs, Nathaniel F. IV (3) to Nancy Rush Cheairs, 1862-64, re: fear of slave uprisings.

CHEATHAM, Benjamin Franklin, Papers, 1834-1893
Accession #201; Mf. 751; County: Davidson (Nashville)
Box 1, folder 2: Tyler, John to Thomas H. Williams, 1843, re: slave trade.
  folder 7: Claiborne, Annie to (Jesse Maxwell), l855, re: pleased with her little Negro slave.
  folder 17: Receipt for employment of slave by Confederate army, signed March 2, 1863, by Major M. Cheatham.
CLAIBORNE, Family Papers, 1846-1938
Accession #1991.244; 1994.031; Mf. 1338; County: Davidson
Box 2, folder 5: Slavery–list of Negroes owned by Mrs. Annie Armstrong (Maxwell) Overton, 1865.

CLAYBROOKE and OVERTON Papers, 1747-1894
Accession #THS 14; Mf. 812; County: Davidson, Haywood, Williamson
Overton Papers:
Box 2, folder 16: Accounts–Bill of sale–slaves, 1792-1831.
Box 3, folder 9-15: Correspondence–Overton, John (Judge)–Outgoing, 1794-1832, n.d.
105 letters, 7 letters to relatives, 100 business letters, including one letter to Andrew Jackson, 1819, re: slaves. (See also Box 9, folder 8)
Box 4, folder 13: Correspondence–Overton, John–Incoming–Deaderick–Dicks
Dickinson, James C., 1831, re: slaves.
Dickinson, Roscow C., 1832, re: purchase of Jack.
Box 5, folder 3: Correspondence–Overton, John–Incoming–Eddins–Elliott
Edmondson, Samuel, 1826, re: slave.
Folder 9: Correspondence–Overton, John–Incoming–Hall–Hay
Hardeman, Eleazer, 1830, re: slaves.
Hardeman, Seth L., 1830, re: slaves.
Folder 11: Correspondence–Overton, John–Incoming–Henderson–Hyson
Adams and Jackson’s votes by parish; hopes Negroes will be prohibited from coming into the State.
Box 6, folder 5: Correspondence–Overton, John–Incoming–Jackson, Andrew–November 30, 1799, re: sale of Negro.
Box 7, folder 1: Correspondence–Overton, John–Incoming–Maclin–Merriweather
Folder 8: Correspondence–Overton, John–Incoming–Ragland–Rush
Reed, Thomas B., 1822, re: slave.
Folder 11: Correspondence–Overton, John–Incoming–Shannon–Sommerville
Skipwith, George G., 1833, re: hire of Negro.
Folder 12: Correspondence–Overton, John–Incoming–Stacker–Swanson
Stacker, Samuel, 1824, re: hire of slave.

Claybrooke Papers
Box 17, folder 7: Correspondence–John S. Claybrooke–Incoming–Coates, Stapleton (19), 1837-1888, re: slavery.
Box 21, folder 19: Correspondence–Family–Hart, James M., 1842-1888.
Hart, Sally O., 1842, re: death of Negro.

CLIFT Family Papers, ca. 1820-1968
Accession #1968.383; County: Not specified
Box 1, folder 2: Civil War letters–Clift, William, Col., 7th Tenn. Regt., U.S.A., 1863-1864, containing letters from family and from Major General George H. Thomas.
COILE, Grace Armstrong Collection of Robert Armstrong Papers, 1790-1930
Accession #THS 889; Mf. 1584; County: Knox (?)
Box 1, folder 2: Accounts–Slave Sales Receipts.

COLE, Whitefoord R., Collection of Felix Grundy Papers, 1818-1951
Accession #119, 1110, 1120, 1550, 1991.089; Mf. 1144; County: Davidson (?)
Box 1, folder 13: Grundy, Felix (10), 1829-1838, re: Negro insurrection in Nashville.
Scope and Content Note: White give interesting descriptions of the country between Nashville and New Orleans in the early 1800s. He made a trip to Natchez in 1820 for the purpose of disposing of some of his Negroes. He complained that they had given him so much trouble he was almost ready to give them away to anyone who would punish them.

COLLECTED CHURCH RECORDS OF TENNESSEE, ca. 1785-1942
Tennessee Historical Records Survey
Accession #1968.042; Mf. 1072; County: (?)
Box 7, folder 2: Historical sketch that reveals the attitude of the Baptist Church toward slavery in 1805.

CONFEDERATE Collection
Mf. 824
Box 4: Master’s thesis, “Bedford County during the Civil War,” (1963) by Charles Raymond Gunter, includes a chart showing the number of slaveholders and slaves on page 13, as well as discussion of the chart in the text.
Box 8: Letters of Abel H. Crawford that includes a partial list of the Crawford slaves that were freed at the end of the Civil War.
Box 27: George B. Guild, memoir, 1915: Guild, a CSA Cavalryman from Sumner County, writes of Jeffrey and Clay Smith, two slaves, who assisted troops during the war. Accession #1975.062.
Box 28: Letters of Jonathan T. Knight, CSA, regarding sale of slaves. (See letter by Lt. Benjamin W. Lee to Silas Williams, 1862. Accession #1979.007.)

COOPER, Duncan Brown, Papers, 1833-1965
Accession #1972.153; Mf. 830; County: Davidson
Box 13, folder 9: Legal papers–indentures, 1859, between Alexander J. Porter and William Frierson Cooper, both of Davidson County, Tennessee, selling land to Cooper for $87,933 (including stock, personal property, slaves, etc.) on the north side of the Cumberland River about three and one-half miles from Nashville known as Tammany Wood.
COOPER Family Papers, 1716-1968
County: Maury, Davidson
Box 1, folder 11; Box 14, folder 3: Hemphill, R.C. (4), to uncles, M.D. and Robert M. Cooper, 1844-1856, re: runaway slave.
Box 1, folder 9: Mitchell, B.F. (2), to M.D. Cooper, n.d., 1855, re: hiring of slave.
Box 1, folder 15: Records–Slave–1825-1859.
Box 2, folders 3, 4, 5: Box 3, folder 4, Books 3 and 4: Arnell, David Reeve (113), to W.F. Cooper, n.d.; 1845-1852, re: slavery and abolitionists.
Box 2, folder 10: Wharton, George M. (4), to W.F. Cooper, 1850-1851, re: slavery.
Box 3, folder 1: Box 3, folder 4, Books 1, 3, and 4; 4-1, Books 1 and 3: Cooper, William Frierson (82), to various persons, 1838-1878, re: slavery in territories.
Box 3, folder 3: See letter dated 12/29/1856, Correspondence–Outgoing–to: M.D. Cooper (father)–1852-1870.
Box 3, folder 4: Books 1, 2, 3; Box 8, folders 1-4; Box 11, folders 4, 16: Cooper, Edmund (121), to various family members, 1834-1908, re: slavery.
Box 14, folder 4: Walker, Robert T., to Robert M. Cooper (?), 1842, re: opinion of a Negro slave.

COX, Jesse, Diary, 1834-1865
Accession #789; County: Williamson
Scope and Content Note: Owned a dozen or more slaves; Cox took a pronounced stand for slavery after receiving a communication from the Anti-Slavery Society meeting in New York.

CRAIGHEAD, Rachel Carter, Diaries, 1855-1911
Accession #1989.042; Mf. 661; County: Davidson (Nashville)
Volume IV: 2/25/63, Negro conscription.
9/28/63, Slaves running away.
Volume V: 7/16/63, Negro regiment drilling at Gallatin.
11/08/64, Negroes allowed to vote.
Volume VII: 1/14/70, Former slaves returning in trouble.

CROCKETT, Andrew, Papers, 1778-1888
Accession #1971.134; County: Williamson
Scope and Content Note: Legal documents are primarily those associated with the Kentucky land suits with the John Lashbrookes case and the one involving General Henry Lee being of greatest importance. Bills of sale for negroes, contracts, court decrees and summonses, lawsuits, military service pensions, promissory notes, surety bonds, and other documents are included.
Box 2, folder 8: 8. Correspondence–Neal, J.–Neal, S.—Negroes going to the Yankees.

Box 3, folder 1: Legal Documents–Contracts–1787-1798.
folder 2: Legal Documents–Contracts–1803-1821 and n.d.
folder 3: Legal Documents–Court Records–Decrees–1811-1819.
folder 4: Legal Documents–Court Records–Decrees–1820-1830.
folder 5: Legal Documents–Court Records–Summons–1802-1878; Witnesses, 1800-1803 and n.d.

CRUTCHFIELD Family Papers, 1828-1886
Accession #408; County: Hamilton (Chattanooga)
Box 1, folder 6: Diary–Thomas Crutchfield, Jr.–1852, interesting comments on the treatment of slaves.
folder 9: Slave deeds – 1828, 1855, 1856.

DARDEN Family Papers, 1832-1944
Accession #657; Mf. 1277; County: Montgomery (?)
Box 1, folder 9: Genealogical Data–Darden and Hughes–Slave Deeds etc.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION (DAR), NATIONAL SOCIETY
Vol. 14, pages 20-23, Thomas Owen family Bible record, for birth and death records of many slaves belonging to the Owen family, 1767-1831. Accession #1981.001.
Vol. 20, pages 171-172, for letter from James Cox to Jesse Beck regarding slavery, 1830. Accession #1983.025.

DEMOSS Family Papers, 1803-1931
Accession #1990.145; County: Davidson
Box 2, folder 61: Slaves–List.

D’HEUR Collection, 1780-1935
Accession #493, 963, 1973.036; Mf.1268; County: Maury (Pleasant Grove)
Box 1, folder 7: Legal Documents–Slave Receipts.
folder 4a.: Correspondence–1832-1916: Turner, Josiah to Joseph Ballanfant, 1842, re: take care of some Negroes which he is sending.
DONELSON, Andrew Jackson, Papers, 1799-1898
Accession #THS 30; Mf. 736; County: Davidson
Box 1, folder 3: Carter, John A. (executor of H. R. Dulany), 1844, re: purchase of Negro.
   folder 16: Slave deeds of William Donelson, 1822-1849.

DONELSON, Bettie Mizell, Papers, 1787-1938
Accession #THS 309; Mf. 804; County: Davidson
Box 1, folder 4: Donelson, William to Andrew J. Donelson, 1836, re: selling Negroes.
   folder 6: Donelson, Daniel Smith to Andrew J. Donelson (15), 1818-1847, re: Negroes on farm.

DONELLS, James Webb Smith, Papers, 1820-1932
Accession #THS 296; Mf. 799; County: Limestone (Alabama) and Rutherford (Tennessee)
Box 1, folder 7: Accounts–Jones, J.N.S., the purchase of Negroes.
   folder 8: Accounts–Jones, J.N.S., the purchase of Negroes.
   folder 9: Accounts–Jones, J.N.S., the purchase of Negroes.
   folder 10: Accounts–Jones, J.N.S., the purchase of Negroes.
   folder 10: Jones, J.N.S. to B.B. Jones, 1830, re: wanting money to purchase slaves.
Box 3, folder 2: Legal papers–Affidavits, agreements and contracts–marriage contract (1848) between Thomas P. Hawkins of Weakley County, Tennessee, and Frances Ray of Davidson County, Tennessee, in which Miss Ray would be able to retain in her name such property and slaves as she owned.

DUNLAP, Papers of Hugh W. and John H.
Accession #238, 629, 1276; County: Henry
Box 1, folder 1: Bills of sale for Negro slaves, 1826-1837.
   folder 2: Bills of sale for Negro slaves, 1838-1860.
   folder 5: Documents of Nettie Gray Toler, 1825-1840, bills of sale for Negro slaves.
   folder 6: Documents of Nettie Gray Toler, 1842-1858, bills of sale for Negro slaves.
   folder 8: Indentures, 1842-1872, Deed of trust including a Negro woman.
   folder 10: Legal Documents–Henry family, 1836-1859, Bill of sale for a Negro man.

DYAS COLLECTION of JOHN COFFEE PAPERS, 1770-1917
Accession #THS 38, 211; Mf. 814; County: Davidson, Rutherford
Box 5, folder 11: Coffee, Joshua A., 1829, to J. C., re: Negro rights.
Box 7, folder 2: Girouard, [William], 1800, to J. C., re: sale of slaves.
   folder 6: Hawkins, Martin, 1804, to J. C., re: money collected by son for sale of two slaves.
   Hill, Samuel (5), 1799 – 1828, to J. C., re: wants to sell some slaves.
folder 9: Irwin, John, 1801, to J. C., re: runaway slave.
Box 11, folder 9, 10: Overton, John (25), 1807 – 1832, to J. C., re: sale of Negroes.
folder 9a: Coffee, Alexander D[onelson], 1852, to Matthew Watson, re: list of Negroes belonging to Eliza Donelson.
Coffee, Alexander D[onelson], 1856, to uncle William Donelson, re: warrants for Negroes who served in war.
Box 15, folder 5: Donelson, Stockley, 1802, to wife Eliza Donelson, re: crop and Negroes.
folder 14: Donelson, John, Sr. (3), 1829, to Andrew J. Donelson, re: problem with runaway slave.
Box 16, folder 53: Hutchings, J[ohn], 1811, to wife Mary (Polly) Hutchings, re: fine Negro girl.
Box 17, folder 10: Carvin, William, 1801, to addressee unknown, re: cargo of Negroes.
folder 15: Polk, Lucius J., 1832, to S. Donelson, re: slave purchase.
folder 17: Stewart, Charles, 1801, to unknown addressee, re: slave.
Box 18, folder 11: Joshua Coffee Papers: Slaves – Bills of sale, 1772-1796.
folder 18: Jackson, Andrew, 1822, to Egbert Harris, re: runaway slaves and instructions for governing slaves.
Box 24, folder 10: Slaves–Bills of sale and hiring.

EAMES, William Mark, Papers, 1862-1864
Accession #1991.036; Mf. 1306; County: Davidson
Box 1, folder 3: Eames, William Mark (41) to Mary J. (Millikan) Eames, February 25-September 27, 1862, Negroes ordered to work fortifying depot; Gen. Nelson orders Negroes sent away and hospital must do own chores.

ERSKINE-GORDON-LeCONTE, Papers, 1780-1940
Accession #THS 441; County: Shelby, Maury
Box 6, folder 7: Martin, W.P. to Hugh Bradshaw, 1829, re: division of slaves.
Box 8, folder12: Court Records–Judgment–Sale of Slave, 1847.
Box 9, folder 46: Slave Records–Account books.
folder 47: Slave Records–Advertisements.
folder 48: Slave Records–Bills of sale.
FEDERAL Collection
Mf. 824
Box 25: Letter of Lyman W. Ayer writing from camp at Murfreesboro, Tennessee (Rutherford County) concerning Negroes employed in various occupations...including driving wagons and blacksmithing; Negroes desiring to learn to read, and prejudice against Negroes disappearing among the troops, 1863. Accession #1976.070.

FERGUSSON Family Papers, 1784-1927
Accession #478, 1768, 1614; Mf. 1260; County: Smith
Box 3, folder 6: Ewing, Andrew (13), n.d.; 1849-1861, re: slavery.
Box 4, folder 1: Haynie, Elijah, 1843, re: sale of Negroes.
Box 9, folder 7: Ricks, Robert G. (5), 1863-1866, re: Mississippi Negroes and mules.
Box 12, folder 6: Fergusson, Adam (30), to wife, Hester Ann Fergusson, 1830-1859, re: slaves live as well as master.
Hazard, Lot (father-in-law of Adam Fergusson) (3), 1835-1836, re: Murrel’s plan with the Negroes, 1835.

FIGUERS Collection, Addition, 1830-1964
Accession #1985.009; Mf. 1153; County: Davidson, Maury, Williamson
Box 1, folder 1: Account Book–Cheairs, James H., 1830–The account book of James H. Cheairs is copied from the original (1830) by John W. Cheairs. It documents money paid to James H. Cheairs and records the selling and trading of slaves.

FITZGERALD-Williams-Greer Family Papers, 1821-1904
Accession #1968.127, 1997.028; Mf. 1564; County: Henry, Stewart
Box 1, Greer Family Documents:
folder 31: Account Book–Greer, A. P. (Register of slave families and loans).
Related Family Documents:
folder 34: Slave Bills of sale, 1845-1863.

FOSTER Family Papers, 1799-1918
Accession #1987.052; Mf. 1145; County: Maury
Box 1, folder 14: Spence, Rosannah to John B. Hamilton, 1853, re: requesting payment to J. Foster for his negro girl.
Box 3, folder 27: Slaves – Agreement – Joseph Foster and the black people on his place, n.d.
folder 28: Slaves – Auction, 1850-1851.
folder 29: Slaves – Bill of sale – Jesse Beasley to Joseph Foster, 1817.
folder 31: Slaves – Bill of sale – Ebenezer Foster to Joseph Foster, 1834.
folder 32: Slaves – Bill of sale – Thomas Sewell (?) to Joseph Foster, 1843.

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folder 34: Slaves – Hired, 1843, 1851-1852.
folder 35: Slaves – List of picked cotton, 1852.

FRAZER, Sadie Warner, Papers, 1894-1974
Accession #1983.040; Mf. 1190; County: Davidson, Robertson
Box 82, folder 14: Legal Documents–Division of Slaves–Archer Cheatham Estate, 1823.

GARRETT, Jill Knight, Collection, ca. 1800-1969
Series VI: Court Records, Maury County (Tenn.)
Box 13, folder 1: Slave and free black records.

GREER, Joseph, Papers, 1782-1930
Accession #THS 179, THS 180; Mf. 740; County: Lincoln
Box 1, folder 4: Six bills of sale, 1795-1829, dealing with the sale of Negroes; Erasmus Gill of Petersburg, Virginia, in 1795, sold a family of Negroes to Joseph Greer for 300 pounds.
folder 9: Wilson, George (4), 1809-1833, re: a slave of Greer’s; hiring Greer’s Negroes for work in his tanyard.

GRISSIM, Family Papers, 1813-1905
Accession #1991.077; Mf. 1278; County: Smith
Box 1, folder 14: Slavery–Bills of sales, 1819-1860.

HAMILTON-WILLIAMS Family Papers, 1850-1971
Accession #1990.342; Mf. 1303; County: Maury
Box 1, folder 17: Hamilton, Sarah A. (3) to John B. Hamilton, 1863-1864, re: Afro-American troops in Columbia, Tenn; ex-slave insurrections.

HARDEMAN, Family Papers, 1806-1885
Accession #1985.014; Mf. 1180; County: Davidson, Hardeman, Williamson
Box 1, folder 9: Hardeman, Thomas (8) to Peter Hardeman, 1809-1815, re: proposes to rent out his farm and sell or rent out his six slaves; terms for selling slaves; proposed to sell his slave Levi; increase in the price of slaves; brother Thomas will take possession of the plantation and Negroes; more about slaves increasing in price.
folder 10: Lewis, Seth “To the Humane Society for the Abolition of Slavery,” 1806, re: introducing Mr. Peter Hardeman who holds a commission to take the deposition of some witnesses in a suit brought to recover the freedom of some persons of color who had engaged the writers as counsel to prosecute the suit.

folder 11: Perkins, P. to W. P. Hardeman or J. Wilson, 1809, re: purchasing negro slaves.

folder 11: Perkins, P. (5) to Peter Hardeman, 1807-1813, re: expecting to leave for Tennessee shortly for purposes of speculating in negroes or merchandise; buying of negroes.

HARDING-JACKSON Papers, 1819-1911
Accession #1969.052, 1969.128; County: Davidson (Belle Meade Plantation)
Box 3, Correspondence–Family, folder 2: Harding, Elizabeth (McGavock), 1862. Mrs. Harding (wife of William Giles Harding) give(s) an excellent picture of the life during that difficult year. She writes of the crops, the stock, and the faithful slaves.

HAYWOOD, John, Papers, 1768-1796
Accession #THS 448; Mf. 1723; County: Davidson
Folder 5, Appendix Number 1, March 27, 1779: James Robertson, George Freeland, James Freeland, Edward Swanson, William Overall, William Fletcher, Zachariah White, James Harris, Mark Robertson, and slave, Cornelius, came to French Lick.

HENDERSON, Thomas Fearn Perkins, Papers, Addition, 1802-1966
Accession #1992.064; Mf. 1357; County: Williamson
Box 4, folder 22: Slavery–Sale of slaves, 1832, 1834, 1839, 1844, 1858.

HICKERSON, William P., Papers, 1820-1896
Accession #1994.055; Mf. 1473; County: Coffee
Box 1, folder 76: Slave records–Work and Boarding–Jess and Tom (slaves of William P. Hickerson, Sr.), 1854.

HICKMAN, Edwin Litton, Collection of Weakley and Hickman Family Papers, 1801-1885.
Accession #470, 1993.026; County: (?)
Folder: Col. Robert Weakley documents
Letter #3, from William W. Fambro of Cahawba, Alabama, 1836, the local prices of slaves and the large number being sold.

HOLT Family Papers, 1800-1916
Accession #1989.059; Mf. 1079; County: Williamson
Box 2, folder 7: Hill, Thomas S. (5) to Thomas Holt, 1854, re: punishment of negroes for stealing; purchase of a negro woman slave.
folder 8: Holt, Levy F. (5) to Thomas Holt, 1845-1854, re: slaves with measles and some died.

Box 5, folder 27: Slavery–Bill of Sale–Coleman, William and Tabitha Coleman, 1844.

HOOVER, Walter King (Collector), Collection, 1810-1949
Accession #1979.037; Mf. 1152; County: Davidson, Rutherford, Smith, Wilson
Box 1, folder 5: Bills of Sale–Negro slaves, 1855.
  folder 6: Bills of Sale–Negro slaves, Franklin County, Georgia, 1845.
  folder 7: Bills of Sale–Negro slaves, Charleston, South Carolina, 1848-1850.
  folder 8: Bills of Sale–Negro slaves, Davidson County, Tennessee, 1820-1857.
  folder 9: Bills of Sale–Negro slaves, Rutherford County, Tennessee, 1810-1856.
  folder 10: Bills of Sale–Negro slave, Smith County, Tennessee, 1843.
folder 22: Beard, James (13), to Brother and Sister, n.d. and 1862-1864, re: plantation with 160 slaves–all males gone; negroes working–30 negroes and driver with switch; slaves still on plantations but white inhabitants all in rebel army.

folder 24: DeSaussure, Louis D., to Rowland Hall, 1858, re: confirmation of telegram concerning the purchase for Rowland Hall a gang of 25 negroes at Charleston, South Carolina, from Hutson Lee; Col. J. W. Hayne to examine title for the slaves.

Box 2, folder 4: McLaughlin, Henry C. (7), 1864-1866, re: Negro procession passed the office–never expected to see such in Nashville.

Box 5 folder 5: Mentlo, M. B. (2) n.d. and 1861, re: negroes sick with sore throat.

HOWARD, Gerald Branch, 1770-1973
Accession #1991.169; Mf. 1336; County: (?)
Box 2, folder 3: Branch, Joseph (15) to Mary Jones (Polk), 1859-1867, re: Negroes are working well; will bring [a Negro slave] Caroline with him on his return visit; mentions the generally good health of the Negroes; discusses a runaway slave who has been whipped and now seeks forgiveness; boxes containing the clothing materials for the Negroes have not arrived; none of the freed Negroes have left; freed Negroes behaving well; trying to get the Negroes to contract to stay another year.

Branch, Joseph G. to Dr. William J. Polk, 1859, re: announcing arrival of 14 Negroes sent by Cad Polk by direction of Dr. Polk; would like to pay the expenses for the shipment of the Negroes; will erect new cabins for these Negroes and promises to take good care of them.

folder 5: Branch, Mary Jones (Polk) (6) to Mary Rebecca A. (Long) Polk, 1858-1860, re: mentions Negroes being sold at auction in Napoleon, Arkansas, at $2,000 or more, at twelve months credit; mentions that Cousin William Polk has just bought 80 Negroes.
HOWELL, Alfred Elliott, Family Papers, 1842-1935
Accession #1969.026; Mf. 1163; County: Davidson
Box 1, folder 2: Accounts–Bill of sale, for Negroes to Sarah B. Woods by James Woods, November 8, 1843, Davidson County, Tennessee, listing names, ages, and prices of Negroes.

HOWELL, Isabel Elliott, Papers, 1850-1868
Accession #1991.239; Mf. 1340; County: (?)
Box 1, folder 4: Elliott, George W. (50) to Isabel (Elliott) Howell, 1851-1862, re: desire to send Lizzie a slave.

HUBBARD, David, Papers, 1807-1871
Accession #1971.022; Mf. 1170; County: (?)
Box 1, folder 3: Correspondence–Incoming–Hubbard, David and Rebecca (Stoddert) Ewell, Lizinka (Campbell) Brown.
folder 7: Martin, Thomas (3), 1854, re: high price of Negroes.
folder 9: Hubbard, David, to Lizinka (Campbell) Brown Ewell, 1856, re: sale of Negro family.
Hubbard, Rebecca (Stoddert), to Susan Rebecca (Polk) Brown, cousin, (9), 1867-1871, re: Negroes.

HURJA, Emil (Collector), Collection, 1793-1953
Accession #THS 9; Mf. 831; County: (?)

HUTCHINGS Family Papers, 1804-1970
Accession #1971.124; County: Davidson, Madison
Box 1, folder 15: Hutchings, Andrew Jackson, 1835, re: sale of Negroes belonging to Catherine Hutchings estate.
folder 18: Legal documents – Abstracts, deeds, poll book, summonses, voter registration, will, 1820-1865.

INGRAM, Bowen, Papers, 1856-1978
Accession #1992.086; Mf. 1364; County: Wilson
Box 25, folder 3: Slavery–Sale of slaves, 1856.
Box 28, folder 7: Writings–Gold, J. E.–“Old Time Negro Corn Shucking.”
folder 21: Writings–Ingram, Bowen–”Funeral of a Slave.”

JACKSON, William Hicks, Papers, 1766-1978
Accession #1979.059; Mf. 842; County: Davidson (Nashville)
Box 1, folder 24: Harding, M.A. to William and M.F. McGavock, 1842, re: makes provision for taking care of servants Norris and wife, Rachel.
folder 26: Jackson, Alexander (19) to William H. “Billy” Jackson, n.d., and
1861-1868, re: negroes lazy.

Box 2, folder 8: Murphy, M.Q. to Tom Murphy, 1868, re: negro killed by Ed
Mahone.

folder 11: Ross, L.S. (8) to W.H. Jackson, 1863-1865, re: Negro just out of
enemy lines says all the Negroes are leaving; Yankees said to be
coming with 2,000 Negro and white troops.

folder 13: Totten, A.W.O. to W.H. Jackson, 1865, re: Negroes not taken by
enemy are hired out.

**JONES, Family Papers, 1784-1940**
Accession #4, 863, 865, 1762, 1763, 1803, 1843, 1967.059, 1968.066; Mf. 240;
County: Hardeman
Box 4, folder 12: Jones, Jane M. (Wood), wife of Paul Tudor Jones (4), 1850-1861, re:
slaves.

Box 7, folder 9: Donaldson, J.A. (6), 1811-1834, re: slaves.


Box 8, folder 3: Haywood, E.E., 1830, re: slaves.

folder 7: Jones, Edmond, 1824, re: land; slave.

folder 11: McLeod, John (11), 1830-1839, re: slave.

folder 15, 16: Osborn, Dr. John C. (15), 1799-1811, re: Negro rights.

Box 9, folder 5: Seawell, Henry (3), 1806-1815, re: medical care of slave.

folder 7: Speight, Capt. James, 1817, re: hiring slave.


Box 14, folder 12: Legal Documents–Slave deeds, 1804-1861.

Box 16, folder 13: Slaves–List of Negroes taken by Federal Army when occupying Bolivar,
Tennessee, undated.

**JONES, Family Papers, Addition, 1815-1991**
Box 7, folder 5: Bills of Sale–Slaves, 1839-1854.

folder 13: List–Shares [slaves].

**JONES, Wallace Alexander, Genealogical Collections, 1860-1963**
Accession #1968.427; Mf. 1202; County: Gibson (?)
Box 11, folder 1-5: Genealogical Data, etc., Tanner Family–slave bills of sale.

**LANE (Michael B. D.), Papers, 1799-1895**
Accession #900; (IV-F-2); County: Claiborne, Hancock, Sullivan
Box 1, folder 6: Letter: F. G. Norman and William Cooper to Henry Daniel re: Law case
involving slaves owned by William Edwards and sold to James Ballard,
August 1, 1856.

folder 7: Letter: Jacob Smith to brother Peter Smith re: Negroes purchased and
desires instruction concerning them, August 10, 1813.
LILLARD Family Papers, 1806-1913
Accession #480, 1391, 1969.299, 1972.070, 1974.138; County: Meigs
Box 3, folder 21: Slaves–Bills of Sale, 1833-1859.

MATTHEWS, Thomas Edwin, Papers, 1789-1945
Accession #174, 184
Box 2, folder 7: See property settlement in Baton Rouge, LA, of Mrs. Tennessee (Robertson) Davis in which there is a list of Negroes, their ages, and their estimated value.

McCUTCHEN Family Papers, 1818-1958
Accession #530, 1264; County: Davidson, Williamson
Box 2, folder 19: Slave records.

McCUTCHEN Family Papers, Addition, 1819-1917
Accession #1994.168, 1994.169; Mf. 1535
Box 3, folder 3: Letter of John Allen, 1836; letter of Robert Bell, 1851, both regarding slavery.

McGAVOCK-HAYES Family Papers, 1784-1888
Accession #785, 1967.060; Mf. 1169; County: Williamson
Box 2, folder 5: Correspondence–Hayes, Oliver Bliss, Sr. (15), 1858, re: slavery, etc.
Box 4, folder 15: Legal Documents–Slave deeds.

McGAVOCK-HAYES Family Papers, Addition, 1796-[1820–1920]-2000
Accession #1997.037, 2000.076; Mf. 1677; County: Williamson
Box 2, folder 17: Slave sales, lists, records, transactions, prison releases, etc.
Box 4, folder 24: Letter from slave, Sarah A. Eskridge, to Sarah McGavock Pointer, April 27, no year given.
Box 10, folder 14: Sally (or Sarah) McGavock Pointer, incoming and outgoing correspondence, including a letter written by Sarah Eskridge, a former slave, 1866-1881.

McKINNEY, Laura Irene, Collection, 1807-1972
Accession #1987.001; Mf. 958; County: McMinn (Etowah)
Box 11, folder 44: Slaves–Bill of Sale–George, Parnick to John A. McKinney, 1834.

MONTGOMERY, Daniel, Papers, 1788-1964
Accession #THS 41; Mf. 763; County: Sumner
Box 1, folder 24: Bills of Sale–Slaves, 1823–1838.
MORGAN, Family Papers, 1775-1938
Accession #849, 864, 990, 1713, 1735, 1975.250, 1978.019; Mf. 1249;
County: Davidson
Box 1, folder 9: Correspondence – Morgan, Dr. William Henry—contains discussion on slavery and abolition.
Box 3, folder 13. Memorabilia: Certificate of enlistment for Dennis Morgan, a Colored man whom W. H. Morgan claims as his slave, April 5, 1864.

MURDOCK Collection of John Overton Papers, 1780-[1797-1820]-1908
Accession #THS 4; Mf. 803; County: Davidson (Nashville)
Box 1, folder 12: Blount, Willie (6), 1805-1820, re: selling a Negro.
   folder 25: Clark, Solomon, 1808, re: hiring a Negro.
   folder 38: Dabney, Charles A., 1818, re: loan for payment of Negro woman.
   folder 46: Dougherty, John, 1811, re: requesting advice on selling of a Negro owned by Dillon Blevins.
Box 2, folder 9: Haywood, J. (6), 1804-1821, re: purchase of a Negro.
   folder 52: Mulherin, James, 1814, re: thanks for returning Harry, a Negro.
Box 3, folder 1: Overton, Archibald W. (6), 1813-1815, re: Capt. John Lyon has Negroes for sale.
   folder 9: Overton, Samuel (11), 1801-1802, re: purchase of Negroes.
   folder 12: Overton, Thomas (16), 1797-1815, re: sending Negroes.
   folder 18: Polk, Will (3), 1805-1815, re: Negroes stolen from the estate of Andrew Alexander in Mecklenburg County.
   folder 21: Purdy, Robert, 1808, re: returning Negro named Sam.
   folder 29: Robards, Lewis, 1803, re: Negroes have been poisoned.
   folder 52: Whiteside, Jenkin (13), 1806-1812, re: emancipating slave named Fanny.
   folder 53: Williams, John (7), 1805-1811, re: Negro for sale.

NAGY, James Emerick, Collection, Addition, 1723-1985
Accession #1989.216; Mf. 1136; County: Davidson
Box 2, folder 33: Lists: Negro Applicants and Employees, 1854-1886 (Nashville).

ORR, Mary Hamilton Thompson, Papers, 1791-1896, and Addition, 1779-1955
Accession #155, 287, 997, 1968.036, 1968.016, and 1994.228; Mf. 1257; County: Davidson
Scope and Content Note: A letter possibly written by Judge Overton’s grandson John (1842-1906). Writing when there was little hope for the Confederacy, the soldier explained why he continued to fight. “No I could never submit to negro [sic] equality, or see our women insulted & degraded to a levil [sic] with the slave. For what am I fighting? I strike for freedom—our women—a nationality & existence, all of which are threatened.” (See Correspondence, Box 3, folder 6.)
Box 1, folder 2: Hamilton, Joseph Daviess (1782-1827)—n. d.; 1807-1819—Accounts showing clothing and shoes purchased for slaves.

Box 6, folder 22: Legal documents—1817-1902: Legal documents are three in number. The first records the sale of a slave woman named Evaline, age about 15, belonging to William J. Morton.

PAGE, John, Papers, 1784-1880
Accession #959, 1779; County: Sumner, Smith
Box 3, folder 9: Sale of slaves, a negro woman named ______ (?) aged about twenty and two children, one a boy child aged about two and the other the sex not known aged about six months, 1844.

PAYSINGER, John Robert, Genealogical Collection, 1757-1988
Accession #1994.178; Mf. 1487; County: Lincoln, Moore, Polk
Box 9, folder 59: Slavery—Bill of Sale—Murrell, Benjamin to John S. Murrell, 1825 (copy).

PEPPER, William Wesley, Papers, 1833–1860
Accession #THS 94; Mr. 741; County: Robertson
Box 1, folder 3: Correspondence–Pepper, W. E., 1851, re: sale of Negroes in Tennessee and Virginia.

POLK, Ezekiel, Family Papers, 1828-1875
Accession #1972.242; Mf. 1242; County: Hardeman
Box 1, folder 13: Estate papers—William Polk, 1830-1852—See receipt dated 1849 for sale for Negro woman Isabella and her child, Tom Benton.

Box 2, folder 1: John Jackson Polk Papers—Account Book, 1851-1857. Includes lists of Negroes hired out to work for various individuals.

Box 5, folder 4: McConnico, A.J., (2), to J.J. Polk, 1861-1862, re: credit in amount of $220 for hire of negro for eleven months, Mississippi Central Railroad Company.

POLK, Marshall Tate, Family Papers, 1826-1981
Accession #1991.134; Mf. 1279; County: Hardeman (Bolivar)
Box 1, folder 5: Polk, Marshall T., Jr. (15) to John H. Bills, 1852-1854, re: treatment of slaves; discussion of slavery conflict in Kansas.

POLK Memorial Association Collection of James Knox Polk Papers, 1780-1972
Accession #1971.228, 1977.013; Mf. 805; County: Maury (?)
Box 1, folder 5: Childress, Andrew, 1825, re: runaway slave, Mariah. Childress, John W. (4), 1826, 1845, 1847, 1849, re: return of slave Mariah.

folder 10: Jetton, Joanna Lucinda (Rucker). See Rucker, Joanna Jetton, Mary S., 1845, re: treatment and purchase of slaves.
Box 5, folder 23: Polk, Sarah C. to J. H. Bills, 1852, re: sale of M.T. Polk’s two slaves on Mrs. Polk’s Mississippi plantation.

Folder 27: Polk, Marshall T. (15) to John H. Bills, 1852-1854, re: slaves on Mrs. Polk’s Mississippi plantation; sale of slaves; expect fight over slavery; (Kansas) territory unfit for slave labor but South shall have it at any risk; pro-slavery candidate Whitfield from Tennessee elected.


POPE Family Papers, 1829 - 1906
Accession #1967.009, 1973.096, 1986.021; Mf. 1172; County: Blount, Williamson
Box 1, folder 9: Pride, Samuel (6) to Mary M. (Sharp) Pride, 1829-1863, re: sale of Negroes at Staunton, VA.

Box 2, folder 21: Slaves–Bills of Sale, 1849, records that a three and a half year old Negro boy named “John Henry” was sold for $100.00 in Baltimore City, Maryland.

PROVINE, William Alexander, Papers, 1552-1935
Accession #THS 443; Mf. 1114; IV-B-C-4; County: Davidson, Maury
Box 1, folder 10: Free Negroes, 1838.

Box 5, folder 9: Slavery and Tennessee Acts.
Box 18, folder 15: Records published by Andrew Jackson.

PRYOR, Jackson, Papers, 1830-1897
Accession #1967.016; County: Marion
Box 1, folder 5: Slave bills of sale, 1851-1856.

ROSS, Jeff, Papers, 1818-1992
Accession #1997.061; Mf. 1734; County: Hardin
Box 3, folder 4: Legal Records–Bills of Sale (slave), Ross, Morgan Hood, 1843-1848.
      folder 5: Legal Records–Bills of Sale (slave), Ross, Morgan Hood, 1849-1859.

RUSSWURM, John Sumner, Papers, 1786-1914
Accession #1968.263; 1969.065; 1969.168; 71.028); Mf. 1197;
County: Rutherford (Murfreesboro)
Box 1, folder 1: Battle, Joel A. (2), 1840, 1851, re: movement of Negroes and furniture.
      folder 1: Burton, H.G., 1824, re: Negroes emancipated by Thomas E. Sumner’s will.
      folder 2: Crutcher, W.A., 1847, re: transfer of Negroes from Mr. Lockhart to Russwurm.
folder 3: Gillespie, B., 1844 (?), re: Negroes held by Judge Lockhart.
folder 4, 11: Mayfield, J. Shannon (4), to John S. Russwurm and to C. Allen, 1831-1846, re: debts; Negroes in possession of Mr. Lockhart.
folder 6, 9: Summerville, John (26), to John S. Russwurm and to Thomas Edward Sumner, 1817-831, re: emancipation of slaves.
folder 11: Hunter, Jacob, to Thomas Edward Sumner, 1815, re: Sumner’s Old Negroes.

Box 2, folder 2: Blount, Mary “Jackey” Sumner, first cousin of John S. Russwurm (20), n.d. and 1819-1822, re: Negroes.
folder 3: ________, to her brother, Thomas Edward Sumner (19), n.d. and 1811-1819, re: emancipation of slaves; race relations.

Box 3, folder 5: Legal Documents–Bills of sale, 1821-1836, re: slaves.

RUTLEDGE Family Letters, 1858-1865
Accession #1990.340; Mf. 1263; County: (?)
Box 1, folder 18: Financial documents–Bill of sale (slave)–Montgomery, A.C., 1861.

SMITH, Daniel, Papers, 1784-1973
Folder 7: Wills: [Will: True copy of Daniel Smith’s will, dated 21 February 1818 – Stored in Oversize Documents, Drawer #36 – reel #2] (71-050); Will: typed copy of Daniel Smith’s 1818 will (71-050) includes bequests of land, livestock, books, and slaves to various family members.

STOUT, Samuel Hollingsworth, Papers, 1819-1963
Accession #THS 39; Mf. 782; County: Davidson
Box 1, folder 10: Stout, Catherine, 29 November 1850, re: sale of Negroes.
folder 15: Amis, Lewis, to M. A. Smith, 21 March 1863, re: Negroes as Union troops.

TALBOT-FENTRESS, Family Papers, 1817-1953
Accession #1982.106; County: Montgomery, Hardeman
Box 1, folder 4: Fentress, James (17) to Mary Fentress, 1860-1870, re: request for return of slave named Elijah to act as cook.
folder 6: Talbot, Eli (11) to Delia Waters Talbot, 1817-1818, re: conduct of his slave.
TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY Miscellaneous Files (T-100)

Mf. 678; County: Various
A: Box 1, A-37 Death of slave trader Don Miguel.
B: Box 1, B-152 Sale of two slaves in possession of Colonel King, 1795.
D: Box 4, D-76 Receipt for 70 Negroes, 1833.
G: Box 5, G-1 Regarding a runaway Negro, 1815.
   Box 6, G-92 Attack on the factory of Spanish slave trader Don Miguel, 1830.
H: Box 7, H-52 1/2 Sale of a Negro man, 1828. (Davidson County)
   Box 7, H-117 Deed, Negro slaves to Children, 1795. (Goochland County, VA)
I, J, K: Box 8, J-44 Jackson, Andrew, Regarding the sale of four of his slaves, 1830.
Mc: Box 10, Mc-65, Accused of stealing negroes, 1819.
   Box 10, Mc-82, Agitation over the slavery question in the Northern states, 1820.
M: Box 11, M-112 Legal documents—Appointment: to keep slaves from gathering unlawfully, 1760.
P, Q: Box 12, P-96 Proclamation—Runaway slave named Jo Biddle, Princess Ann County (Virginia), issued in the name of George III, 1764.
R: Box 13, R-82 Letter—John Rankin regarding his letters on slavery, 1826.
   Box 13, R-150—David Ross to Alex Baine, informing him that Walter King paid Gen. Sevier money in place of using a slave as payment, 1793.
S: Box 14, S-70 Legal Documents—Slave laws of North Carolina and Tennessee, 1729-1806 (10 pp.).

TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY Miscellaneous Files, 1742-1959 (T-200)

Mf. 1080; County: Various
Box 20, folder 29: Financial Documents—Sale of slaves belonging to John Rucker, 1862.
Box 22, folder 29: Legal Documents—Affidavit—Witness statements relative to the case of the State vs. Jane, a slave, 1841.
Box 23, folder 18: Financial Documents—Receipt—Dubose, Mrs. Jane, sale of a Negro, 1865.

THOMSON-BRIDGWATER Family Papers, 1844-[1850–1900]-2002
Accession #2002.035; Mf. 1671; County: Wilson
Box 4, folder 1: Richard A. Bridgwater’s Family Papers—Accounts, receipts, sales agreements, including a slave sales agreement (includes the sale of Nelson, an African-American male thought to be around 35 years old), 1846-1849 (includes transcriptions).

TOWNLEY, Louise Dickson, Genealogical Collection
Accession #1995.138; Mf. 1500; County: Montgomery
Box 1, folder 1: Bill of Sale—McCauley slaves.
TRIMMIER, Theodore Gillard, Papers, 1854-1900
Accession #1980.012; Mf. 715; County: Tuscaloosa (AL)
Box 1, folder 1-13, through Box 2, folder 2: Trimmier, Theodore Gillard (126) to his wife, n.d., and 1858-1865, re: advice on managing the crops and slaves; condition of slaves and farming progress; advice on handling the slaves; inquiries about slaves and crops; selling of certain slaves; the future of the institution of slavery; condition of slaves at home; Grant’s forces repulsed with heavy loss of blacks.

TROUSDALE, William, Papers, 1803-1907
Accession #1968.072; Mf. 808; County: Sumner
Box 1, folder: 8: Butler, James, 1841, re: Negroes kept by grandfather.
  folder 9: Caruthers, Robert Looney (2), 1841, re: price of slaves.
  folder 11: Holmes, H., 1844, re: sale of slaves.
  folder 13: Montgomery, W., 1835, re: price of slaves.
Box 2, folder 1: Ramsey, James Gettys McGready (3), 1851-1853, re: slavery.
  folder 7: Trousdale, Elizabeth, mother of William Trousdale, 1834, re: sale of her Negroes.

TROUSDALE, William, Papers, 1828-1940 (THS)
Accession #THS 40, 420; Mf. 806; County: Sumner
Box 4, folder 11: Sadler, John, 1834, re: hired Negro girl.
Box 9, folder 20: Negroes–Free Persons of Color.

TUCKER–VAUGHAN, Papers, 1840 - 1912
Accession #1993.109; Mf. 1431; County: Davidson (Nashville)
Box 2, folder 20: Slavery–Fugitive slaves, 1844: receipt crediting William Tucker, Sr. for catching a runaway slave.
WAINWRIGHT, William Alonzo
United States (Union) Assistant Quartermaster Records, 1861-1870
Accession #THS 729, THS 890; Mf. 1652; County: (?)
Box 36, folder 36: Weekly Report of Transportation Furnished to Citizens—These reports contain names of persons granted orders for travel within or outside of Tennessee, including freedmen and other persons of color. See also Transportation Orders.

WALTON (Collector) COLLECTION, 1796-1961
Accession #THS 627; Mf. 1229; County: Sumner, Davidson
Box 1, folder 16: McConnell, H. K. to _____ Shoecroft, 1863, re: require colored man, Stokley, to be respectful to Mrs. Walton.
            Paine, E. A. to Timothy Walton, 1864, re: instructions to furnish serviceable clothing to black people on plantation.
Box 2, folder 24: Slavery–Bills of sale, 1847-1857.
            folder 26: Slavery–Slave patrol–Preamble and resolution, 1856.

WASHINGTON Family Papers, 1796-1959
Accession #1968.029, 1973.094; Mf. 1266; County: Robertson
Box 19, folder 8: Incoming Correspondence–Lewis, William Berkeley (4), 1863: Three letters of William Berkeley Lewis, father-in-law of George A. Washington, written from Nashville in 1863, describe the plight of the Negroes with the Yankee soldiers.
            folder 9: Incoming Correspondence–Miscellaneous (41), 1848-1929: Smyth, Elijah to Mrs. Alexander Pope, 1854, re: buying his freedom.
            folder 22: Outgoing Correspondence–Washington, Jane (Smith) (31), 1856-1876: Written from “Wessyngton,” 1856-1866, to her husband, George Augustine Washington of Louisville, Kentucky, and New York City, where he had gone on business. She graphically describes conditions at “Wessyngton.” The letters mention the family, Negroes, and crops, and contain reminders to him to purchase certain school books for the children, material, buttons.

WHYTE, Robert, Papers, 1755-[1800-1840]-1896
Accession #141; Mf. 1780; County: Fayette
Box 1, folder 3: Correspondence – Fayette County Plantation, 1826-1828: Several documents relating to Whyte’s slaves or those belonging to others and to the running of his plantation in Fayette County.
folder 17: Correspondence–Slaves, Farming, Business Matters, 1803-1833:
   Letter from George Bell offering to buy some of Whyte’s slaves for
   $6,500; letter documenting that Whyte leased out his slaves to others.
Box 2, folder 5: Note in an account book showing that in 1826 he paid $250 for a female
   slave.
folder 6: Bill of sale for a male slave.
Box 3, folder 2: Several cases among his legal briefs related to slaves, including the case
   of a free African American woman who attempted to buy her husband’s
   freedom and was essentially swindled by his owner.

WILEY-ABERNATHY-BASS Family Papers, 1671-1972
Accession #1973.040; County: Giles
Box 3, folder 18: Legal Documents–Bills of Sale–Slaves, 1831-1848.

WILLIAMS, Katherine Orme, Papers, 1812-1918
Accession #1970.094; Mf. 1273; County: Bedford, Coffee
Box 1, folder 4: Accounts–Bills of sale, Negros, 1851-1862.
   folder 18: Scott, Thomas White (10), 1831-1872, re: slavery.
   folder 19: Simms, Robert W., 1856, re: slavery.

WINCHESTER, James, Papers, 1797-1925
Accession #1005, 1097, 1117, 1247, 1262, 1634, 1759; Mf. 793; County: Sumner
Box 2, folder 10: Letter book–James Winchester–1817-1829: purchase and sale of
   Slaves; inventory of James Winchester’s estate, including slaves, is
   in the back of the volume.

WINCHESTER, James, Papers, 1787-1953 (THS)
Accession #THS 27; Mf. 794; County: Sumner
Box 2, folder 8: Strange, Nathaniel S., to Col. Wynne, 1838, re: sale of Negroes.
Box 4, folder 11: Negro slave receipts, 1789, 1831.

WINCHESTER, James, Papers, Addition, 1784-1965
Accession #THS 382; Mf. 797; County: Sumner
Box 1, folder 21: Bills of Sale–Slaves, 1809-1824.

Box 2, folder 4: Breedlove, James W. (13) to Gen. James Winchester, 1816-1824, re:
   requests sending William Cage’s negro girl; arrangements made
   with Major Smith for hire of Breedlove’s boy Jim (?);
   Breedlove, James W. (4) to Lucilius Winchester, 1829-1833,
   re: settlement of account with Mr. Shelby concerning negro boy
   Walker.
folder 6: Cage, William (5) to Lucilius Winchester, 1824-1832, re: Cage’s negro man Edward to be apprenticed to Gen. Winchester as blacksmith if another apprentice wanted; sale of two negroes belonging to W. P. Lowrie estate; sale of negroes to Colonel Hays.

Box 3, folder 11: Williams, Caleb to Winchester and Cage, 1821, re: offers four negroes in satisfaction of judgment against him as security for Frankman and Williams.

Box 4, folder 1-3: Winchester, David (28) to Gen. Winchester, 1810-1826, re: death of Mr. Armoux (?); requests payment of fifty dollar note given in trade for negro by father of Palemon Winchester; need money from sale of negroes.

folder 9: Winchester, Lucilius (5) to Susan Winchester and others, n.d. and 1828-1832, re: severe winter delays delivery of negroes; negroes at Cairo sell for $340 each.

folder 13: Winchester, Palemon H. (3) to Gen. James Winchester, 1819-1822, re: suggests sale of two or three negroes in cottage farm.

Winchester, Richard (3) to Gen. James Winchester, 1801-1818, re: differs with brother on slave trade.

Winchester, Stephen (6) to Gen. James Winchester, 1800-1814, re: suggests that negroes purchased with David Winchester’s money remain with Stephen Winchester.

WINDROW, Travis, Papers, 1808-1899
Accession #1993.106; Mf. 1424; County: Rutherford
Box 2, folder 23: Slavery—Sale of Slaves, 1808-1841.

WOOD Family Papers, 1833-1864
Accession #703; County: Giles (?)
Box 1, folder 5: Correspondence—Wood family (Felix, Joshua C., John M., Martin B., and Sarah E.) 1837-1864; Wood, Martin B. to Francis A. Wood (3), 1837-1840, re: comments on slavery.

WYNNE, George Winchester (Collector), Wynne Family Papers, 1801-[1840-1890]-1972.
Accession #THS 376; Mf. 813; County: Sumner (Castalian Springs)
Box 8, folder 1: Correspondence—Author unknown to A. R. Wynne, 1846, re: purchase of slaves.

folder 2: Correspondence—Adams, J. M. to A. R. Wynne, 1853, re: sale of land and slaves.

folder 5: Correspondence—Anderson, S. R. (16) to A. R. Wynne, J. H. Malone and others, 1843-1868, re: slaves for sale; Tennessee under negro and Brownlow rule.

folder 13: Correspondence—Bate, William B. (6) to A. R. Wynne, 1849-1861, re: to introduce resolutions on slavery.

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Box 9, folder 2: Correspondence—Biggerstaff, David to A. R. Wynne, 1835, re: Negroes for sale at Celina, TN.

folder 3: Correspondence—Blackmore, W. M. (3) to A.R. Wynne, 1850-1856, re: sale of Negroes [sic] to satisfy Simpson account.

folder 6: Correspondence—Brandon, George T. to A. R. Wynne, 1846, re: conditional sale of slave Henry.

folder 7: Correspondence—Breedlove, James W. (24) to A. R. Wynne and others, n.d., and 1829-1858, re: needs slaves for house; servants; requests Nathaniel Prince to return money paid for slave Sara who is returned to Tennessee; bill of sale for Sara sent to wife at Cragfont.

Box 10, folder 4: Correspondence—Casseday, Molly (2) to A. R. Wynne, n.d., re: Lucy Stone Blackwell and fugitive slave case.

folder 7: Correspondence—Conner, J. P. to A. R. Wynne, 1849, re: slave trade at New Orleans.

Box 11, folder 3: Correspondence—Donoho, C. M. to Brother, n. d., re: negroes for hire.

folder 5: Correspondence—Dunbar, Jo (2) to A. R. Wynne, 1831, re: purchase of Negro slaves and horses.

folder 5: Correspondence—Dunbar, R. to A. R. Wynne, 1846, re: offers boy Albert for sale.

folder 5: Duncan, Marshall B. to A. R. Wynne, 1851, re: trade for Negroes and horses.

folder 7: Correspondence—Essen, T. W. to A. R. Wynne, 1846, re: slave prices at New Orleans.

Box 12, folder 4: Correspondence—Grant, W. V. to A. R. Wynne, 1831, re: rumor of slave insurrection in North Carolina; no buyers for slaves at Lancaster, KY.

folder 4: Correspondence—Greene, J. H. to A. R. Wynne, 1828, re: payment of claim on Negroes.

folder 6: Correspondence—Guild, Jo C. (13) to A. R. Wynne, n. d., and 1852-1875, re: Title to Terry lands and Negroes.

folder 12: Correspondence—Harris, William (2) to A. R. Wynne, 1832-1838, re: runaway slave; slave trade profits available.

folder 14: Correspondence—Hays, H. (2) to A. R. Wynne, 1831, re: sale of slaves at Clinton, MS.

folder 17: Correspondence—Hills, H. W. (6) to A. R. Wynne, 1832-1840, re: dull business; inquiries concerning slave Matilda.

Box 13, folder 5: Correspondence—Kerr, Alanson G. (4) to A. R. Wynne, n. d., and 1841-1849, re: slave and cotton trade slow; slave trade poor; slave trade partnership with Wynne.

folder 7: Correspondence—Lemby, Henry A. (16) to A. R. Wynne, n. d., and 1846-1856, re: price of slaves in NC; high slave prices.

folder 12: Correspondence—McDonnell, John to A. R. Wynne, 1847, re: slave trade at Natchez, MS.

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folder 13: Correspondence—McLaran, C. M. to A. R. Wynne, 1845, re: slave trade at Columbus, GA.
Box 14, folder 9: Correspondence—Racine, O. S. to A. R. Wynne, 1846, re: bill of sale for Negro girl Julia.
folder 11: Correspondence—Robb and Bailey (2) to A. R. Wynne, 1857, re: lien on Negro woman owned by A. G. Wilcox.
folder 11: Correspondence—Robeson, George to A. R. Wynne, 1833, re: Slave market expected to be strong in fall.
Box 15, folder 5: Correspondence—Smith, F. A. (2) to A. R. Wynne, n. d., 1855, re: payment of account with Negro boy.
folder 8: Correspondence—Stenis, Peter L. to A. R. Wynne, 1851, re: slave prices in KY.
folder 8: Correspondence—Stoddert, W. (2) to A. R. Wynne, 1830-1831, re: slaves.
folder 17: Correspondence—Vaught, T. (2) to A. R. Wynne, 1846, re: sale of slaves Matilda and Jim at Negroville near Natchez, MS.
folder 18: Correspondence—Vinson, Stokely (10) to A. R. Wynne, n. d., 1841-1846, re: slaves.
Box 16, folder 3: Correspondence—Wells, Thomas J. to T. Barry, 1856, re: slave business.
folder 4: Correspondence—Williams, Alex (13) to A. R. Wynne, 1847-1869, re: slave trade.
folder 5: Correspondence—Williams, Lemuel to A. R. Wynne, 1838, re: slave trade.
Box 17, folder 4: Correspondence—Winchester, Lucilius (5) to A. R. Wynne, W. W. Cage, 1829-1833, re: death of three slaves.
Box 19, folder 16: Correspondence—Young, James to A. R. Wynne, 1847, re: slave business.

YEATMAN-POLK Papers, 1804-1970
Accession #1971.007; Mf. 1073; County: Maury
Box 15, folder 8: Eastin, John Donelson (3), 1842-1874, re: slavery.
Box 22, folder 13: Newsom, Ella K. (2), 1865, re: slavery at the end of the Civil War.
Box 26, folder 2, 3, 4, 5: Polk, Eliza Eastin (51), undated, 1851-1893, re: slavery.
Box 27, folder 2, 3, 4, 5: Polk, Lucius Junius (39), 1820-1870, re: slavery.
Box 51, folder 12: Yeatman, Henry Clay, undated.
Box 59, folder 1-6: Yeatman, James Erwin (84), 1860-1900, re: slavery.
Box 91, folder 4: Diary, Wharton, Mary Eliza (Currey ?), undated.
Box 97, folder 7: Genealogical data─Dickson family.
MICROFILM ONLY COLLECTIONS

Diaries, with occasional gaps, of John Houston Bills (1800-1871), a businessman and planter who lived near Bolivar. Bills recorded family news, farm records, life during the Civil War and Reconstruction, relations with slaves and freedmen, and trips to northern and southern cities.

Mf. 85 – Grigsby Family Records, ca. 1719-1971. 190 items. 5 reels. 35 mm. Microfilm Only Collection.
This is genealogical data for the Grigsby, Hodges, Julian, Lebow, Lee, Reynolds, Sanders, and related families of Hawkins County, and Georgia, North Carolina, Virginia, and England. Included are account books, Bible records, bills of sale, church records, estate papers, land records, legal documents, marriage records, newspaper clippings, obituaries, photographs, receipts, sketches, and wills. Unpublished register. Sale of slaves, see roll 2, items 6-10; roll 3, item 14.

Mf. 86 – Jesse Cox Diary and Memoirs, 1834-1863. 1 vol. TSLA. 1 reel. 35 mm. Sullivan, Williamson Counties.
This is the diary of Jesse Cox (1793-1879), of Sullivan and Williamson counties, an itinerant Primitive Baptist minister and veteran of the War of 1812. He believed strongly in slavery and Southern Rights and that the North represented the Beast spoken of in Revelation, and the South, the Lamb. Cox describes his religious conversion; activities as a preacher in Middle Tennessee; a disturbance in 1853 at the Wilson Creek Primitive Baptist Church, located in Williamson County; and his life as an older man during the Civil War.

The papers focus mainly on James V. Ewing during the period of 1834-1884. Several documents relate to family in Virginia where his grandfather was from, but the collection mainly traces the Ewing family in Tennessee. There are also documents on the Swanson and Ezell families. The materials are comprised of correspondence, wills, receipts, promissory notes, estate papers, Civil War documents, and newspaper clippings. The wills and personal correspondence show family relationships and trace the ownership of the Ewing homestead near Lewisburg, Tennessee.
James V. Ewing owned several farms and was a slave owner. His account book shows that cotton was one of the crops. His correspondence from the Civil War period contains letters from a nephew and his son, J.C.C. Ewing, who served as an assistant surgeon in the 17th Tennessee, Confederate army. The diary of Mrs. James V. Ewing is also included.

This account book includes slave records, farm accounts, and lumber business accounts for “Poplar Hill” farm in Montgomery County, Tennessee, that Mabry and his son, Thomas Lawson
Mabry owned and operated. Thomas Lawson Mabry’s account book has also been microfilmed by TSLA and can be found at Mf. 1075. It directly relates to John Elliott’s in that it links sharecroppers in Thomas Lawson’s book to slaves in John Elliott’s account book.

Mf. 149 – Calvin Jones Papers, 1786-1881. 335 items. TSLA. 1 reel. 35 mm. Microfilm Only Collection. Hardeman County.
These are the papers of Calvin Jones (1775-1846), physician, military officer, newspaper editor, and planter of Raleigh, North Carolina, and later Hardeman County, Tennessee. The collection consists of correspondence, business records, military papers, legal documents, speech drafts, accounts, and other items relating to Calvin Jones and his family. The bulk of the correspondence consists of the incoming correspondence of Calvin Jones, 1799-1846; also included are letters, 1820 and 1823, from Jones to his wife Temperance while Jones was in Tennessee looking for lands; letters from Calvin Jones' stepson Thomas C. Jones to his mother Temperance Jones, written while he was in Tennessee; and correspondence of other family members. The correspondence of Thomas C. Jones also includes descriptions of Nashville in 1823 and such persons as Felix Grundy, William Carroll, and James K. Polk. Also included is some personal and business correspondence of Calvin Jones' son Paul Tudor Jones.

Calvin Jones was the owner of a 30,000-acre cotton plantation in Hardeman County and the hundreds of slaves it took to work it. He and his heirs were careful record-keepers, and these and the other collections of his records are some of the best plantation records that Tennessee has to offer. See also Mf. 240, Mf. 249, and Mf. 1370 for additional papers of this West Tennessee planter.

These are the memoirs of “Uncle Jimmie Smith” (1789-1875), who lived in Richmond County, North Carolina, Middle and West Tennessee, and south Texas. Smith records his experiences as a teacher in Maury County, noting that one pupil was James K. Polk. Also noted are his experiences in Texas just prior to the Mexican War, 1846-48; his membership in the Presbyterian Church; and genealogical data on the Morehead, Murphee, Sandford, Turner, and related families.

See Book I for mention that in 1808, James T. Smith, not able to move into his own house and living in rented quarters, rented out his Negroes for several months. See Book II, ca. 1826, James N. Smith, on selling his land in Maury County, Tennessee, moved to Tipton County, sold his land and Negroes to pay his debts. He allowed the slaves to choose masters who would buy them and their wives and not allow the mothers and children to be separated. See Book III, pages 174-179, for account of a white man who convinced two slaves (a man and woman) to run away from their masters and to go with him to Boston. The attempt was thwarted and the runaways were tried and whipped. See Book IV, page 15, for the sale of a Negro boy for $390 at Galveston, Texas. See Book IV, page 74, for the sale of a Negro boy for $1200 in gold. See Book IV, page 134, for mention that Smith was to transport some Negroes from Tennessee to Texas for a Colonel Frazier, and member of the legislature, from Henry County, Tennessee. See Book IV, page 168, for the text of a toast Smith gave in 1860 in honor of the patriots of ’36 urging the suppression of abolitionists.
These are assorted financial records of Andrew Jackson (1767-1845), congressman, War of 1812 officer, Florida Territory Governor, and U.S. President. Volume 1 is a 1795 account book of a general merchandise store, located in Nashville and belonging to Jackson and John Donelson. Volume 2 consists of an account book, 1802-04, for a general merchandise store, entitled Jackson and Co., containing alphabetical listing of accounts. Volume 3 is an account book, 1803-04, for Jackson’s general merchandise store in Lebanon. Volume 4 consists of an inventory of furniture delivered to the Hermitage; seed expenses at Jackson’s Clover Bottom farm; and an 1817 account book; records of names, ages, and births of slaves at the Hermitage, 1829-32; and a cash account book for Andrew Jackson Donelson, 1829. See also Mf. 11, Mf. 30, Mf. 300, Mf. 337, Mf. 809, Mf. 1032 and Mf. 1099 for other collections of Jackson papers.

Mf. 184 – Anti-Slavery Movement Records, 1841-1878. 1000 items. Fisk University. 1 reel. 35 mm. Microfilm Only Collection.
This collection contains extensive correspondence dealing with the anti-slavery movement written by private citizens and workers for the American Missionary Association, Union Missionary Society, and similar agencies. Letters after the war deal with issues such as the freedmen’s schools and the activities of the London Freedmen’s Aid Society. Correspondents include many leaders of the movement such as Francis L. Cardozo, Frederick Douglass, John Rapier, H. R. Revels, Louis Tappan, and Jonathan Wright. These papers are in the American Missionary Association archives at Fisk University.

Mf. 222 – Owsley Charts. Greene County, 1850, 1860. 1 vol. TSLA. 1 reel. 35 mm. Microfilm Only Collection.
These are charts of farm ownership, tenancy, livestock, land improvement, products, and slaves in Greene County, compiled from Schedules I, II, and IV of the unpublished Federal censuses of 1850 and 1860. They were compiled by Harriet C. Owsley, Chase C. Mooney, and Blanche H. Clark in the course of research for Frank Owsley’s work on the Southern yeoman farmer.

This is the diary and other records of a Maury County sheriff and farmer, Nimrod Porter (1792-1872). Porter writes of life during the Civil War and Reconstruction, describing guerrilla activities, devastation by the Union and Confederate armies, activities of slaves and freedmen, and the Battle of Franklin, 1864. He also has notes on the weather, household and farm accounts, and descriptions of his campaigns for sheriff during the period 1819-43. Porter’s is a vivid and descriptive firsthand account of Middle Tennessee during the Civil War and Reconstruction.

This collection includes yearbooks of the church, 1854-1960, minutes of the General Council, 1931-61; debates and minutes of the National Council, 1866, 1871-1929; and National Council digests, 1905, 1930. These volumes contain biographical sketches; obituaries; historical sketches
of churches and schools; compilations of statistics; and alphabetical listings of churches by state. Collection also includes acts of the National Council of Congregational Churches; names and members of church organizations; lists of religious publications; and information on topics such as slavery, the Bible and public schools, education of freedmen, Indian affairs, marriage and divorce, saloons and temperance, and secret societies. From the Library of American Church Records Series. Published guide.

Mf. 335 – Mt. Olivet Primitive Baptist Church Records. Lincoln County, 1826-1963. 3 vols. TSLA. 1 reel. 35 mm. Microfilm Only Collection.
The records of Mt. Olivet Church consist of minutes of session, membership lists for Negroes and whites, rules of decorum, and financial records for this church, which suspended activities in 1963.

The records of First Presbyterian Church consist primarily of minutes of session, 1841-1941; and registers of pastors, elders, deacons, communicants, slaves, baptisms, marriages, and deaths, 1816-1931.

Mf. 362 – David Outlaw Papers, 1847-1866. 326 items. UNC. 1 reel. 35 mm. Microfilm Only Collection.
These are papers of David Outlaw (1806-1868), Congressman, lawyer, and Whig political leader from Bertie County, North Carolina. The collection consists primarily of his correspondence to his wife Emily, written while he was serving in Congress, 1847-51. Outlaw comments on social and political life, the Mexican War, internal improvements, slavery and compromises, and the 1848 presidential election. Many prominent individuals of the period are mentioned including John Q. Adams, Henry Clay, Andrew Johnson, and James K. Polk. Also included are letters dealing with family problems and the hiring out of Negroes, and genealogical data on the Outlaw and Anderson families.

Mf. 365 – Duff Green Papers, 1810-1902. 10,000 items. 34 vols. UNC. 25 reels. 35 mm. Microfilm Only Collection.
The papers of Duff Green (1791-1875), editor, businessman, politician, and member of Andrew Jackson's "Kitchen Cabinet," consists of correspondence, extensive business records, clippings, maps, and other printed matter of Green and his son Benjamin Edwards Green (1822-1907). Subjects mentioned include the American Industrial Agency; coal, iron, land, and railroad companies; currency reform and financial matters; U.S. diplomacy in the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Mexico, and Texas; land purchases; sectionalism; emancipation; and Reconstruction. Many prominent individuals of the period are mentioned including Jefferson Davis, Andrew Jackson, Abraham Lincoln, Martin Van Buren, and Daniel Webster. Guide available.
Mf. 376 – Carter Family Papers, 1659-1797. 50 vols. UV. 4 reels. 35 mm. Microfilm Only Collection.
These are papers of the prominent Carter family of Richmond County, Virginia. The principal figure in the collection is Landon Carter (1710-1778), a successful planter and politician; the papers of his son Robert Wormeley Carter (1734-1798) are also included. The collection consists of correspondence, diaries, land records, legal documents, and business papers dealing with a variety of subjects including politics, business affairs such as tobacco growing and the slave trade, and family matters. Also included are Landon Carter's political essays in the *Virginia Gazette*, disputed quit-rent accounts, items concerning local politics, and Carter's record of the daily activities of the House of Burgesses, 1752-75. Correspondents include Richard Henry Lee, Philip Key, and Edmund Pendleton.

Mf. 408 – Concord Baptist Church Records. Christamasville, 1858-1878. 1 vol. TSLA. 1 reel. 35 mm. Microfilm Only Collection. Carroll County.
The records of Concord Baptist Church consist of membership lists which include the names of some Negro members; also included are minutes, rules of decorum, articles of faith, church organization and constitution for this Carroll County church.

Mf. 424 – The Civil War Papers of John Bell Hamilton and Thomas Hamilton Williams, by Alleen Williams Cater. 1 vol. TSLA. 1 reel. 35 mm. Microfilm Only Collection.
This M.A. thesis, Jacksonville State University, 1971, deals with the life and career of John Bell Hamilton (1807-1887), a Maury County farmer, Methodist circuit rider, and Confederate army officer; and Thomas Hamilton Williams (1843-1922), who was reared as an adopted son by the Hamiltons and served as an enlisted cavalryman in the Confederate army. See page 29 for letter dated 1861 from John Bell Hamilton regarding a slave named John Turkey who attended his master at Confederate camps.

Mf. 443 – Fall Creek Baptist Church Records. Lebanon, 1822-1973. 3 vols. TSLA. 1 reel. 35 mm. Microfilm Only Collection. Wilson County.
The records of Fall Creek Baptist Church consist of membership lists which include both white and Negro members; church constitution and organization; rules of decorum; minutes; and obituaries for this Wilson County church.

Mf. 444 – Mud Creek Primitive Baptist Church Records. Carroll County, 1825-1968. 2 vols. TSLA. 1 reel. 35 mm. Microfilm Only Collection.
The records of Mud Creek Primitive Baptist Church contain the abstract of principles and rules of decorum; membership lists, which include white and some Negro members; minutes, 1858-79, 1934-68; and obituaries.

Papers of the Barton and Taylor families of Cannon and Rutherford counties were collected by Mrs. W. H. Westbrooks. The collection consists of accounts, church records, correspondence,
court records, estate papers, genealogical data, land records, legal documents, military records, clippings and photographs, receipts, school records, and slave records. Some of the subjects discussed in the correspondence for the period 1833-1902 include farm prices, weather, typhoid and yellow fever epidemics, the Mexican and Civil Wars, Indian attacks, politics, and religion. Also included is some genealogical data on the Becton, Jones, and allied families in Arkansas, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

These are papers of the Gordon family of Whitfield and Wilkes counties, Georgia, and Maury and Shelby counties, Tennessee; and the Avery family of Shelby County, Tennessee. The collection centers around the papers of George Washington Gordon (ca. 1800-1865) and William Tecumseh Avery (1819-1880). Most of the papers are for the period 1830-90, and consist primarily of correspondence; also included are business and financial records, election returns, legal papers, land records, programs and invitations, estate papers, clippings, recipes, and genealogical data. Correspondence for the period 1845-1945 includes discussions of topics such as family affairs, politics and government, slavery, the Civil War, yellow fever epidemics, medicines and religion. Register available.

Mf. 483 – Tennessee Bible Records, ca. 1700-1970. 1,000 items. TSLA. 5 reels. 35 mm.
These Bible records, which are arranged alphabetically by family, give birth and death dates of immediate members of families. Additional information such as marriage dates, dates of important family events, and birth and death dates of slaves may also be included. The information listed usually covers one to three generations but may extend to five or six generations. These records consist primarily of information on Tennessee families; records from neighboring states such as North Carolina, Kentucky and Arkansas are also included.

Mf. 485 – Biographical Questionnaires, ca. 1800-1922. 150 items. TSLA. 1 reel. 35 mm.
This collection consists of questionnaires which were sent to prominent Tennesseans around 1920 and returned by 1922. The questionnaires contain information on each person's place and date of birth, ancestry, education, profession, official positions, political and religious affiliations, organizational memberships, writings, names of spouses and children, genealogical data, and military service. Indexed. Register available. See autobiography of Horatio J. Eden, former slave; autobiography of Joel Battle Fort regarding the relationship between his family and their slaves before and after the Civil War.

Mf. 494 – Owsley Charts, 1850, 1860. 1,500 items. TSLA. 3 reels. 35 mm. Microfilm Only Collection.
The Owsley Charts of farm ownership, tenancy, and agricultural productions from the 1850 and 1860 manuscript censuses were compiled by Harriet C. Owsley, Chase C. Mooney, and Blanche H. Clark in the course of their research for Frank Owsley’s studies of antebellum Southern yeomanry. Data regarding livestock, land improvements, products, statistics by race, population for county seats, literacy, schools, and number of teachers for sample counties in Tennessee, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi are shown. Information was taken from Schedules I,
II, and IV (the population, slave, and agricultural schedules of the unpublished federal census of 1850 and 1860) and tabulated ledger-style for individual farmers. See register for available Tennessee counties. See also Mf. 222.

William Paul Grohse (1906-) was a journalist, genealogist, amateur historian, and resident of Vardy, Hancock County. The extensive collection consists of cemetery, census, church, and court records; also correspondence, diaries, wills and estate papers, genealogical data, land records, maps, marriage records, memoirs, numerous obituaries, photographs, scrapbooks, sketches, tax records, and other papers pertaining to the settlement and growth of Hancock County. Data is included on numerous families including several Melungeon families who lived in the Newman's Ridge area. Reel 2, item 368, contains a slave deed from William Hendry to George W. Campbell for Tom, 1802.

Mf. 504 – Spring Creek Primitive Baptist Church Records. Robertson County, 1830-1920. 2 vols. TSLA. 2 reels. 35 mm. Microfilm Only Collection.
The records of Spring Creek Primitive Baptist Church consist of membership lists; minutes of session, 1830-1920; and articles of faith and rules of decorum. Also included are records, 1823-79, of the West Station Primitive Baptist Church, Sumner County, consisting of rules of decorum; membership lists for both white and black; and conference minutes, 1823-1920.

The records of First Baptist Church, Woodbury, consist of conference minutes, 1921-34, 1937-50; business meeting minutes, 1950-59; associational letters, 1921-34, 1937-45, 1950-59; registers of members both white and black, deacons, and other offices; constitution and confession of faith. Also included are records, 1955-71, of the Women's Missionary Society for this Cannon County church.

The papers contain accounts, correspondence, a diary, estate records, genealogical data, land records, military records, and wills concentrated in the years 1820-60, of the Clay and Kenner families of Lexington, Kentucky, and Hawkins County, Tennessee. Principle figures in the collection include Thomas Hart Clay (1803-1871), Henry Boyle Clay (1840-1919), and Mary Clay Kenner (1867-1957), son, grandson, and great-granddaughter, respectively, of the statesman Henry Clay (1777-1852). Persons mentioned in the collection include John Quincy Adams, James Buchanan, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, John Tyler, Daniel Webster, and several other prominent persons of the period. Subjects mentioned in the collection include politics and government, transportation, slavery, tariffs, cholera and yellow fever, antimasons and free masons, and World War I.
Mf. 626 – McGavock and Hayes Family Papers, 1839-1887. 258 items. TSLA. 1 reel. 35mm. Microfilm Only Collection. Williamson County.
The papers center around the family of Oliver Bliss Hayes (1783-1858) and Oliver Bliss Hayes, Jr. (1825-1868) of Davidson and Williamson Counties. Included are legal documents, bills of sale, memorabilia, correspondence, articles, accounts, and notices, some of which concern the Civil War. Register available. See also Mf. 97, Mf. 742, and Mf. 1218 for additional material on the McGavock-Hayes family.
Legal documents, 1855-1877:
1. Slave bill of sale, William Scruggs to Oliver B. Hayes for a Negro man slave named King (about 30 years of age) for the sum of $1,060.00, January 8, 1855.
2. Agreement, David Cartwright to Oliver B. Hayes, agreeing to hire a Negro woman Emeline for the ensuing year, January 1, 1856.

The records of this Davidson County cemetery consist of interment files. At the end of the records are the burial files of black people who did not own lots, although the records of those who owned lots are interfiled with the rest of the cards. See also Mf. 139, Mf. 632 and Mf. 1412 for additional records of this cemetery.

Mf. 731 – Slatter Family Correspondence, 1858-1882. TSLA. 1 reel. 35 mm. Microfilm Only Collection.
This is correspondence of the Slatter family of Winchester, Franklin County. Most of the letters were written to James L. Slatter from his daughter E.H.A. (or Annis), brother David, and nephew David Slatter, 1862-63. Some were written from Fredericksburg, Virginia and describe the conditions of Confederate soldiers there (1st Turney’s Infantry). Of particular interest are letters dated 1878-80 from William Slatter, a former slave of the family who left Winchester and settled in Liberia.

The records of Walnut Fork Primitive Baptist Church consist of two volumes of church minutes; abstract of principles; rules of decorum; lists of church members, including black members, and deaths. The two additional volumes are the minutes of the Original Obion Association whose members include Beaver Dam Church, Walnut Fork Church, and Hepzibah Church.

The records of Friendship Primitive Baptist Church in White Pine consist of the church covenant and constitution; a list of subscribers; minutes of session; and deaths. Mention is made of black members and the effects of the Civil War on the church.
The records of the First Baptist Church in Paris consist of the constitution of the church, list of members (including some black members), minutes of session, treasurer’s reports, and a history of the church written by James L. Cox.

Mf. 835 – Lovell Collection, 1802-1941. 1,000 items. US. 2 reels. 35 mm. RESTRICTED. Microfilm Only Collection.
This is a collection centered around the families of William Storrow Lovell, John Anthony Quitman, and Henry Turner, residents of Rhinebeck, New York; Washington, D.C.; Natchez, Mississippi; and Sewanee, Tennessee. They owned plantations in Mississippi and were prominent in military and political affairs. Family charts show relationships of the various members of the families.

The collection is composed of accounts; correspondence; legal documents (leases, agreements, wills, passports, marriage certificates, indentures); photographs, postcards, and diaries; newspapers and newspaper clippings; addresses and speeches; publications of Blair House, Washington, D.C., formerly owned by the Lovell family; diplomas; papers concerning slaves (amnesty and pardon documents, bills of sale, and inventories); Confederate States of America bonds; a cookbook, maps and souvenirs. There are container lists for the Lovell and Quitman Family Papers and an index to correspondence. The register includes a name and subject index. RESTRICTED: Same restriction as Mf. 832.

Mf. 852 – Charles Allen Collection. Williamson County, 1783-1842. 50 items. TSLA. 1 reel. 35 mm. Microfilm Only Collection.
The papers of Charles Allen, re-enactor and collector of historical documents, are centered around the activities of land companies 1785-1820 and consists of account books, land records (agreements, entries, surveys, and warrants), slave and tax records.

This is a compilation of official records, state papers and other historical extracts, relating to the military status and service of the Negro, that were compiled by War Department clerks during the 1880s. These papers consist of Federal reports, correspondence, orders and legislation concerning general policy towards African Americans in the armed services. The information begins with the introduction of the Negro into the British North American colonies and continues through Reconstruction.

Mf. 880 – Gray Family Papers, 1799-1912. 1 vol. 700 items. TSLA. 4 reels. 35 mm. Microfilm Only Collection. Davidson County.
The papers of the Gray family of Davidson County, 1799-1912, is composed of accounts, church records, correspondence, court records, estate papers, financial documents, genealogical data, land records, military records, promissory notes, registers, school records, slave records, tax records, writings and miscellaneous items. About one-third of the collection is made up of account books belonging to Benajah Gray, Sr., Benajah Gray, Jr., and others. The accounts of the
senior Gray are of a general nature; the records of Benajah Gray, Jr. (1828-1894) include blacksmith registers. The later Gray operated a blacksmith shop on his farm in southern Davidson County for many years. Church records consist of Sunday School registers for Cane Ridge and Hebron churches in Davidson County. Among the court records is a docket calendar of Benajah Gray, Justice of the Peace for the 6th District, 1817-21. There are some school records for rural schools in the old 6th Civil District, including pupil registers for Cane Ridge and other schools. The register includes a name index to the correspondence indicating date and content.

Mf. 908 – Winchester and Erwin Family Papers, 1825-1907. 150 items. TSLA. 1 reel. 35 mm. Microfilm Only Collection. Davidson, Shelby, Bedford Counties.
These are the papers of Valerius Publicola Winchester (1810-1837), a lawyer in Nashville and Memphis, and Valeria (Winchester) Erwin (1835-1909), daughter of Valerius P. and Samuella (Price) Winchester (1813-1894) of Bedford County. The records include accounts, family and business correspondence, court records, land and military records, obituaries, photographs, and miscellaneous items. Particularly interesting items include bills of sale for slaves, firsthand accounts of emigration to Texas, and records of military service in the Philippines during the Spanish-American War. This collection, although fragmentary, supplements existing manuscript material on the prominent Middle Tennessee families of General James Winchester (1752-1826) and Andrew Erwin (1773-1834). The register includes genealogical charts, a name index to correspondence, and catalogue cards. See also Mf. 116, Mf. 180, Mf. 793, Mf. 794, and Mf. 797 for other Winchester papers.

The papers of Mary Narcissa Brown Bradford (1830-1896) consist of two diaries kept by Ms. Brown, and the salutatory address made at the Nashville Female Academy graduation in 1848. There is a partial typed transcription of the diaries in the collection. The 1857 diary entries reflect the hysteria felt among Middle Tennessee whites over rumored slave insurrections that year. The diarist details a supposed plot by family servants to murder her husband with a poisoned toothbrush.

These are Thomas Lawson Mabry’s farm accounts and a ledger for land in Montgomery County belonging to John E., Thomas L., and Anna M. Mabry during the post-Civil war years. The ledger includes references to tenant/sharecropper farmers and former slaves living on the property, as well as personal accounts of Anna Marrast Mabry.

Mf. 1288 – George Carroll Harris Papers, 1836-1886. 300 items. TSLA. 1 reel. 35 mm. Davidson, Shelby Counties.
These are the papers of the Reverend George Carroll Harris (1836-1911), Episcopal minister of Nashville, Memphis and Mt. Helena, MS. The collection is primarily composed of family correspondence. Subjects dealt with include Southern life before, during, and after the Civil War;
Louisiana and national politics; slave labor; the raising of cotton; steamboats and railroads; the weather and farm conditions; postal service; fever epidemics; the 1860 election; President Johnson’s impeachment trial; and Reconstruction in Louisiana. The register includes a biographical sketch, a container list and a genealogical chart.

Mf. 1370 – Antebellum Southern Plantations. UPA. 20 reels. 35 mm. Microfilm Only Collection.
These are selected plantation records, edited by Kenneth M. Stampp, from the Southern Historical Collection at UNC Chapel Hill, illuminating nearly every aspect of plantation life (mostly from larger plantations) and serving as a valuable tool for studying slavery. TSLA holds the Tennessee portion of the collection containing records of notable planters such as Calvin Jones (Hardeman County), the Harding and Jackson families (Davidson County), the Polk, Ewell and Brown families (Maury County), and John Houston Bills (Hardeman County), among others. The register includes a detailed inventory.

Mf. 1571 – Jennings-Phillips Collection of Early Bedford County Records. 5,500+ items. TSLA. 3 reels. 16 mm. Microfilm Only Collection.
Over 5500 pieces are arranged alphabetically by surname. The Jennings-Phillips family documents are arranged chronologically. This extensive collection contains papers generated by the Bedford County government and includes summonses, court-related items, tax receipts, and slave tax lists. Other items include character references, farming pamphlets, business records, account books, broadsides, and some correspondence. The register includes an index to the collection.

Mf. 1623 -- Federal Writers’ Project Slave Narratives. TSLA. 11 reels. 35mm. Microfilm Only Collection.
Under the auspices of the Works Progress Administration some 2,000 slave narratives have been collected and assembled from the seventeen states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia. This collection had its beginning when the state Writers Projects of Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina recorded interviews with ex-slaves residing in those states.

The original body of narratives which consisted of photographs of former slaves, interviews with white informants regarding slavery, transcripts of laws, advertisements and records of sales, transfer and manumission of slaves, and other documents were supplemented by additional interviews that reveal valuable historical and genealogical family information.

The information included will remain the most authentic and colorful source of our knowledge of the lives and thoughts of thousands of slaves, of their attitude toward one another, their masters, mistresses, overseers, poor whites, the Civil War, Emancipation, Reconstruction, religion, education, and virtually every phase of Negro life in the South. In the area of folk literature they are rich in folk songs, folk tales, folk humor, and poetry.
The Gordon Family Day Book, dated 1851-1900, contains newspaper clippings of recipes, home remedies, useful sayings and obituaries from the family of John Gordon (1798-1890) and Mary Ann Kennedy Gordon (1801-1871) of Giles County, Tennessee. The most historically significant inclusion in the Gordon Family Day Book is a list of slave birth and death dates, titled “Deaths of the Black Family.” Also included is a promissory note between two of Major John Gordon’s sons, Dewitt Clinton and Andrew Ruthven Gordon.

Reproduced here are three bound volumes and a quantity of unbound records of the Office of the Secretary of the Interior relating to the suppression of the African slave trade and the colonization of recaptured and freed slaves. These records, dated between August 10, 1854, and February 3, 1872, are a body of records in the National Archives designated as records of the Office of the Secretary of the Interior.

Mf. 1896 – Cooper Family Papers, 1840-1913. Bedford County. 958 items. TSLA. 2 reels, 16mm; 2 reels 35mm.
Alexander A. Cooper was a teacher, trader, Justice of the Peace, and merchant in Bedford County, Tennessee, up to the Civil War. During the Civil War, Cooper was a commissary-general and general purchasing agent for the commissary department for the Confederate Army. He was also Deputy Clerk of the Bedford County Court for ten years.
The collection begins with twenty account books, dating from 1859 to 1909. Three of the account books definitely belonged to A.A. Cooper, whereas the others presumably belonged to A.A. Cooper, or his father, M.T. (Micajah T.) Cooper. These volumes include hand written notes, lists and numbers concerning business accounts, such as lumber, property, and agriculture. The collection also contains two bills of sale for slaves, dated 1860. The first bill of sale is between Joseph W. Stevens and A.A. Cooper concerning five slaves, whose names and ages are given. The second bill of sale is for a young slave girl named Lucy.
There is a diary, dated 1846-1872, which includes various notations on livestock, business matters, accounts and lists. Starting Saturday, 12\textsuperscript{th}, are several diary entries concerning the unknown writer’s experience during the Mexican War.
The Cooper Family Papers includes two church records dated 1871. The first record is from The Baptist Church of Christ noting that Susan A. Chilton is a member in good standing, while the second is a record from Liberty Baptist Church and it likewise confirms membership in good standing for Elizabeth Garner. The collection also includes a gender census for schools in District 26 of Bedford County, Tennessee, dated 1888. There is correspondence dating from 1820 to 1910, the majority of these letters concerning business matters relating to A.A. Cooper. There are also several court documents dating from 1860-1881. These documents include summons, magistrate’s warrants, and court minutes. There are three deeds dating 1865-1880 in the collection for property in Bedford County.
The collection also contains the estate papers for Bartley Bird, 1843-1887, L.P. Fields, 1865-1870, Halls & Howell, 1860-1867, A. Murphy, 1863-1880, and John W. Stevens, 1859-1877, as well as the will of Mahala Meadley, 1875. See also Mf. 1273 (Katherine Orme Williams Papers).


The first three rolls are Captain George Burrough’s employment records of free Negroes and slaves who were hired or impressed into the Union Army to work as laborers on fortifications of Nashville, Tennessee. The fourth roll is from the records of Captain Frederick E. Prime and is the index and list of non-payment rolls of persons employed on Fort Pickering, Memphis, Tennessee, 1863. See also Mf. 1797.

Mf. 1933 – Daniel Family Collection, 1750-2005, Bedford, Franklin, and Moore Counties. TSLA. 1 reel, 16mm.

This collection includes original materials related to the Joseph (Job), Robert Calaway, Andrew Jackson, and Finis Daniel families. Also included is correspondence related to the Bennett, Bomar, Chrisco, Daniels, Evans, Kimsey, Long, Motlow, and Shofner families; and a series of letters of the Motlow family of Moore County. The Felix, Lem, and Reagor Motlow families descended from the Job Daniel family line. They were the owners and operators of the Jack Daniel Distillery after Jack Daniel passed away in 1911. See Box 1, folder 34: Bedford County records—Landis and Green, bill of sale for Negro man Campbell, and Negro woman Adeline, January 1836; folder 35: Bedford County records—Bill of sale for Negro boy Richardson, J. W. Swift to flower Swift, 1849; and folder 36: Williamson County records—Bill of sale to G. P. Green from John Eskind, a Negro woman “Censis,” not dated.


The D.M. Woods Collection was assembled by two Civil War collectors from Montgomery County, Tennessee. The materials include a miscellaneous assortment of financial records that were originally in the possession of D.M. Woods, a Clarksville-based blacksmith and carriage maker. It appears that he worked with the Nashville-based T.M. Brennan foundry, also known as the Claiborne Machine Works, as well as the Clarksville-based company, Whitfield, Bradley, and Company.

Dulana Maphes Woods (1825-1865) was born in Kentucky and married Mary Martha Cuffman in Sumner County, Tennessee in 1848. He fathered eight children and owned a number of slaves. He did not serve during the Civil War, rather, he purchased iron in order to help manufacture Confederate weaponry. The collection includes the shipping receipts from numerous steamboats that delivered iron to Woods.
The Perkins Family Letters contain a series of letters that were written to and from family members during the Civil War. The majority of the letters were written by Charles T. Perkins, who served in the C.S.A., 31ST Tennessee Infantry Regiment, Company D. His slave, Jerry Perkins, accompanied him during his military service and brought his body home after his death during the battle of Atlanta in 1864. The family lived in several regions of Tennessee, including Haywood County (Brownsville) and Williamson County. The letters reveal the dynamics between a family and their slaves as well as other insights into daily life during the Civil War. Nicholas Tate Perkins, Jr. (b. 1794) and Lucy P. Turner (b. 1797) had several children, including Thomas M. Perkins (b. ca. 1841), Charles T. Perkins (1839-1864), Lucy P. Perkins (ca. 1835-1867), and Annie G. Perkins. Some members of the family resided in Haywood County, Tennessee, in a home known as Shady Grove. Family members also lived in Williamson County, Tennessee, at a home originally known as Poplar Gove and later referred to as Two Rivers.

Slave Schedules of the Seventh Census, 1850; Slave Schedules of the Eighth Census, 1860
The 1850 questionnaire relating to slave inhabitants collected the names of slave owners; number of slaves; the slaves color, sex, age, and whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic; the numbers of fugitives from the state; and the number manumitted.

National Archives and Records Administration microfilm; 6 rolls for each census.
EAST TENNESSEE SUPREME COURT CASES REGARDING SLA VES

Ainsworth vs. Ainsworth (will of James Ainsworth, Sr., Burke County, NC, 1817, gives slaves noted by name), Monroe County, 1839. Box 248.


Bates, Nancy, a free woman of color vs. Peter and Pryor Nance (seizure of son William Bates by the nances), Knox County, 1836. Box 246.


Cannon, James, Jr. vs. George Rogers, Sheriff, Sevier County, 1831. Box 249.

Chiles, Rowland vs. Simon Derrick (dispute over slaves and ownership of same), Roane County, 1824. Box 236.

Cox, Lewis vs. Robert McClure (use and value of a slave), Knox County, 1815. Box 228.

Crockett, Christina vs. James Crockett, Fleming Work, et al. (estate of Andrew Crockett including slaves), Sullivan County, 1838. Box 250.

Crozier and Nichol vs. Mead (regarding the estate of William P. Cobb and his slaves), Knox county, 1819. Box 231.

Cunningham, Miles vs. Shields and Harris, Blount County, 1815. Box 228.


Durder, Josiah vs. Porter & Fluker (debt which Durder hopes can be paid but perhaps will need to be paid with Negroes as Porter & Fluker have no other property), Knox County, 1811. Box 224.


Freels, Edward vs. Terence Campbell and George W. Campbell (administrators of Patrick Campbell estate), Anderson County, 1815. Box 228.

Going, Levi vs. Pleasant Murphy (hiring of Negro boy for twelve months and broken covenant), Claiborne County, 1839. Box 248.

Hays, Alexander and Rebecca vs. Alfred Hays (Rebecca was charged with killing a Negro and almost killing another), Greene County, 1839. Box 248.

Henderson, Andrew vs. William Henderson (debt relating to slave girl named Delilah), Jefferson County, 1812. Box 225.


Lindsey, William, administrator of George Peery vs. Hodges and Roberts (selling of property including family of Negroes), Knox County, 1836. Box 246.

Mabry, Joseph vs. William Smith and Miller Smith, executors of will of John Smith (retaining of Negro slave from estate), Knox County, 1824. Box 236.

McCullough, William vs. Fanny Moore, an emancipated slave by her friend Lizzy A. Slavins, Claiborne County, 1836. Box 246.

McNeil, John vs. James Miller (purchase of a Negro man named Henry), Knox County, 1812. Box 225.

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Miller, Isaac A. vs. James Denman (ownership of slave named Hamrick or Irene Sanders who was believed to be white. Her father, Denman, was white and she had never been treated as a slave), Sevier County, 1835. Box 245.

Minor, William et al. vs. John Monday (estate of Ann Rowley of King George County, VA, including slaves), Knox County, 1818. Box 231.

Morgan, Abel and wife, Mary King vs. Adam Meek (dispute over ownership of Negroes named Sam and Nan), Jefferson County, 1811. Box 224.

Nance, Polly vs. Thurman and Givens (payment per annum for hire of Negro named Ned), Knox County, 1830. Box 241.

Nielson, Philip H. vs. John Roper, Joseph Hamilton, and Samuel Chunn (divorce of Catherine Chunn from Joseph Chunn and her attempts to reclaim property including slaves), Jefferson County, 1839. Box 248.

Neilson, William D. vs. Thomas C. Clark (debt in which two Negroes, Jack and Prudence, were given as mortgage payment), Roane County, 1812. Box 225.

Ocoee Bank vs. William C. Nelson, et al. (debt relating to property including slaves), Roane County, 1834. Box 1860.

Reynolds, Anne and Isham vs. Parker and Hinton Grigsby, Hawkins County, 1829. Box 240.

Reynolds, Isham and wife Anna vs. John A. Rogers (Reynolds’s wife owned slave Eady and her two children and they came into the hands of Rogers. Original owners wanted them back), Hawkins County, 1827. Box 238.

Richards, Hannah, a free person of color vs. John McCoy Miller (harboring a slave and stealing), McMinn County, 1834. Box 244.

Rose, Zachariah vs. Mynatt and Veal (payment for service relating to slaves), Knox County, 1834. Box 244.

Seavers, Jacob vs. Crowbarger, Hawkins County, 1823. Box 235.

Smith, Charles vs. William C. Strong (indebtedness and attachment to property including Negroes belonging to Strong), Cocke County, 1839. Box 248.

Standifer, William vs. John Rive and Carlisle Humphreys (difficulty over sale of Negro woman named Rose and her child and payment in notes from Georgia which were worthless), Roane/Rhea County, 1824. Box 236.

State vs. George Brown (forged certificate of freedom for a man of color named John Kindrick from Washington County, VA), Greene County, 1835. Box 245.

State vs. Ison or Isham, a slave (assault on Mary Riggs), Jefferson County, 1853. Box 1846.

State vs. Alexander Sevier (assault on Jack Ridgely a free man of color; Sevier stated that he was a slave of William Massengill), Greene County, 1824. Box 236.

State vs. Abraham and John West (murder of Willie, a slave), Hawkins County, 1829. Box 240.

Williams, John, et al. vs. Hugh Dunlap, et al. (location of saltpeter caves and Negroes who worked in them), Bledsoe/Roane/Knox County, 1812. Box 225.
MIDDLE TENNESSEE SUPREME COURT CASES REGARDING SLAVES

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Barry vs. Barry & Ball. Box 9B.
Bayne vs. State. Box 47
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Bonner vs. Gilbert & Kennedy. Box 24A.
Bradshaw & Abernathy vs. Beech. Box 17.
Bradshaw vs. Beech. Box 32.
Britt, Alexander vs. Samuel Norris (freeing of slaves from estate of Wade Sanderson), Wilson County, 1854. Box 108.
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Lucy (slave), Carter County, Mary Humphreys petitioned to emancipate her, 1832, 37 Private, 68
Lucy (slave), Davidson County, 1833, 39 Private, 92
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Penelope (slave), emancipation, 1833, 39 Private, 229
Phillippia (slave), Sullivan County, emancipation, 1833, 39 Private, 271
Phillis (slave), Williamson County, slave from estate of James Scott, 1831, 35 Private, 220.1
Richard (slave), Hardeman County, emancipation, 1833, 39 Private, 228
Robert (slave), Blount County, will executors of Joseph Weir may emancipate him, 1832, 37 Private, 72.3
Robert (slave), Davidson County, 1833, 39 Private, 92
Sally (slave), Jefferson County, emancipation, 39 Private, 278.1
Samuel (slave), Grainger County, emancipation, 1833, 39 Private, 170.1
Sarah (slave), emancipation, 1833, 39 Private, 126
Sim (slave), Rutherford County, emancipated, 1823, 28 Private, 231.1
Stephen (slave), payment for hauling water, 1841, 45 Private, 132.5
Thomas (slave), Sullivan County, self and family freed by owner Thomas Rockhold, 1832, 37 Private, 136.2
Tom (slave), Rutherford County, emancipated, 1823, 28 Private, 231.1
Tom (slave), Davidson County, 1833, 39 Private, 92
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William Henry (slave), Hardeman County, emancipation, 1833, 39 Private, 228
William (slave), Sullivan County, self and family freed by owner Thomas Rockhold, 1832, 37 Private, 136.2
LEGISLATIVE PETITIONS RELATED TO AFRICAN AMERICANS, 1799-1861 (Based on Card Index File)

Akin, John, Wayne County: Petition to free certain slaves, heirs of John Akin, 1825. (Includes will of John Akin) See petition #38.

Army: Petition of the “Marshall Rangers” and “Marion Dragons” asking the passage of some law to employ or receive free Negroes of the state in the army as cooks, etc., 1861. See petition #59.

Auxiliary Colonization Society, Franklin County: Petition of ACS asking that all free Negroes be removed from the state of Tennessee, 1833. See petition #203.

Bailey, William: Compensation for Negro killed while working on road, 1831. See petition #16.

Baker, Elisha, Cocke County: Petition from Elisha Baker asking to free a slave named Will Chambers, 1801. See petition #7-2.

Bassil, Samuel (a free Negro): Prove his accounts, 1829. See petition #107.

Bazzil, Samuel (a free Negro), Roane County: Prove his accounts, 1833. See petition #76.

Beaty, John, Davidson County: Emancipation of a slave, 1833. See petition #141.

Bedford County: Petition to prohibit Negroes from retailing without written permission from their masters, 1847. See petition #123.

Betty, John: Emancipate a slave, 1833. See petition #141.

Bill, Phillip (a free Negro), Washington County: To prove his accounts, 1826. See petition #19.

Black, Sampson (a free Negro), Humphreys County: Black requests citizenship, 1827. See petition #258.

Black (Negro family): To take the surname of Black, 1826. See petition #94.

Blackburn, Gideon: Asking to free a slave named Jack, 1806. See petition #18-1.

Blackman, Edmund (Edmond?): Asking compensation for a slave executed by the state, 1809. See petition #184 (or 18-1).

Blackney, Thomas: Asking for a Negro woman in his possession to be freed, 1813. See petition #14-3.

Blount County: Abolish slavery; 202 signatures, 1819. See petition #38.

Blount County: Executors of W. Boyd asking to emancipate slave, 1833. See petition #137.

Boyd, William (deceased), Blount County: Boyd’s will requests that a certain slave to be emancipated and to remain in Tennessee, 1833. See petition #137.

Bradley County: Petition regarding taxes on slaves, 1849. See petition #101.

Brian, Sherwood (a free Negro): Petition from Davidson County requesting that Brian be given full rights of citizenship, 1815. See petition #65.

Bratcher, Benjamin, Campbell County: Petition regarding possession of a slave, 1825. See petition #18.

Burts, Joseph L, Washington County: Protesting Negroes working on farms without white overseers, 1833. See petition #93.

Caldwell, John: An address by Caldwell to the 14th General Assembly regarding slavery, 1821. See petition #190.

Carter County: Citizens asking an amendment of the laws regarding Negroes co-habitating with white persons, 1847. See petition #33.

Charles (a slave), Greene County: To be emancipated, 1833. See petition #295.

Clay, Matthew: Requesting that he be paid for the labor of his slaves on the Cumberland Turnpike, 1815. See petition #29.

Claiborne County: To permit a free Negro to remain in the state, 1841. See petition #120.

Cobb, C. C. (a free Negro), Blount County: Requesting that Cobb be permitted to remain in the state, 1849. See petition #2.

Cockrill, John, Davidson County: Requesting the freedom of two Negroes, 1821. See petition #123.

Cocke County: Emancipation of slaves, 1826. See petition #18.

Cocke County: Petition to Constitutional Convention requesting insertion in constitution of a stated provision about freeing slaves, 1834. See petition #34.

Cotton gins: petition from citizens asking for punishment to Negroes for burning cotton gins, 1855. See petition #24.

Crouch, James, Bedford County: Petition asking to be paid the value of a slave executed for a crime, 1848. See petition #250.

Crouse, William (deceased): Petition of Crouse’s slaves—Lizzy, Bob, Susan, Violet, Reynolds, Jacob, and Ellie—asking to remain as free people in Stewart or another county, 1855. See petition #45.

Daniel, Pompey: Daniel, a free man of color, requests that his children, Jeremiah and Julius, be emancipated at his death, not dated.

Daniels, Geo. W.: Requesting compensation for executed slave, 1813. See petition #30-2.

Davidson County: petition from Nashville requesting a law to prohibit Negroes from operating amusement houses, 1799. See petition #1-2.

Davidson County: Petition by citizens to emancipate a Negro named Bob by act of the General Assembly, 1801. See petition #20-1.

Delfy (a slave), Greene County: To be emancipated, 1833. See petition #136.

Dr. Jack (a Negro), Giles County: Petition from Maury and Giles counties that Dr. Jack be allowed to prove his accounts, 1831. See petition #294.

Election, Rutherford County: Petition asking relief from a settlement of free Negroes who are controlling company elections, 1825. See petition #145.

Emancipation, Jefferson County: Petition of the Society of Friends asking that slavery be abolished, and that slave families not be separated, 1809. See petition #3-1.

Emancipation: Members of the 3rd convention asking for serious attention to petitions regarding slavery, for laws prohibiting slave traffic across state lines, and for permission to emancipate slaves capable of providing a living (Manumission Society), 1817. See petition #6.

Emancipation, Blount County: Abolition, 1819. See petition #38.

Emancipation: Abolition; many signatures, 1819. See petition #37.
Emancipation: Memorial of the 10th Annual Convention of the Manumission Society of Tennessee requesting free birth for children of color; prohibition of separation of husband and wife; and for slaves to be set free by masters without involvement, 1824. See petition #25

Emancipation, Knox County: Abolition, 1825. See petition #41.

Emancipation, Jefferson County: Abolition, 1825. See petition #45.

Emancipation, Cocke County: Abolition, 1826. See petition #18.

Emancipation, Cocke County: Petition to Constitutional Convention by citizens requesting insertion in constitution of a stated provision for freeing slaves, 1834. See petition #34.

Emancipation, Lincoln County: Petition by citizens to Convention of 1834 praying for the gradual emancipation of slaves, 1834. See petition #35.

Emancipation: Petition to Convention of 1834 requesting an emancipation clause and that the convention make it the duty of the Legislature to colonize, 1834. See petition #33.

Emancipation, Maury County: Petition by the citizens and Constitutional Convention offering emancipation clause and suggesting colonization of slaves, 1834. See petition #36.

Emancipation, Sevier and Blount counties: Requesting the Constitutional Convention of 1834 adopt new constitution with a described plan for freeing of slave, 1834. See petition #40.

Emancipation, Knox County: Requesting Convention contain an abolition clause and that the Legislature be put under duty and provide for colonization, 1834. See petition #22.

Emancipation, Blount County: Petition to Convention of 1834 by citizens requesting provisions for gradual but certain abolition of slavery with broad description of colonization in Africa or elsewhere, 1834. See petition #42.

Emancipation, Bedford County: Citizens request Constitutional Convention of 1834 for gradual emancipation with colonization, 1834. See petition #10.

Emancipation: Petition to Convention requesting clause on emancipation and that the Convention make it the duty of the Legislature to colonize slaves, 1834. See petition #41.

Emancipation, Knox County: To Convention requesting abolition clause and colonization, 1834. See petition #22.

Emancipation, Greene County: 1834. See petition #43.

Emancipation: Gradual emancipation and colonization, 1834. See petition #24.

Emancipation, Bedford County: 1834. See petition #10.

Emancipation, Jackson County: 1834. See petition #16.

Emancipation: Abolition and colonization, 1834. See petition #17.

Emancipation, Williamson County: 1834. See petition #21.

Emancipation, Knox County: 1834. See petition #22.

Emancipation, Sevier County: 1834. See petition #232.

Emancipation: Abolition and colonization, 1834. See petition #24.

Emancipation, Washington County: 1834. See petition #25.
Emancipation: Convention of 1834, abolition and colonization: petition #26 (1834); petition #28 (1834); petition #29 (1834); petition #31 (1834); petition #32 (1834); petition #33 (1834); petition #34 (1834); petition #35 (1834); petition #36 (1834).

Emancipation, McMinn County: 1834. See petition #27.

Emancipation, Jefferson County: Memorial by citizens and Convention protesting committee reports against emancipation and praying reconsideration by the Convention, 1834. See petition #38.

Emancipation, Blount County: Manumission Society of said county requesting prohibition of slaves in state taking slaves through state to market, and gradual emancipation, 1834. See petition #39.

Emancipation, Sevier and Blount counties: Suggests adoption of a new constitution of a described plan for freeing slaves, 1834. See petition #40.

Emancipation, Blount, Sevier, and Greene counties, 1834. See petition #44.

Emancipation, Rhea County: 1834. See petition #130.

Emancipation: Petitions to abolish slavery. See petitions #77 (1815); #90 (1807); #132 (1819); #29 (1825); #116 (1825); #225 (1825); #63 (1825); #227 (1825); #299 (1833); #149 (1833); #1 (1835); #136 (1841).

Emancipation, Washington County: Petition in re-emancipation, many signatures, not dated.

England, Zipporah: To emancipate a slave, 1839. See petition #139.

Evans, William: Requesting compensation for an executed slave, 1799. See petition #5-2.

Fayette County: Women requesting permission for a slave to practice medicine, 1843. See petition #189.

Fisher, Peter: Permission to free slaves, 1831. See petition #12.

Fisk, Moses: Survey opinion, 1823. See petition #137.

Ford, Rheuben: Emancipation, 1807. See petition #26-1.

Franklin county: Auxiliary Colonization Society—remove free Negroes from state, 1833. See petition #203.

Gates, John (deceased): Slaves to be emancipated, 1833. See petition #275.

Gillespie, George, Franklin County: Petition seeking compensation for executed slave, 1835. See petition #58.

Gipson, John, White County: Requests permission to free his slaves, 1842. See petition #63.

Gloucester, John: Petition from George Blackman to emancipate slave named Jack and that he be given the name John Gloucester. (He later became a Presbyterian minister in Blount county, 1806. See petition #18-1.

Graham, Austin: Sell a slave, 1831. See petition #18.

Greene County: Repeal law prohibiting non-slave owners from being jurors at slave trials, 1829. See petition #18.

Griffith, Aaron (a free Negro), Monroe and Roane counties: Relief for Griffith, 1858. See petition #156.

Hadley, Joshua: emancipate certain slaves, 1827. See petition #20.

Hait, Simon (a free Negro), White County: Be allowed by law to collect debts, 1825. See petition #182.
Hall, Joshua (a Negro), Greene County: Allowed to prove accounts, 1817. See petition #75.

Hamilton, Samuel (a Negro), Washington County: James Hamilton requests that Samuel be permitted to prove his accounts, 1806. See petition #17-1.

Hamilton County: petition regarding free Negroes, 1841. See petition #123.

Hamilton County: Requesting that a certain free Negro family be permitted to reside in Hamilton County, 1845. See petition #15.

Hamilton County: Petition from citizens requesting a tax on Negroes, 1851. See petition #159

Hardeman County: petition by citizens requesting the abolition of Negro preaching, 1857. See petition #94.

Harding, David, Davidson County: Emancipation of a slave named Major, 1833. See petition #144

Harris, Alfred (Negro), Knox County: Requesting permission to marry a white woman, 1826. See petition #38.

Harris, Jo (a free Negro), Shelby County: Petition requesting that Harris be permitted to remain in Tennessee, 1835. See petition #21.

Hawkins, Peter, Roane County: Requesting to emancipate a slave, 1833. See petition #298.

Hawkins County: Petition regarding the will of William Keale requesting that a Negro girl be freed at his death, 1851. See petition #158.

Haywood County: Requesting a law for the payment of slaves when executed for a capital offense, 1842. See petition #19.

Haywood County: Petition of sundry citizens of Tipton, Haywood, Madison, and Lauderdale counties requesting the passage of a law to compensate masters of executed slaves, 1848. See petition #276.

Henshaw, Washington (and wife): Emancipate a slave, 1839. See petition #140.

Hill, Stephan D. (a free Negro): prove his accounts, 1831. See petition #120.

Hiram (a slave), Greene County: To be emancipated, 1833. See petition #293.


Holmes, Edward, White County: Petition requesting that Lydia, a slave of the late Holmes be emancipated, 1833. See petition #296.

Humphreys, Mary, Carter County: Emancipation of certain slaves, 1832. See petition #3.

Hunter, Joseph, Washington/Johnson/Sullivan/Carter counties: Petition concerning the freeing of a Negro boy by the name of Bill, 1857. See petition #70.

Husketh, A. & N.: Free Negroes be permitted to reside in the state, 1833. See petition #292.

Ingram, Benjamin (Giles County): Petition to move certain Negroes to Alabama, 1819. See petition #130.

James, Benjamin (a free Negro), Hawkins County: Petition for James to be permitted to reside in Hawkins County, 1832. See petition #5.

Jones, Elias (a free Negro), Washington County: Prove his accounts, 1831. See petitions #10 & 11.
Law regarding peddlers, Wilson County: Requesting that a law be passed prohibiting Negroes from peddling, and to be put in the jurisdiction of Lewis County, 1855. See petition #45.

Law, Shelby County: Amend slave law, 1847. See petition #179.

Liquor, Davidson County: Requesting suppression of liquor shops and places where slaves gather to barter liquor, 1813. See petition #15-3.

Liquor, Davidson County: Requesting repeal of law requiring grocery and house keepers not to sell liquor to slaves, 1832. See petition #145.

Leo (a slave), Davidson County: To be emancipated, 1833. See petition #145.

Loo (a slave), Davidson County: To be emancipated, 1833. See petition #145.

Lowry, Peter (a slave), Davidson County: To be emancipated by Samuel Seay, 1837. See petition #156.

Lowry, Peter, Davidson County: To remain in the state, 1839. See petition #138.

Lytle, Stephen: to be emancipated and still live in Tennessee, 1833. See petition #140.

Madison County: Petition to repeal an act regarding free Negroes, 1842. See petition #7.

Mathews, Richard (a free Negro), Madison County: Requesting to marry a white woman (claims to be of Portuguese blood), 1832. See petition #8.

Memphis: Petition requesting that runaway slaves caught in Memphis be put to work on chain gangs, 1842. See petition #61.

McCutchen, Ben (a Negro), Williamson County: David Sayers regarding McCutchen’s will, 1857. See petition #18 (or 13).

McFarland, Benjamin, Jefferson County: Petition to emancipate two slaves, 1835. See petition #34.

McFarland, J. R.: McFarland and James M. Reynolds requesting compensation for a slave executed by the state for the murder of Samuel Minott, 1809. See petition #21 or 2-1.

McMinn County: petition for state compensation to owners of slaves legally executed for crimes, 1857. See petition #54.

McNairy, Capt. F. N.: Petition by McNairy of the Tennessee Rangers requesting that free person of color be inducted into military service, 1861. See petition #43.

Mitchell, J. J., White County: Mitchell, Jailor, requesting permission to free a Negro prisoner accused of being a runaway, as no owner has been found, 1825. See petition #183.


Moore, Ben (a free Negro), Montgomery County: Petition on behalf of Moore’s children, 1853. See petition #53.

Moore County: Abolition, 1842. See petition #62.

Moore, Robert S.: Statement that a slave bought his freedom, 1833. See petition #266.

Mooring, John, Madison County: Requesting compensation for a Negro convicted of a crime, 1845. See petition #135.

Morrell, Abba, Sullivan County: Abba and Phebe Morrell requesting to emancipate 6 slaves, 1833. See petition #133.

Murfreesboro, Rutherford County: Related to free colored population, 1851. See petition #76.
Murrell, Benjamin F. and Martha Ann: Petitioners requesting an act whereby they may sell a slave by the name of Ann who they inherited from Isaac Murrell, 1855. See petition #62.
Negroes: Restriction on free Negroes, 1825. See petition #181.
Negroes, probation of, Maury County: Citizens petition for a tax on dogs and a prohibition of Negroes owning dogs, 1857. See petition #69.
Negroes: to be colonized in Africa, 1833. See petition #294.
Negroes: Petition related to the introduction and sale of Negroes from other states, 1855. See petition #42.
Nodding, William, Washington County: Petition asking to free a slave and for a law permitting all persons to free a slave if so inclined, 1801. See petition #5-2.
Nodding, William, Washington County: Requesting the those endeavoring to free their slaves be exempt from paying bond, 1803. See petition #38-1.
Non-slave holders, Sevier County: Requesting to repeal law prohibiting non-slave holders from serving as jurors on slave trials, 1829. See petition #143.
Pate, Stephen: Petition requesting compensation for a slave executed by the state, 1801. See petition #9-2.
Phillip (a free Negro), Washington County: Prove his accounts, 1826. See petition #136.
Rebecca (a free Negro), Sullivan County: To be permitted to remain in the state, 1837. See petition #137.
Rhea, James D., Sullivan County: Petition by Rhea requesting to emancipate a slave, 1837. See petition #79.
Ripley, Henry: Emancipate a slave, 1833. See petition #297.
Robinson, Zachariah (a free Negro): Emigration to this state, 1832. See petition #6.
Robinson, Zecharia (?) (a free Negro), Gibson County: Requests to bring family to Tennessee, 1833. See petition #290.
Rockhold, Thomas, Sullivan County: To emancipate certain slaves, 1832. See petition #4.
Rutherford County: Remove free Negroes from county, 1825. See petition #144.
Samuel (a slave), Grainger County: Requests emancipation without leaving the state, 1833. See petition #291.
Sanders, Col. George W., Rutherford, White counties: Petition requesting that Sanders receive compensation for a Negro executed by the state, 1813. See petition #24-3.
Sellers, Edward: Compensation for an executed slave, 1827. See petition #110.
Settles, Edward: Compensation for an executed slave named Daniel, 1829. See petition #18.
Shelby County: Petition to amend the slave law, 1847. See petition #179
Sherman, George (a free Negro), McMinn County: Asks relief from emigration law, 1843. See petition #133.
Slavery: Abolition, 1817, see petition #90, and 1835, petition #1.
Smith, Samuel, Montgomery County: Requesting to free a slave, 1833. See petition #289.
Stephen (a slave), Fayette County: Emancipated to become a resident of the state, 1854. See petition #107.

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Sumner County: Colonization in Africa, 1833. See petition #294.
Sumner County: Free Negroes be made to leave the county, 1839. See petition #141.
Tate, Milton (deceased), Anderson County: S. B. and William L. Tate requesting to emancipate Milton’s slaves, 1858. See petition #190.
Temperance (a slave), Davidson County: To be emancipated and remain in the state, 1837. See petition #155.
Thurman, John: A free Negro of Alabama requesting permission to reside in Tennessee, 1837. See petition #3.
Thurman, Joshua (a free Negro), Hardeman County: To emancipate Thurman’s sister Harriet, 1833. See petition #135.
Tott, Gasper (a free Negro): Relief, 1803. See petition #35-1.
Trials: Repeal law prohibiting non-slaveowners from being jurors at slave trials, 1829. See petition #91 & #272.
Tuppence, James (a free Negro), Sumner County: His family to remain in Tennessee, 1839. See petition #142.
Vance, David: Asks that certain emancipated slaves remain in state, 1844. See petition #4.
Wade, Henry (a free Negro): To prove his accounts, 1829. See petition #23.
Wilson County: Petition regarding free Negro population, 1860. See petition #37.
Williams, Allen (a free Negro), Jefferson County: Prove his accounts and vote, 1825. See petition #35.
Williamson County: Repeal act permitting free Negroes to remain in the state, 1843. See petition #132
Williamson County: Requesting that a law be passed prohibiting Negroes from peddling, 1855. See petition #46.
Woods, Davy (a slave), Davidson County: To be emancipated, 1837. See petition #157.
BIBLE RECORDS, CHURCH RECORDS, CORRESPONDENCE, DIARIES AND MEMOIRS, DOCUMENTS, MANUSCRIPT FILES, AND SMALL COLLECTIONS

BIBLE RECORDS
Baxter family (Nathaniel Baxter) regarding slavery. Accession #1982.110.
Bryant (Robertson Bryant) family regarding slavery. Accession #1975.283.
Hale (Alexander Hale) family regarding slavery. Accession #1975.222.
Jackson family, regarding the purchase of Negro slaves. Accession #1972.039.
King family (William King) regarding slavery. Accession #1967.085.
McClure family (Hugh McClure) regarding slavery. Accession #1967.085.
McEwen family (David McEwen) includes birth dates of slaves. Accession #1967.085.
Norvell family (Moses Norvell) includes two lists of birth dates of slaves. Accession #1967.085.
Overton family (Jesse Overton) includes birth dates of slaves. Accession #1971.135.
Pointer family (Henry Pointer) includes birth dates of servants. Accession #1967.085.
Rose family (James Rose) includes birth dates of slaves. Accession #1972.024.
Rutledge family (William Rutledge) includes birth and death dates of slaves. Accession #1970.070.
Shelton family (Martin B. Shelton) slavery. Accession #1967.085.
Smith family (Alexander Smith) includes birth dates of slaves. Accession #1967.085.
Voorhees family (James G. Voorhees) includes birth dates of slaves. Accession #1967.085.

CHURCH RECORDS
Reedy Creek Baptist Church Records, 1836-1875, McLemoresville, Tennessee–volume, 1836-1845, contains list of members black and white. IV-M-2, Box 1; Accession #1972.155.

CORRESPONDENCE—by Author
Bradley, James, letter, 1831, purchase of slave boy 14 years old. I-A-3; Accession #106.
Clark, George H., Davidson County, to his wife, contains description of Negro funeral, 1847. Box 1, V-K-1; Accession #1967.116.
Cox, H., letter, 1857, settled a trade with Mrs. Duncan concerning a boy and that the land will probably be settled satisfactorily also. THS, I-D-1; Accession #291.
Erwin, John P., letter, 1828, describes circumstances surrounding the alleged killing of one of Andrew Jackson’s slaves by Jackson’s overseer. V-K-1; Accession #1971.059.
Hamilton, Alfred T., a water cure doctor, came to Tennessee to join Dr. Childs located near Winchester. Hamilton’s letters contain comments on slavery. IV-A-5; Accession #1545.
Jackson, Andrew to Robert I. Chester, concerning the disposition of Negroes belonging to Chester’s mother-in-law, Jane Donelson Hays, 1831. V-K-1; Accession #1976.128.

Jennings, R. C., writing from Shelbyville, Tennessee, to Samuel P. Ament, Nashville, concerning the health of a Negro girl, 1841. Box 3, V-K-1; Accession #1975.248.

**DIARIES AND MEMOIRS**

Box 2: Abraham Jobe memoir, see page 22 for reference to the ownership by the Cherokees of Negro slaves, 1817. II-H-4; Accession #1039.


**DOCUMENTS—Miscellaneous**

Articles of agreement between Frank Hardeman and Dolly McRae both of Williamson County, Tennessee, conveying to Hardeman McRae’s slaves for certain considerations named in the document, 1848. IV-C-5; Accession #433.

Bill of sale for a Negro slave, Mary, for $575, sold to Joseph Fry by George M. Brandon, Pleasant Grove, Tennessee, 1856. IV-C-5; Accession #1582.

Bill of sale for two Negroes bought from J. M. Roberts by John Jolly in Mississippi, 1862. IV-C-5; Accession #806.

Bills of sale (2) for Negroes, one in Columbus, GA, for a Negro boy about 11 years old, 1850. IV-C-5; Accession #1237.

Bills of sale, 1836, 1850, one for Negroes in Charleston, SC. belonging to the estate of Robert Matthews, 1836. IV-C-5; Accession #1237.

Bill of sale for a Negro slave named Elizabeth, about 21 years old, sold by Jane C. Smith of Rutherford County to John Smith, Jr., 1829. IV-C-5; Accession #306.

Bill of sale, receipt for the sale of a Negro slave named Margaret, about 19 years of age purchased in 1859 by Presley Sevier Dunlap. IV-C-5; Accession #603.

Bills of sale (3) for Negroes, 1797, 1812, 1834. IV-C-5; Accession #1968.041.

Bill of sale for four slaves sold to J. Donalson, for $2,250, 1857. Box 2, IV-A-5; Accession #1838.

Bill of sale, from Paul Street to Obediah Bean, for an 8 year old Negro boy named Samuel, 1823. IV-C-2; Accession #1972.168.

Memo of agreement between Hugh Graham and John Overton, both of Clairborne County, for the services of a Negro, Hamlet, for one year, 1827. IV-C-5; Accession #103.
Receipt, signed by J. Overton for $1.00 paid to him by his daughter Elizabeth A. Calcote for a Negro woman who is to become her slave for life, 1859. V-K-4, Box 3; Accession #1971.057.

Sketch, Scales, Susan (Winchester) recollection of her life at “Cragfont,” the Winchester home, near Gallatin, Sumner County, Tennessee, during the period of slavery, 1852-1857. Wiley, Eliza Jane, a former slave of Captain Henry A. Wiley, Woodbury, Cannon County, Tennessee, by Mary Wood. II-H-1, Box 3; Accession #1978.097.

GENEALOGICAL DATA
Gates family—slave deed, 1850. Accession #1789.
Gaines family—information pertaining to the Gaines family, including a statement of Mrs. E. A. Burke about the slaves of Archibald K. Gaines. The slaves ran off to Ohio, but were recaptured by Gaines, thus forming the basis of the “Peggy” case in Uncle Tom’s Cabin. Accession #1588.
Maxwell family—comments regarding the slave-master relationship. Accession #208.

SMALL COLLECTIONS and MANUSCRIPTS
CASTNER Wilson Jacob, Papers, 1826-1902 (Small Collection, IV-E-1/S-11) Accession #599
Three letters citing trouble with slaves in Tennessee in 1865.

EAKIN Family Papers, 1838-1915 (Small Collection, I-H-3/S-3) Accession #485, 486, 980. County: Davidson, Bedford
Bill of sale (1841), H. Eddle to Alexander Eakin, a woman slave named Katy, age 38, for $500.00.
Bill of sale (1845), George Davidson to Alexander Eakin the sum of $1,050.00 for two Negroes, Ned, age about 25, and Hresa (?) age 17.
Bill of sale (1846), Joseph Adams to Alexander Eakin, $1,200.00 for Negroes, woman Minerva, age about 24, and her three children, Catherine, age about 8, Jerry, age about 6, and Moriah, age about one and a half years.
Will of Mary Jane Eakin (n.d.) (wife of Thomas), bequeaths a Negro woman, Ann, and her two children, Margaret and Elija Bill, to her niece Ann Harding.
Will of John Eakin (1849), bequeaths his plantation and Negroes to his three youngest children.

EASTMAN Family Papers, 1849-1865 (Small Collection, V-L-4/S-16) Accession #1972.095
Box 1: Letter of Charles H. Eastman writing that slavery is doomed.

EMBREE, Thomas, Papers, 1804-1807 (Small Collection, V-L-4/S-16-21) Accession #1975.005
Statement by Thomas Embree, Quaker minister, April 27, 1807, regarding why he refused to sign an indictment against William Sullins in an 1804 case.
FRY Collection, 1823-18712 (Small Collection, IV-D-5/S-8)
Accession #1357
Box 1: Bill of sale for a slave.

GOOCH Family Papers, 1739-1965 (Small Collection, V-L-4/S-21)
Accession #1975.027; County: Rutherford
Box 6: Bill of sale for slaves, James Morton, Jr., to John C. Gooch, 1850.

GOODLOE, Albert T., Papers, 1835-1912 (Small Collection, XII-E-6/S-33)
Accession #1991.214; County: Dallas, Arkansas
Box 1: Several letters written by Goodloe to his wife between July 29, 1858, and October 9, 1859, from his farm in Tulip, Arkansas. In his letters, Goodloe mentions the names of some of the black hands on his farm. There is also one letter from G. L. Cockrill (possibly Goodloe’s father-in-law), Tuscumbia, Alabama, to William M. Rose, Pulaski, Tennessee, December 15, 1845, that mentions a division of Negroes in two lots by name, one “lot” to be sold to Mr. Rose.

HARDING-JACKSON Papers, 1809-1938 (Small Collection, THS I-E-3)
Accession #295; County: Davidson
Box 1, folder 6: Letter of Susanna to her master, William Giles Harding, 1862.

HARRISON, William, Papers, 1840-1890 (Small Collection, IV-D-5/S-10)
Accession #431; County: Williamson
Box 3: Slaves bought by William Harrison, 1841-1856.

HYDER, Family Papers, 1743-1894 (Small Collection, V-L-4/S-18)
Accession #1978.038
Box 3: Bill of sale for slaves.

JACKSON, Francis, Papers, 1815-1885 (Small Collection, V-L-4/S-16)
Accession #1972.191; County: Rutherford, Wayne
Box 1: Deed of John G. Hill to Elisha W. Hendrix for conveyance of 4 slaves–Rhoda, Samuel, Ceila, and Jude–from William Hill estate, Rutherford County.

JARNAGIN Family Papers, 1777-1866 (Small Collection, V-L-4/S-18)
Accession #1981.038; County: Jefferson
Box 3: Slave bill of sale, 1824.

MARABME Collection, 1813-1857 (Small Collection, IV-D-5/S-9)
Accession #1400; County: Montgomery
Box 2: Deed of sale for a slave from Evan W. Shelby to John H. Marable, 1823.

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McANALLY, Mrs. Paul, Collector, Papers, 1748-1967 (Small Collection, V-L-4/S-17)
Accession #1972.187
Box 2, folder 18: Contains legal documents for discussion of slaves in the estate of Charles McAnally.

NEWALL Papers, ca. 1850-ca.1908 (Small Collection, V-J-3/S-12)
Accession #1967.028
Bill of Sale for a Negro child about 12 months for $100 at Natchez, MS, 1854.

PERKINS, Thomas Hardin, Papers, 1819-1836 (Small Collection, V-K-2/S-14)
Accession #1971-071
Box 2: Correspondence—John Gordon asks Perkins to purchase a slave for him, 1819.

ROBERTSON, Laura Louise (Brown), Papers, 1850-1894 (Small Collection, V-L-4/S-18)
Accession #1981.051; County: Davidson
Box 3: Letters by A. C. Robertson concerning sale of slaves, 1853.

SMITH, Richard, Family Papers, 1820-1965 (Small Collection, XII-E-6/S-33)
Accession #1991.232; County: Davidson, Wilson
Receipt, received from $405.00 for a Negro boy Coleman sold by a decree of the circuit court of Rutherford as the property of Dorothy Harrison deceased, August 15, 1840.
Receipt, received from Richard Smith, $500.00 for a female slave Delilah aged about seventeen years, sold by John D. Blackford, April 27, 1844.
Letter from A. J. Donelson to Richard Smith, overseer, regarding calico, hats, and cloth promised to the Negroes, April 16, 1845.
Bill of sale, William (?) Lawrence to Richard Smith, for $925.00 dollars, a woman slave named Franky with her two children, one named Judah about 5 years old, the other named Washington, about 2 years old, February 17, 1846.

SUTHERLAND, John, Papers, 1850-1866 (Small Collection, V-K-2/S-13)
Accession #938; County: Lauderdale
Box 1: Letter written by P. T. Glass from Philadelphia in 1851 for comments about a fugitive slave case and the abolitionists.

WHITESIDE Family Papers, 1862-1865 (Small Collection, V-L-4/S-20)
Accession #1975.125
Box 5: Letters from various family members written during the Civil War some referencing slavery.

WILLIAMSON Papers, 1833-1874 (Small Collection, IV-D-5/S-9)
Accession #794, 1431; County: Jackson
Box 2: Deed of sale for a slave.
WRIGHT, Jacob, Papers, 1800-1887 (Manuscripts, V-K-1)
Accession #72-055, 72-081, 72-128; County: Lincoln?
Bills of sale for Negros

WYLY, Thomas Kinley, Papers, 1844-1884 (Small Collection, V-L-5/S-19)
Accession #1981.062; County: Humphreys
Box 4: Letter by Robson and Allen to T. K. Wyly, 1853; receipt for J. J. Wyly by T. A. Napier, 1860.

TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOLDINGS

Bradley, James, Letter, 1831
Letter from Rogersville, Tennessee, to R. H. Barrey in Nashville, October 19, 1831, related to purchase of a 14 year-old slave boy. Accession #THS 106.

Davidson County Tax Records, 1829
Volume giving statement of state, county, and courthouse taxes in Davidson County, 1829, which lists citizens and the amounts paid for: each 100 acres of land; each free poll; each slave; each town lot; each 4-wheel pleasure carriage; each ordinary license; etc. Included is a list of wholesale and retail stores paying a tax of $5.00 to the courthouse. Accession #THS 173.

Mill Creek Baptist Church Records, Davidson County
Minutes, 1797-1814, and correspondence, 1813, contains membership lists; names of many early Davidson County settlers and slaves; and frequent notes concerning acceptance of slaves into fellowship. Accession #THS 194.

Maxwell Family Genealogical Data
One volume, 39 pages, typescript, that includes comments on the slave-master relationship. Accession #THS 208.

Cartwright, Robert, Papers, 1765-1844
Eleven items concerning Cartwright, a prominent landholder and wheelwright from Virginia, North Carolina, and Davidson County; includes a bill of sale for a Negro man by Angus McCaul to Smith Sparrow, 1763. Accession #THS 372.

Roche Family Papers, 1788-1904
Thirty-three items that includes a slave bill of sale. Accession #THS 666.

Tinsley, Samuel B., Slave Bill of Sale, 1846
Bill of sale between Samuel B. Tinsley and Charles Syms, both for Davidson County, for a young male slave named Venebal, for $575.00, July 1, 1846. Accession #THS 671.
FITE-JAMES Family Papers, 1814-1879. Mf. 2019; Counties: Middle Tennessee

This collection of nineteenth-century documents contains papers of the Fite and James families of Middle Tennessee and Kentucky. The records include a land survey, the draft of a speech advocating peace during the Civil War, slave deeds, and family correspondence. The 1875 marriage of Volney James, the son of William James and Agnes Campbell, and Josephine Rowena Fite, the daughter of Judge Samuel McClary Fite and Catherine Wilson, connected the two families.

The collection includes seven bills of sale for slaves that William James bought between 1840 and 1859 (folder 9). These include the purchase of four children: George in 1840; Eunice in 1848; Darcy in 1850; and Margaret in 1859; and three men: Eli, Sam, and Ned, in 1858. James purchased 8-year-old Margaret and a gray mare, Ruby, for $1,186.25.

GRAHAM, Daniel, Account Book, 1819-1866, and Slave Register, 1823-1863.
Mf. 2015; Counties: Davidson, Rutherford

Two volumes, one containing financial accounts, and the other a slave register kept by Daniel Graham of Davidson and Rutherford Counties, Tennessee. The accounts include records regarding horse-breeding, personal loans to individuals, and a Bank of Tennessee log, which comprise approximately one-fourth of the account book, which spans the period 1819-1866. The account book (Vol. 1A) records substantial land transactions involving three prominent Tennesseans. David McGavock, John C. McLemore, and Judge John Catron. McGavock, an early Nashville settler and Register of the Land Office, amassed vast acreage in Middle Tennessee. McLemore was an intimate friend of Andrew Jackson, a founder of Memphis, and once served as surveyor general of the state. The jurist Catron became a justice of the U. S. Supreme Court.

The slave register (Vol. 1B) is paginated and spans the period 1823-1863. It documents the lives of more than 70 slaves and contains yearly comments on each individual. In most cases Graham devoted an entire page to each slave, and included information such as: name, age, condition of health, marriage, children, vaccinations, work location, and price and place of purchase. The last page in the register contains three lists pertaining to the slaves: those who were sold, those who died, and those given away.


This collection is composed of Bible records, broadsides, correspondence, deeds, estate records, funeral notices, genealogical data, indentures, marriage bonds, newspapers and clippings, postcards, promissory notes, published genealogical records, receipts, voter registrations, wills, and a slave bill of sale and slave bill of hire. These materials relate to the Brown, Bryson, and Harris families of Sumner County, Tennessee. The papers are arranged according to the familial relationships with cross-referenced duplicates in some folders.

MOORE Family Papers, 1816-1900. Mf. 1996; County: Haywood

This collection consists primarily of receipts, accounts, and other business records of the John Bertie Moore family of Mooreland Plantation, Haywood County, Tennessee, and related
families. Some of the earliest documents in the collection are from North Carolina. The documents mostly reflect transactions involving the sale of land, slave, farming equipment, dry goods, and personal items, and payment of property taxes. Many documents in the pre-Civil War years relate to the sale and shipping of cotton. Also included are documents relating to school tuition, giving permission to purchase family supplies at Fort Pillow during the Civil War, letters (primarily financial in nature), and promissory notes.

**NEWELL Family Papers, ca. 1826-1955. Mf. 2014; Counties: Hamilton, Montgomery**

The Newell Family Papers include correspondence, documents, a biographical account, genealogical data, ephemera, and photographs pertaining to the life of J.D.S. Newell and the history of the Newells and related families. Much of the contents pertain to Mississippi and Louisiana history, though some Newell family members lived in Clarksville and Chattanooga, Tennessee.

The Newell Papers contain approximately 32 letters dating from 1879-1899, written from Jefferson Davis, Beauvoir, Mississippi, to John David Stokes Newell, attorney, St. Joseph, Tenasas Parish, Louisiana. The letters deal primarily with the management of Davis’ land holdings in Mississippi, day-to-day issues related to managers and tenants or “lessees.” Properties mentioned include Elkridge, Limerick, Cane Ridge, Brierfield, and Beauvoir.

Also included are 6 miscellaneous letters to or from J.D. Stokes Newell, 1881-1894 regarding business and family matters; approximately 11 miscellaneous family letters, 1826-76 (and 1955), several relating to the impact of the Civil War on family members; one slave bill of sale of a negro child (Julia) 1854, Natchez, Mississippi; one deed of gift for one negro slave woman (Matilda) and child (Walter), 1849, also in Natchez; genealogical data for the Newell and related families; Tirza Willson Patterson’s account of her early life in Virginia, from ca. 1850-1865, which includes vivid stories of life in Civil War-era Virginia; a ca. 1903 Field and Stream article about Miss Georgia Willson of Natchez, Mississippi and hunting on horseback over historic plantations; four photographs; ephemera items; and various receipts and notes kept by J.D.S. Newell regarding the sale of cotton, c. 1882-1883.

**SULLIVAN, Willis W., Papers, 1838-[1841-1847]-1864. County: Davidson**

The Willis W. Sullivan Papers are comprised almost entirely of land deeds and indentures transacted in Davidson County, Tennessee between 1838 and 1864. There are 29 land records (including 5 oversize ones housed separately) detailing land transfers either to or from Sullivan with various residents of Davidson County. The deeds identify the parties involved, date of conveyance, locations of land parcels, and the amount of money paid for each parcel. Each land record is authorized, by signature and date, by the Clerk of the Davidson County Register Office. The land in question centers on streets in Nashville, Tennessee, such as Charlotte Turn Pike and Broad Street, as well as parcels along the portions of the Big Harpeth River in Davidson County.

Two oversize deeds document the transfer of land from Vernon K. Stevenson (1812-1884) to Willis Sullivan. V. K. Stevenson was the founder and first president of the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad.

The collection also contains six slave transfer records from 1841 to 1845 detailing Sullivan’s purchase of slaves. The records contain the names of the slaves (and sometimes age), the parties involved in the transaction, the date of conveyance, and the amount of money paid for each slave.
These papers include two hand-drawn maps detailing boundaries of land parcels, and one piece of personal correspondence from J. Rothiock to Henry Hutton inquiring as to a boy’s (possibly a slave) whereabouts. The records in this collection contain valuable information about the nature of and economic attitudes toward slavery and the slave trade in Davidson County, Tennessee, and land and real-estate development patterns in Nashville in the 1840s.

ROBERTSON, Alexander Thomas, Family Papers, 1790-[1848-1862]-1979. County: Hardeman

The collection is composed 2.5 linear feet of correspondence, financial records, legal documents, land records, circulars, military records, and a small number of miscellaneous items. Slavery is a topic that appears in nearly every category of the collection. Legal correspondence and documents reflect disputes over slave ownership and sales of slaves at the courthouse as well as trials for harboring runaways. Financial records include tax bills and receipts in which slaves are taxed as property. Deeds of gift and wills bequeath slaves along with other tangible property. Among these documents is a 1828 slave bill of sale from Daniel Graham to Evander McIver. Graham was Tennessee Secretary of State, 1818-1830, and Register of the Treasury of the United States, 1847-1848. See Bills of sale—Slave, 1828, 1852, n. d., Box 1, folder 2, and other documents as stated above.

GLEN LEVEN, Ledger, 1847-1852. Mf. 2045; County: Davidson

Consists of an account book belonging to John Thompson (1793-1876), that is a bound volume of 98 total pages (although several of those pages are blank). There are two pages labeled "A Record of ages of Negroes belonging to John Thompson." This is a numbered list of slaves owned by Thompson, and the list gives each slave's name, their date of birth, and their parents' names. However, this list only represents entries numbered 71-126. The list of slaves was actually begun later in the account book, and these two pages were added once Thompson ran out of room for the initial list of slaves. The list stops at 126 entries because approximately half of the last page was torn out of the account book. The last entry in the book is the first half of the list of John Thompson's slaves. The list is three pages and contains the entries numbered 1-70. There are also the names of two additional slaves written on the inside of the back cover.