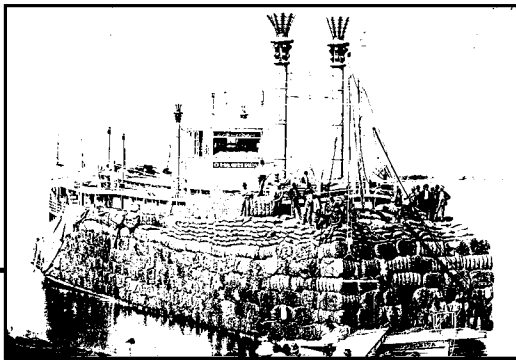


A Guide to the Microfilm Edition of

Records of Southern Plantations from Emancipation to the Great Migration

Series B: Selections from the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley
Collections, Louisiana State University Libraries

Part 4: Mississippi Cotton Plantations



A UPA Collection

from



LexisNexis[®]

Cover: (top left) the steamboat *Ouachita*, loaded with cotton bales; (top right) workers in field; and (bottom) laborers in front of store on Belle Grove sugar plantation. Photos courtesy of Louisiana State University Libraries.

Records of Southern Plantations from Emancipation to the Great Migration

General Editor: Ira Berlin

Series B

**Selections from the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley
Collections, Louisiana State University Libraries**

Part 4: Mississippi Cotton Plantations

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Martin Schipper**

**Guide compiled by
Daniel Lewis**

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INTRODUCTION

No institution was more central to the transformation of southern society between the end of the Civil War and the beginning of the Great Migration than the plantation. Since the seventeenth century, the plantation with its powerful “masters” and their retinue of enslaved black laborers had been the productive center of southern society, as well as its primary social and political institution. Planters controlled the politics of the South, shaped its society, and dominated its culture. It is no exaggeration to say that the antebellum South cannot be understood without a firm grasp of the meaning of the plantation, as most white southerners aspired to the planter class and most black southerners wanted nothing more than to escape its long shadow.

The Civil War destroyed the plantation as southerners had known it. The war itself left many estates in ruins, their tools and implements wrecked, animals decimated, fields in ruins, and buildings devastated. The emancipation of some four million slaves that accompanied the war stripped planters of their labor force, their wealth, and their political authority, giving former slaves proprietorship of their own persons and, with that, aspirations for economic independence and political power. At war’s end, the old order was no more, and no one knew what would replace it. It soon became evident, however, that the plantation would not disappear. Instead, it would be reformulated, as would the lives of those men and women associated with the great estates. For this reason, any understanding of the postwar world must be accompanied by a close reading of the records of southern plantations.

Postbellum plantation records trace the torturous process of resurrecting agricultural productivity and restoring social stability to the American South. The outline of the story is well known—although scholars continue to debate its meaning by discovering new facts and reinterpreting old ones. The destruction of chattel bondage set in motion a contest of expectations, as former slaves and former slaveholders—joined by white and black nonslaveholders and northern soldiers, missionaries, and would-be planters and politicians—struggled to create a new regime that spoke to their diverse and often opposing aspirations. The freedpeople’s desire for economic independence, social autonomy, and political power was initially met by a steely opposition from former masters and other white southerners that ranged from determined attempts to reinstate the old regime to sullen acquiescence. In the half century that followed, the aspirations of black people remained unaltered, although the changes in the political terrain forced them to modify the tactics and strategies they hoped would achieve them. Meanwhile, some former slave masters lost control of their land to upstart merchants, fell from prominence, or transferred their capital to newer industrial enterprises. Some of the men who took control of plantations were drawn from the ranks of white nonslaveholders. Yet other members of the nonslaveholding, white yeomanry dropped into the ranks of propertyless laborers and, like former slaves, took their place in the cotton—and, less often, sugar, rice, and tobacco—fields. In time, many of these yeomen abandoned the countryside entirely and found work in towns, mill villages, forests, and mines. As the struggle ebbed and flowed, a new regime took shape

in the postbellum South, unleashing some of the most important developments in American history:

- The vesting of former African American bondsmen with political rights;
- The creation of a variety of African American institutions, most prominently the Afro-Christian church;
- The emergence of a cadre of African American leaders and the elevation of some to elected office in the former slave states;
- Efforts by former slaveholders to reenslave freedpeople;
- Experimentation with various forms of land tenure and contract agricultural labor relations;
- The massive intervention of federal authority and the federal retreat;
- The rise of Bourbon politicians;
- The transformation of the white yeomanry;
- The growth of towns and cities and a new urban culture;
- The remaking of southern domestic life, as men, women, and children took on new roles;
- The emergence of an interracial Populist movement and its demise;
- The establishment and entrenchment of segregation;
- Disenfranchisement of African Americans and many “poor” whites;
- The legitimization of extralegal violence against African Americans;
- Migration of white and black southerners from depleted agricultural areas to newer plantation districts, mill towns, and cities;
- Development of oppressive penal institutions;
- Cultivation of a “dual consciousness” of accommodation and proud independence among African Americans;
- The acquiescence of northern leaders to “southern” prerogatives on matters of race;
- And eventually an opportunity, provided by labor demand during World War I, for plantation workers—white, but especially black—to leave the South and, with that, the beginning of the Great Migration.

Plantation records offer scholars access to these signal events. It was on plantations that most black southerners continued to live and work in the years after the Civil War as tenants, share renters, sharecroppers, and wage laborers. It was the plantation that also entrapped many white former yeomen. And it was on the plantations where much of the negotiation between landless laborers, white and black, and landowners, nearly all of them white, took place. Even when it did not—as mill towns and new metropolises came to play a larger role in southern life—the plantation and its ethos continued to shape the lives of the new urbanites.

From the very first years following emancipation, laborers and landowners—many of them former slaves and former slave owners—contested their respective rights and obligations. Dire necessity and the imposition of federal regulations compelled freedpeople—who had failed to gain access to the land they believed to be their due—to accept employment growing the South’s great staple crops. Black laborers contracted under a variety of terms, some of their own devising, others the result of former slaveholders’ endless experimentation with forms of labor organization and remuneration. Landowners’ preferences often resembled too closely the old oppressions of slavery and whenever the opportunity arose, freedpeople abandoned wage work to occupy plantation plots as tenants and sharecroppers. But, over the course of a half century, the various arrange-

ments freedpeople hoped would secure them a degree of independence failed, as stagnating prices, extralegal violence, and waning political power took their toll. Most freedpeople became little more than wagedworkers, laboring in circumstances in which they could expect small return for their efforts. In some places, freedpeople, hopelessly indebted to their employers, became ensnared in a brutal system of labor extraction that left the promise of emancipation in tatters. Similar changes separated white yeomen from their land and the independence that had been their pride. By century's end, thousands of white men and women—many of them former property-holding yeomen or their descendants—were entrapped in the same system of profitless and coercive labor relations that had captured former slaves.

The fate of the plantation and of its labor force was not of one piece. It varied over time and was subject to wide variations across the South. In coastal Carolina and Georgia, rice plantations hung on tenuously through the later years of the nineteenth century only to vanish in the early twentieth century. As older cotton and tobacco fields declined, new areas—notably the Yazoo-Mississippi Delta and portions of Arkansas and Texas—opened to settlement and proved fertile ground for staple production. These areas reinvigorated the plantation as both an economic and a social institution. Elsewhere the plantation survived but underwent major modifications. In the Mississippi Valley and the Georgia-Alabama-Mississippi “black belt,” many of the large-scale plantations revived after the war, but their recovery progressed slowly, constrained by the eastward march of the boll weevil, a softening demand for the South's great staple crop, and the steady depletion of even the richest soils. New forms of corporate organization also appeared, transforming the plantation from a family proprietorship into a variant of modern corporate capitalism. In still other instances, plantations fell to the control of their creditors, including commission merchants, cotton factors, and even country storekeepers, who created novel relationships with laborers. These transformations tended to dissolve the personal or paternal bonds between planters and workers, completing the alienation of most agricultural laborers from communal attachments to local plantations. They also altered relations within the plantation household, as women—of both the owning class and the laboring class—took new roles within the larger community. The transformation of femininity and masculinity set in motion conflicts, some of which aimed for still greater change, others of which called for a restoration of the old ideal. The reordering of gender roles deeply affected race relations.

Through these various transformations, the necessity of securing and controlling a labor force remained paramount in the eyes of the planters, merchants, mill owners, and corporate directors. These employers found support in a complaisant state that steadily shifted power in their favor. In such circumstances, the only choice that remained to black and many white workers was to vote with their feet. Annual movement became commonplace as workers shuttled from plantation to plantation in search of a new start or a slightly more advantageous contract. Desperation, however, created new political possibilities. The Populist movement, which sometimes joined white and black agricultural laborers together, was one such possibility. But there were others as well. Hard times put a mean edge on labor relations, incubating extreme chauvinism among whites. That too had contradictory effects on black life, at once necessitating supine accommodationism and sparking a revival of black nationalism in the form of immigrationism and various self-improvement schemes. Taken together, the increasingly contentious relations between whites and blacks elevated the question of race from simply a southern issue to a matter of national import. The reformulation of the plantation transformed the southern people and altered their most deeply held beliefs.

The records kept by southern planters and their associates, clients, and subordinates—bankers, factors, merchants, and occasionally farmers and laborers—document these momentous changes. They, more than any other single source, are the raw material from which new understandings of southern life will emerge.

The records of the plantations reveal nearly every aspect of southern life in the years after the Civil War. They reach into the interior of the great estates, where they expose not only the stark and often painful changes in relationships between those who controlled the land and those who worked it, but also changes in the structure of the households, between men and women, parents and children of both whites and blacks. Changing family relations also marked a change in notions of the sacred, pushing southern religious life in new directions that can be seen in the construction (and abandonment) of plantation chapels, the advent of new sects, and the decline of established denominations. Plantation records thus offer scholars critical evidence that addresses ongoing controversies about, for example, the changing nature of the southern labor system, the relationship of economic and political power, the new system of class relations, and the mentality of rulers and ruled.

Plantation records also give scholars a chance to stretch the historical canvas and examine previously unexplored portions of the southern experience—questions of identity, gender, and memory that have only recently begun to come under consideration. Moreover, the insights to be gleaned from the records of southern plantations are not limited to the history of the South. This is especially true when the southern plantation is seen as an institution with global analogues whose roots reach back to at least the eleventh century. Such a perspective makes the study of the plantation a critical element in the development of world history, as its influence extends beyond the region to the North, the Atlantic, and beyond. It was an internationalism recognized by southern planters who competed in a world market and followed closely the prices of commodities grown tens of thousands of miles away. They understood the mechanisms used by their counterparts in the Caribbean, Africa, and Asia to secure a stable labor force. And what the planters knew from their perspective atop southern society, workers understood from their lowly perch, as rumors of strikes, riots, and revolutions echoed in the plantation quarters.

The insights available in the records of southern plantations lay bare the diverse and competing values of an institution and a society undergoing dramatic change. Those values—and, most especially, the competition between them—tell much about how southerners were shaping new identities, as employers and employees, whites and blacks, men and women, believers and skeptics. In the process they gave new meaning to wealth and poverty, whiteness and blackness, and masculinity and femininity. While most records that speak to such questions are often indirect and formal, others are deeply reflective and personal and take scholars into the inner lives of the men and women who made the plantation their home, as well as those who lived in its shadow.

In constructing this series of postbellum records several criteria have been applied. Care has been taken to select those collections that provide the densest representation—by their depth and diversity—of the historical experience. The editors aim to provide a selection that represents the entire period and offers an opportunity to explore not only the cotton South but also the Souths—large and small—of rice, hemp, and tobacco. Because many of these estates changed forms—as centralized production surrendered to share renting, sharecropping, and wage labor—and because ownership was lodged in the hands of merchants and factors as well as planters, a wide variety of records have been included in this series. Among the papers microfilmed are not only daybooks and ledgers, inventories and invoices, but also personal letters, diaries, and memoirs. Taken together, the selections are intended to illuminate all aspects of southern life.

During the last two decades, the microfilm publication of *Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations from the Revolution through the Civil War* by University Publications of America has allowed scholars of southern society to expand historical understanding of slave society. It has also provided a means for students, from secondary school to graduate school, to participate in the practice of history. The issuance of *Records of Southern Plantations from Emancipation to the Great Migration* extends the same research and pedagogical opportunities into that critical period between emancipation and the Great Migration.

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SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections (LLMVC) of the Louisiana State University Libraries (LSU) contain extensive holdings of manuscripts, books, maps, prints, pamphlets, and periodicals documenting the region's culture and history. The manuscript section of the LLMVC dates back to 1935 when LSU history professor Edwin Davis started to acquire the papers of prominent families that had lived in the area. The LLMVC manuscript collection consists of over five thousand manuscript groups encompassing more than ten million items. The LLMVC's holdings relating to antebellum plantations, the Civil War, and the Reconstruction era are particularly strong. These holdings range from papers of individuals and families, to organizational records, to records of plantations, merchants, and financial institutions.

Series B, Part 4: Mississippi Cotton Plantations

This microfilm edition consists of eleven manuscript collections filmed by UPA from the holdings of the LLMVC, Hill Memorial Library, LSU. These collections cover the operation of Mississippi cotton plantations from the Civil War through the early twentieth century. The collections in this edition are: Audley Clark Britton Family Papers; Capell Family Papers; Eli J. Capell Family Papers; Stephen Duncan Family Papers; Eggleston-Roach Papers; James A. Gillespie Family Papers; William Newton Mercer Papers; Joseph Addison Montgomery Papers; Pugh-Williams-Mayes Family Papers; Salisbury Plantation Papers; and Joseph D. Shields Papers. These collections were selected because they allow researchers to investigate the operation of the postbellum plantation as well as many other aspects of life during this period, including the experiences of African Americans and women, family matters, and political events.

The operation of the plantation in the effort to produce a marketable crop is a central aspect of these collections. Correspondence by Jane Gillespie in the James A. Gillespie Papers describes her management of Hollywood plantation in Adams County, Mississippi. The William Newton Mercer Papers include detailed and frequent correspondence from Wilmer Shields, the overseer of Mercer's four plantations in Adams County. The Joseph Addison Montgomery Papers contain correspondence regarding agricultural operations at Belmont plantation near Port Gibson, Mississippi. Material on agricultural operations can also be found in the diaries of Eli J. Capell (Capell Family Papers) and William Newton Mercer. Ledger books and other items in several collections include accounts with laborers and commission merchants, and records of cotton sales and cotton prices.

Records pertaining to the African American experience can be found throughout this edition. Correspondence in the Audley Britton Clark Papers describes agricultural labor by slaves during the Civil War. The correspondence of Wilmer Shields in the William Newton Mercer Papers mentions demands by former slaves for a school and for additional days off. Shields' correspondence also comments on individual laborers on Mercer's plantations. The correspondence of Amelia Montgomery in the Joseph Addison Montgomery Papers includes her dismissal of rumors about possible slave uprisings in Port Gibson,

Mississippi. Her correspondence from after the war mentions her inability to pay her workers. The Joseph D. Shields Papers include records of sales of slaves and labor contracts with freedmen.

Political participation by southern planters is another topic that can be studied in these plantation records. The Joseph D. Shields Papers contain correspondence of his father, William Bayard Shields, a Mississippi politician in the antebellum period. Correspondence of Joseph D. Shields covers his service in the Mississippi State legislature. Some of Shields' correspondence from the postwar period pertains to U.S. military rule in Natchez, Mississippi. A series of political writings by Shields covers the Compromise of 1850, the secessionist movement in Mississippi, and equal political rights for women. Political issues are also raised in other collections. The diary of William Newton Mercer has observations about the Civil War and a comment by Mercer on his willingness to manumit his slaves before the war. Correspondence on Reconstruction policies can be found in the Stephen Duncan Family Papers and the James A. Gillespie Papers. The Eggleston-Roach Papers include a letter from the 1900s that contains reminiscences about the Civil War.

The experience of women on postbellum plantations is also documented in this edition. In the 1880s, Jane Gillespie, wife of James A. Gillespie, ran the family's Hollywood plantation in Adams County, Mississippi. Her activities are covered in her correspondence to her husband. The correspondence of Amelia Montgomery to her husband, Joseph Addison Montgomery, discusses the possibility of slave uprisings in Port Gibson, Mississippi. Her postwar correspondence describes her management of Belmont plantation in Claiborne County. The Joseph D. Shields Papers include correspondence between Shields and Elizabeth Conway, from the period of their courtship, through their engagement, and during their marriage.

The operation of the plantation, the experience of African Americans and women, and the political participation of southern planters are only a few of the many topics covered in this microfilm edition. More detailed descriptions of each of the collections in this edition, as well as a list of major topics, can be found in the Reel Index of this user guide. An alphabetical listing of the major topics can be found in the subject index of this guide.

This edition represents the fourth of six parts of records filmed from the LLMVC for UPA's *Records of Southern Plantations from Emancipation to the Great Migration*. The other parts of this project are:

- Part 1: Louisiana Sugar Plantations
- Part 2: Louisiana Cotton Plantations
- Part 3: Louisiana Sugar Plantations (Bayou Lafourche and Bayou Teche)
- Part 5: Albert Batchelor Papers
- Part 6: David Weeks and Family Papers

In addition, records from the LLMVC for the antebellum period can be found in UPA's *Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations from the Revolution through the Civil War, Series I: Selections from Louisiana State University*. Collections from the LLMVC covering the Civil War era are available in UPA's *Confederate Military Manuscripts, Series B: Holdings of the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, Louisiana State University*. Records focusing on women's experiences and family life in the Mississippi Valley in the nineteenth century are in UPA's *Southern Women and Their Families in the 19th Century, Papers and Diaries: Series E, Holdings of the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, Louisiana State University Libraries*.

NOTE ON SOURCES

The collections microfilmed in this edition are from the holdings of the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, Hill Memorial Library, Louisiana State University Libraries, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803-3300. The descriptions of the collections in this user guide are adapted from inventories compiled by the Louisiana State University Libraries. Historical maps microfilmed among the introductory materials are courtesy of the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, Hill Memorial Library, Louisiana State University Libraries.

EDITORIALNOTE

The collections for this edition have been chosen in consultation with and under criteria established by series General Editor Ira Berlin. Records primarily date from 1863 to 1915; however there are records from before 1863 as well as after 1915. These records have been included in order to complete a specific series or volume. Several items in these collections have been omitted because they date from before the Civil War or have been previously microfilmed in other editions by UPA. All of the omitted materials are open to researchers at the LLMVC Collection. Omitted materials dating from before the Civil War include: Audley Clark Britton Papers, 1830–1860; Capell Family Papers, 1816–1860; Eli J. Capell Family Papers, 1816–1860; Stephen Duncan Family Papers, 1817–1860; and Eggleston-Roach Papers, 1825–1860. In the Joseph Dunbar Shields Papers, several items were omitted because they date from before the Civil War or contain relatively little documentation on the postbellum plantation system. These omitted materials are: Subseries 6.6 Historical Writings, 1833–1950; Subseries 6.7 Theatrical Writings, 1833–1950; and Series VII Printed Items, 1808–1960.

Portions of several collections have been previously microfilmed by UPA in other editions. The James A. Gillespie Family Papers, 1776–1865, were microfilmed in *Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations from the Revolution through the Civil War, Series I, Part 3*. The William Newton Mercer Papers from 1789 to 1865 were also microfilmed in *Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations from the Revolution through the Civil War, Series I, Part 3*. The Louisiana records of the Pugh-Williams-Mayes Family Papers were microfilmed in *Records of Southern Plantations from Emancipation to the Great Migration, Series B, Part 3*.

REEL INDEX

The following is a listing of the collections and folders comprising *Records of Southern Plantations from Emancipation to the Great Migration. Series B: Selections from the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, Louisiana State University Libraries. Part 4: Mississippi Cotton Plantations*. This edition consists of eleven manuscript collections. Each of these collections is identified by its title, followed by the date span of the collection. Dates in brackets indicate the span of each collection microfilmed for this edition by UPA. Geographical locations in the collection titles indicate the primary geographic area associated with a particular collection. Following the collection title, there is a brief description of the collection and a folder listing. The four-digit number on the far left is the frame at which a particular file folder begins. This is followed by the file title, the date(s) of the file, and the total number of frames. Substantive subjects are highlighted under the heading *Major Topics*.

Reel 1

Frame No.

Audley Clark Britton Family Papers, 1830–1929 [1860–1929] Adams County, Mississippi

Audley Clark Britton was a plantation owner and banker in Natchez, Mississippi. This collection consists of correspondence, business records, photographs, and newspaper clippings of the Audley Clark Britton family. Correspondence from the Civil War years describes agricultural labor by slaves and conditions on Britton's plantation holdings. Health matters and weather conditions are a frequent topic throughout the collection. There are also items pertaining to Britton's involvement in the banking firm Britton & Koontz.

- 0001 **Introductory Materials**. 3 frames.
- 0004 **[Correspondence], 1860–1864**. 59 frames.
Major Topics: Health conditions; agricultural labor by slaves; weather conditions; destruction of property by Union army; purchase of food.
- 0063 **[Correspondence], 1865–1869**. 75 frames.
Major Topics: Health conditions; purchase of food; cotton prices in New Orleans; insurance.
- 0138 **[Correspondence], 1870–1878**. 19 frames.
Major Topics: Britton, Van Vechten & Co. (bankers and brokers); purchase of land in Sonoma Valley, California.
- 0157 **[Correspondence], 1880–1887**. 94 frames.
Major Topics: West End Institute Boarding and Day School (for women, New Haven, Connecticut); flooding of Mississippi River; engagement of Eliza B. Britton to A. B. Wheeler.

Frame No.

- 0251 **[Correspondence], 1888.** 37 frames.
Major Topic: Britton & Koontz (banking firm).
- 0288 **[Correspondence], 1890–1894.** 68 frames.
Major Topics: Vacation in Hot Springs, North Carolina; health conditions; Britton & Burr (bankers and brokers).
- 0356 **[Correspondence], 1895–1899.** 50 frames.
Major Topics: Health conditions; *The Brigade* (magazine for National Guard members).
- 0406 **[Correspondence], 1900–1907.** 80 frames.
Major Topics: Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University; purchases from Natchez Drug Company; health conditions; cotton prices.
- 0486 **[Correspondence], 1908–1919.** 81 frames.
Major Topics: Land ownership; Newport Historical Society; Britton & Koontz; health conditions; sinking of the *Lusitania* and concerns about war.
- 0567 **[Correspondence], 1920–1929.** 32 frames.
Major Topics: Jefferson Military College graduation (Washington, Mississippi); land sales—Black Hawk plantation (Concordia Parish, Louisiana), Ashland plantation (Concordia Parish, Louisiana), Panola plantation (Ferriday, Louisiana), Shamrock plantation (Concordia Parish, Louisiana), Bullen Place (Jefferson County, Mississippi), and Durango plantation (Tensas Parish, Louisiana).
- 0599 **[Correspondence], Undated.** 80 frames.
Major Topics: Health conditions; New Orleans commission merchants; purchase of clothing.
- 0679 **[Correspondence], Undated.** 105 frames.
Major Topics: Health conditions; travel to New York City.
- 0784 **Jefferson Davis Letters, Undated.** 4 frames.
- 0788 **Business Cards [Britton & Burr, Stock Brokers], Undated.** 3 frames.
- 0791 **Britton Home, Natchez [Photographs], Undated.** 3 frames.
- 0794 **Dr. J. B. Stratton [Photographs], Undated.** 3 frames.
- 0797 **Britton Family Tomb, Undated.** 4 frames.
- 0801 **Bank Note, Undated.** 10 frames.
- 0811 **Newspaper Clippings, 1894, 1907, and 1925.** 3 frames.
Major Topic: Deaths of Audley Clark Britton, Selah W. Britton, and Eliza Macrery Britton.

Reel 2

Capell Family Papers, 1816–1900 [1860–1900] Amite County and Wilkinson County, Mississippi

This collection of Capell Family Papers covers plantation operations at Pleasant Hill plantation in Amite County, Mississippi, and business conducted at the Capell's Rose Hill general store. The collection begins with a series of correspondence, business, and legal papers. These papers include detailed records of cotton sold by commission merchants for Eli J. Capell. There is also a series of daybooks that cover Pleasant Hill plantation and accounts with laborers. Plantation diaries from the Civil War and early years of Reconstruction describe weather conditions, agricultural operations at Pleasant Hill, and health conditions.

- 0001 **Introductory Materials.** 3 frames.

Frame No.

- 0004 **Volume 27, Diary Records Transcript, 1862.** 2 frames.
Major Topic: List of slaves.
- 0006 **[Photograph], Undated.** 3 frames.
- 0009 **Correspondence, Business, and Legal Papers, 1860–1865.** 20 frames.
Major Topics: Cotton sales by Pritchard & Flower for Eli J. Capell; death of Eli J. Capell's son in Civil War.
- 0029 **Correspondence, Business, and Legal Papers, 1866–1867.** 28 frames.
Major Topics: Deaths of Confederate soldiers in Civil War; emancipation of slaves; property ownership; University of Mississippi; land sales; accounts from Rose Hill general store.
- 0057 **Correspondence, Business, and Legal Papers, 1868–1869.** 18 frames.
Major Topic: Cotton sales by Pritchard & Bickham for Eli J. Capell.
- 0075 **Correspondence, Business, and Legal Papers, 1872–1878.** 28 frames.
Major Topics: Landry & Godefroy (commission merchants); land sales; advance of cash, supplies, and merchandise in exchange for cotton crop.
- 0103 **Correspondence, Business, and Legal Papers, 1879.** 16 frames.
Major Topics: Personal debt; land sales; cotton sales by Bickham & Moore for Eli J. Capell.
- 0119 **Correspondence, Business, and Legal Papers, January–June 1880.** 16 frames.
Major Topic: Cotton sales by Bickham & Moore for Eli J. Capell.
- 0135 **Correspondence, Business, and Legal Papers, July–December 1880.** 31 frames.
Major Topics: Wheeler Carriage Co.; Livingston and Co. (manufacturing); accounts with commission merchants.
- 0166 **Correspondence, Business, and Legal Papers, 1881–1882.** 19 frames.
Major Topics: State and local taxes; accounts with commission merchants; land ownership.
- 0185 **Correspondence, Business, and Legal Papers, 1883–1887.** 12 frames.
Major Topics: Cotton sales; rental account.
- 0197 **Correspondence, Business, and Legal Papers, 1889–1893.** 29 frames.
Major Topic: Application of Henry Clay Capell for position of U.S. consul at Paso del Norte, Mexico.
- 0226 **Correspondence, Business, and Legal Papers, 1895–1900.** 11 frames.
Major Topic: Endorsements of Henry Clay Capell as lawyer.
- 0237 **Correspondence, Business, and Legal Papers, 1901–1930 and Undated.** 27 frames.
Major Topics: Accounts with commission merchants; land ownership.
- 0264 **Correspondence, Business, and Legal Papers, Undated.** 25 frames.
- 0289 **H. C. Capell Cotton Book, 1888–1891.** 16 frames.
Major Topic: Cotton production, prices, and sales.
- 0305 **Daybook, 1849–1876.** 125 frames.
Major Topics: Personal finances; Pleasant Hill plantation; cotton sales; purchase of consumer goods.
- 0430 **Daybook, 1880.** 28 frames.
Major Topics: Rose Hill Agricultural and Horticultural Club; store accounts; accounts with laborers for cotton picking.
- 0458 **Daybook of Sales, 1886–1887.** 47 frames.
Major Topic: Store accounts.
- 0505 **Laborers' Record Book, 1881; Notebook, Undated.** 30 frames.
Major Topics: Accounts with laborers; education.

Frame No.

- 0535 **Plantation Diary, 1861.** 50 frames.
Major Topics: Inventory of stock and implements on Pleasant Hill plantation; weather conditions; agricultural labor by slaves on Pleasant Hill plantation; health conditions; cotton picked by slaves.
- 0585 **Plantation Diary, 1862.** 53 frames.
Major Topics: Weather conditions; agricultural labor by slaves on Pleasant Hill plantation; cotton picked by slaves; health conditions.
- 0638 **Plantation Diary, 1842 and January–June 1863.** 25 frames.
Major Topics: Weather conditions; health conditions; agricultural labor by slaves.
- 0663 **Plantation Diary, June 1863–April 1866.** 67 frames.
Major Topics: Cotton production; weather conditions; health conditions; agricultural labor by slaves; cotton picked by slaves.
- 0730 **Plantation Diary, 1866–1867.** 46 frames.
Major Topics: Agricultural labor by slaves on Pleasant Hill plantation; weather conditions; cotton production; health conditions; cotton picked by slaves.

Reel 3

Eli J. Capell Family Papers, 1840–1932 [1860–1932] Amite County, Mississippi

Eli J. Capell owned Pleasant Hill plantation in Amite County, Mississippi. This collection contains correspondence, financial records, and ledger books relating to the Capell family and Pleasant Hill plantation. The collection begins with records of cotton sales and Capell's accounts with commission merchants. Several letters comment on social, economic, and farming conditions in Texas, Mississippi, and Indian Territory. Two letters mention the lynching of African Americans. Correspondence from the 1890s covers the career of Harry Crawford, a traveling salesman for the Wrought Iron Range Company and a grandson of Eli J. Capell. Other topics covered in the correspondence include health conditions, the appearance of the boll weevil in Texas, and cotton prices. A series of ledgers and memorandum books contains store accounts, apparently from Capell's Rose Hill general store; records of cotton sales; and accounts with laborers.

- 0001 **Introductory Materials.** 3 frames.
- 0004 **Papers, 1860–1866.** 23 frames.
Major Topics: Education; military service with Tennessee Volunteers; building of fortifications in Columbus, Kentucky; land conveyance; cotton sales.
- 0027 **Papers, 1867–1868.** 34 frames.
Major Topics: Cotton sales; purchase of food and other retail goods; labor agreement with freedmen.
- 0061 **Papers, 1869.** 34 frames.
Major Topics: Social life; education of Ophelia Capell at Silliman Female Collegiate Institute.
- 0095 **Papers, 1870–1871.** 34 frames.
Major Topic: Cotton sales by Pritchard & Bickham for Eli J. Capell.
- 0129 **Papers, 1872–1878.** 30 frames.
Major Topics: Account of Eli J. Capell with Pritchard & Bickham, including cotton sales; taxation; account of Eli J. Capell with Bickham & Moore.

Frame No.

- 0159 **Papers, 1879.** 24 frames.
Major Topics: Loan at 10 percent interest; cotton prices; purchases from commission merchants; inventory of items at Rose Hill store.
- 0183 **Papers, 1880.** 17 frames.
Major Topic: Rental of Rose Hill store and store accounts.
- 0200 **Papers, 1881–1885.** 32 frames.
Major Topics: Taxation; construction of railroad through Mississippi; lynching of African Americans; cotton shipments.
- 0232 **Papers, January–June 1886.** 33 frames.
Major Topics: Plans for planting of cotton and high-risk nature of cotton crop; social, economic, and farming conditions in Missouri.
- 0265 **Papers, July–December 1886.** 53 frames.
Major Topics: Weather conditions; social life; health conditions; shipping expenses.
- 0318 **Papers, 1887.** 52 frames.
Major Topics: Sharecropping agreement; shipping expenses; health conditions; weather conditions; social life in Texas.
- 0370 **Papers, 1888–1889.** 39 frames.
Major Topics: Health conditions; cotton prices; cotton sales by Bickham & Moore.
- 0409 **Papers, January–June 1890.** 42 frames.
Major Topics: Social, economic, and farming conditions in Texas; lynching of African American for alleged robbery and murder.
- 0451 **Papers, August–October 1890.** 30 frames.
Major Topics: Weather conditions; social life; wages for agricultural labor; land prices; health conditions.
- 0481 **Papers, January–April 1891.** 28 frames.
Major Topic: Social, economic, and farming conditions in Indian Territory.
- 0509 **Papers, May 1891.** 35 frames.
Major Topics: Candidacy of J. H. Hines for sheriff of Amite County; legal activities of Henry Clay Capell.
- 0544 **Papers, June 1891.** 23 frames.
Major Topics: Chickasaw Iron Works; legal activities of Henry Clay Capell.
- 0567 **Papers, July–December 1891.** 45 frames.
Major Topics: Employment at Ada Compress Company (cotton manufacturing); race relations between whites and African Americans.
- 0612 **Papers, 1892–July 1893.** 53 frames.
Major Topics: Cotton prices; employment of Harry Crawford as traveling salesman for Wrought Iron Range Company; social and economic conditions in Corsicana, Texas.
- 0665 **Papers, August–December 1893.** 38 frames.
Major Topic: Employment of Harry Crawford as traveling salesman for Wrought Iron Range Company.
- 0703 **Papers, March–April 1894.** 30 frames.
Major Topics: Employment of Harry Crawford as traveling salesman for Wrought Iron Range Company; health conditions.
- 0733 **Papers, May–December 1894.** 47 frames.
Major Topics: Employment of Harry Crawford as traveling salesman for Wrought Iron Range Company; death of child during childbirth; railroad construction; cotton sales.
- 0780 **Papers, January–July 1895.** 28 frames.
Major Topic: Social conditions in Texas.
- 0808 **Papers, August–December 1895.** 32 frames.

Frame No.

- Major Topics:* Social conditions in Indian Territory; vote on prohibition in Texas; killing of John Wesley Hardin; boll weevil in Texas.
- 0840 **Papers, January–March 1896.** 18 frames.
Major Topics: Health conditions; farming conditions, including late planting of corn, limited hiring of day laborers, and cotton prices.
- 0858 **Papers, April–May 1896.** 31 frames.
Major Topics: Weather conditions; health conditions.
- 0889 **Papers, June–November 1896.** 33 frames.
Major Topics: Wrought Iron Range Company; cotton production; cotton prices; ginning of cotton; health conditions.

Reel 4

Eli J. Capell Family Papers cont.

- 0001 **Louisiana State University Libraries, Collection Inventory.** 12 frames.
- 0013 **Papers, 1897.** 63 frames.
Major Topics: Health conditions; travel to New England via Niagara Falls; weather conditions.
- 0076 **Papers, January–March 1898.** 25 frames.
Major Topics: Estate of Edward Moore; cotton sales; employment of Harry Crawford as traveling salesman for Wrought Iron Range Company.
- 0101 **Papers, April–May 1898.** 14 frames.
Major Topic: Health conditions.
- 0115 **Papers, June–December 1898.** 36 frames.
Major Topic: Estate of James Lowry.
- 0151 **Papers, January–May 1899.** 27 frames.
Major Topics: Appointment of W. S. Crawford Jr. as justice of the peace in Amite County, Mississippi; health conditions.
- 0178 **Papers, June–December 1899.** 21 frames.
Major Topics: Farming and weather conditions in Texas; expression of racist attitudes regarding African Americans.
- 0199 **Papers, January–April 1900.** 26 frames.
Major Topics: Land sales; social and economic conditions in Ruston, Louisiana.
- 0225 **Papers, May 1900–1901.** 27 frames.
Major Topics: Weather conditions; cotton prices.
- 0252 **Papers, 1902–1903.** 25 frames.
Major Topics: Purchases from commission merchants; appointment of W. S. Crawford as road overseer; rental agreement; cotton sales.
- 0277 **Papers, 1904–1906.** 27 frames.
Major Topics: Land sales; cotton sales; purchases from commission merchants.
- 0304 **Papers, 1907.** 22 frames.
Major Topics: Accounts with commission merchants; cotton sales.
- 0326 **Papers, 1908.** 23 frames.
Major Topics: Cotton sales; accounts with commission merchants.
- 0349 **Papers, 1909.** 22 frames.
Major Topics: Accounts with commission merchants; banking records.
- 0371 **Papers, 1910–1911.** 21 frames.

Frame No.

- 0392 **Papers, 1912–1913.** 20 frames.
Major Topics: Banking records; accounts with commission merchants; land sale.
- 0412 **Papers, 1914.** 29 frames.
Major Topics: Loan from Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States; account with commission merchant.
- 0441 **Papers, 1915–1916.** 17 frames.
Major Topics: Land sales; accounts with commission merchants.
- 0458 **Papers, 1917–1932.** 57 frames.
Major Topics: Land ownership; account with commission merchant.
- 0515 **Newspaper Clippings, 1865–1910 and Undated.** 7 frames.
Major Topics: Emancipation Proclamation; poetry.
- 0522 **Papers, Undated.** 27 frames.
- 0549 **Papers, Undated.** 23 frames.
- 0572 **Papers, Undated.** 29 frames.
Major Topics: Cotton sales; accounts with commission merchants.
- 0601 **W. S. Crawford, Bank Book, 1907.** 4 frames.
Major Topic: Banking records.
- 0605 **Bank Stub Book, 1883–1886.** 96 frames.
Major Topic: Banking records.
- 0701 **Laborers' Record Book, 1867–1885.** 31 frames.
Major Topic: Accounts with laborers for Pleasant Hill and Rose Hill plantations.
- 0732 **Ledger, 1873–1877.** 55 frames.
Major Topics: Store accounts; cash advances; cotton sales; accounts with laborers.
- 0787 **Ledger, 1916–1917.** 12 frames.
Major Topic: Store accounts.
- 0799 **Memorandum Book, 1869–1876.** 23 frames.
Major Topic: Cotton sales.
- 0822 **Memorandum Book, 1878.** 5 frames.
Major Topic: Store accounts.
- 0827 **Memorandum Book, 1885.** 17 frames.
Major Topic: Agricultural operations, including picking of cotton.
- 0844 **Memorandum Book, 1887.** 13 frames.
Major Topics: Rental accounts; cotton production; accounts with laborers.
- 0857 **Memorandum Book, 1896.** 12 frames.
Major Topic: Wrought Iron Range Company.
- 0869 **Memorandum Book, 1898–1903.** 93 frames.
Major Topic: Accounts with laborers, including cotton picking records.

Reel 5

Eli J. Capell Family Papers cont.

- 0001 **Introductory Materials.** 3 frames.
- 0004 **Memorandum Book, 1898–1908.** 30 frames.
Major Topic: Personal finances.
- 0034 **Memorandum Book, 1903.** 33 frames.
- 0067 **Memorandum Book, 1917.** 12 frames.
Major Topic: Store accounts.

Frame No.

0079 **Plantation Diary, 1869.** 63 frames.

Major Topics: Weather conditions; agricultural operations, including cotton planting, cultivation, and picking.

0142 **[Financial and Legal Records], 1845.** 52 frames.

Major Topics: Personal finances; cotton prices; accounts with commission merchants; Rose Hill store accounts; cotton sales; Bickham & Moore; United Confederate Veterans; land sales.

Stephen Duncan Family Papers, 1817–1877 [1863–1877] Adams County, Mississippi

This collection consists of correspondence of the family of Stephen Duncan and a diary of travel in Europe during 1876 and 1877. The Duncan family owned several plantations in Adams County, Mississippi. The correspondence discusses the management of these plantations, including the production of cotton, slaves, and free African American laborers. There is also a letter commenting on the Reconstruction policies of President Andrew Johnson.

0194 **Introductory Materials.** 6 frames.

0200 **Correspondence, 1863–1865.** 85 frames.

Major Topics: Management of Duncan family plantations, including status of slaves; cotton production; cotton prices in Liverpool, England; Reconstruction policies of President Andrew Johnson.

0285 **Correspondence, 1866.** 23 frames.

Major Topics: Mortgage; estimate of cotton production for 1866; African American agricultural laborers.

0308 **Diary, 1876–1877.** 86 frames.

Major Topic: Travel in Europe.

Eggleston-Roach Papers, 1825–1903 [1860–1903] Warren County, Mississippi

The portion of this collection as microfilmed by UPA consists of correspondence pertaining to the Eggleston and Roach families and several photographs. A letter from the 1900s in this collection contains reminiscences about the Civil War and exemplifies the “Lost Cause” perspective. The letter comments on the brave efforts of the young men of the Confederate military and the support given to the soldiers by the women of the Confederacy.

0394 **Introductory Materials.** 4 frames.

0398 **[Correspondence], Undated.** 27 frames.

Major Topic: Civil War.

0425 **Photographs, Undated.** 4 frames.

0429 **Funeral Badge and Envelope, Undated.** 2 frames.

James A. Gillespie Family Papers, 1776–1931 [1866–1931] Adams County, Mississippi; also Concordia Parish, Louisiana

James A. Gillespie owned Hollywood plantation in Adams County, Mississippi, and Indian Village plantation in Concordia Parish, Louisiana. This collection covers these plantations from the early years of Reconstruction into the twentieth century. The collection begins with several agreements with laborers to work on Hollywood plantation. These agreements mention the terms of the contract, including the wage to be paid and the amount of cotton to be shared. There are also accounts with commission merchants and records of cotton sales for Gillespie by commission merchants. After 1880, Hollywood plantation was run by Gillespie’s wife, Jane, and

Frame No.

there is frequent and detailed correspondence from Jane to her husband describing operations on Hollywood plantation. A series of ledger books and record books includes accounts with laborers and records of cotton sales and lease payments. Other topics covered in this collection include Reconstruction policies and the presidential election of 1876.

0431 **Louisiana State University Libraries, Collection Inventory.** 11 frames.

0442 **Papers, 1866.** 69 frames.

Major Topics: Labor agreements; amnesty oath; cotton prices; accounts with laborers.

0511 **Papers, 1867.** 100 frames.

Major Topics: Labor agreements; cotton prices; cotton sales; weather conditions; accounts with commission merchants; agricultural production; criticism of Reconstruction policies.

0611 **Papers, 1868–1869.** 94 frames.

Major Topics: Criticism of Reconstruction policies; labor agreements; cotton sales; accounts with laborers.

Reel 6

James A. Gillespie Family Papers cont.

0001 **Introductory Materials.** 3 frames.

0004 **Papers, 1873–1874.** 106 frames.

Major Topics: Lease agreements for Hollywood plantation; cotton prices; plan to employ Chinese laborers; accounts with commission merchants; weather conditions; will of James A. Gillespie; lease agreement for Indian Village plantation; cotton sales; labor agreement.

0110 **Papers, 1875–1879.** 125 frames.

Major Topics: Lease agreements for Indian Village plantation and Hollywood plantation; cotton sales; management of Indian Village plantation by William Jett and Company; labor agreement; accounts with commission merchants; speech by James L. Alcorn on construction of levees on Mississippi River; 1876 presidential election.

0235 **Papers, 1880–1884.** 61 frames.

Major Topics: Accounts with commission merchants; cotton sales.

0296 **Papers, 1885–1889.** 76 frames.

Major Topics: Lease agreements for Hollywood plantation; management of Hollywood plantation by Jane Gillespie; accounts with commission merchants; cotton sales.

0372 **Papers, 1890–1899.** 95 frames.

Major Topics: Accounts with commission merchants; lease agreements for Hollywood plantation; management of Hollywood plantation by Jane Gillespie; land sales; cotton sales.

0467 **Papers, 1900–1906.** 75 frames.

Major Topics: Land sales; lease agreement for Hollywood plantation; management of Hollywood plantation by Jane Gillespie; lease agreements for Mantua and Egypt plantations; cotton sales; cotton prices.

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- 0542 **Papers, 1901–1927.** 83 frames.
Major Topic: Lease agreements for Adams County plantations, including Egypt, Hollywood, and Mantua plantations.
- 0625 **Papers, 1907–1918.** 68 frames.
Major Topics: Cotton ginning accounts; claim by James A. Gillespie against U.S. government for cotton seized by U.S. Army during Civil War.
- 0693 **Papers, 1920–1931.** 37 frames.
Major Topics: Sale of automobile repair business; land ownership.
- 0730 **Papers, [Undated].** 72 frames.
- 0802 **Papers, [Undated].** 73 frames.
- 0875 **Papers, [Undated].** 35 frames.
- 0910 **Papers, [Undated].** 44 frames.
Major Topics: Accounts with laborers; cotton production.
- 0954 **Papers, [Undated].** 7 frames.
- 0961 **Papers, [Undated].** 5 frames.

Reel 7

James A. Gillespie Family Papers cont.

- 0001 **Introductory Materials.** 3 frames.
- 0004 **Notebook, [Undated].** 7 frames.
- 0011 **Notebook, [Undated].** 18 frames.
- 0029 **Prayer Book, [Undated].** 7 frames.
- 0036 **Miscellaneous, [Undated].** 3 frames.
- 0039 **German Notebook, [Undated].** 8 frames.
- 0047 **Advertisements, [Undated].** 6 frames.
- 0053 **Daybook, 1901.** 35 frames.
Major Topics: Personal finances; store accounts.
- 0088 **Ledger, 1905–1907.** 157 frames.
Major Topics: Store accounts; accounts with laborers; rental accounts for Egypt, Hollywood, and Mantua plantations; cotton production and prices.
- 0245 **Ledger, 1908–1910.** 78 frames.
Major Topics: Store accounts; accounts with laborers; cotton sales.
- 0323 **Ledger, 1911–1913.** 104 frames.
Major Topics: Store accounts; accounts with laborers.
- 0427 **Ledger, 1913–1916.** 164 frames.
Major Topics: Store accounts; accounts with laborers.
- 0591 **Ledger, 1916–1922.** 255 frames.
Major Topics: Store accounts; accounts with laborers.
- 0846 **[Record Book, 1890–1891 and Undated].** 23 frames.
Major Topics: Hollywood plantation lease payments; store accounts.

Reel 8

James A. Gillespie Family Papers cont.

- 0001 **Introductory Materials.** 3 frames.
- 0004 **Notebook, Undated.** 99 frames.

Frame No.

- 0103 **Record Book, 1843–1879.** 56 frames.
Major Topics: Accounts with laborers; hiring of laborers; personal finances; list of slaves on Hollywood plantation.
- 0159 **Record Book, 1870.** 45 frames.
Major Topics: Personal finances; accounts with laborers.
- 0204 **Record Book, 1874–1880.** 43 frames.
Major Topics: Cotton sales; accounts with laborers; personal finances; lease agreement for Hollywood plantation; lease payments; personal debt.
- 0247 **Record Book, 1882–1884.** 36 frames.
Major Topics: Accounts with laborers; agricultural operations; cotton sales; lease payments; store accounts; personal debt; weather conditions; cotton picking records.
- 0283 **Record Book, 1887–1888.** 66 frames.
Major Topics: Cooking recipes; medical remedies; lease agreement for Hollywood plantation; list of slaves on Hollywood and Indian Village plantations (1858 and 1860); rental agreement; accounts with laborers.
- 0349 **Record Book, 1892–1894.** 46 frames.
Major Topics: Store accounts; accounts with laborers; cotton production and sales.
- 0395 **Time Book, 1885 and 1888–1893.** 52 frames.
Major Topic: Accounts with laborers for Sligo plantation.

Reel 9

William Newton Mercer Papers, 1789–1936 [1860–1936] Adams County, Mississippi

This collection consists of correspondence, business papers, and diaries of William Newton Mercer. Mercer owned four plantations in Adams County, Mississippi: Laurel Hill, Buckhurst, Ellis Cliffs, and Ormond. He also owned land in Coahoma County Mississippi, in Illinois, and in New Orleans. Mercer's correspondence begins with letters from 1865 to 1874. These letters discuss the Civil War's effect on the economy and the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln. There is also correspondence with cotton factors in Liverpool, England, enclosing reports on the cotton market in Liverpool. This correspondence is followed by a series of letters from Wilmer Shields, the overseer of Mercer's four plantations in Adams County. Shields' correspondence with Mercer dates from 1865 to 1869. These letters discuss conditions on Mercer's plantations at the end of the Civil War and during the immediate postwar years. Shields frequently wrote about the workers on Mercer's plantations. Some letters mention demands by former slaves for a school and for additional days off. (The Shields correspondence with Mercer, dating from 1853 to 1865, and the portion of the William Newton Mercer papers dating from 1789 to 1865 can be found in UPA's *Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations from the Revolution through the Civil War, Series I: Selections from Louisiana State University, Part 3: The Natchez Area.*)

The other series in this collection include financial records, property records, and Mercer's diary. Financial records contains accounts with commission merchants. Property records cover Mercer's landholdings in Illinois and New Orleans. Mercer remained loyal to the Union during the Civil War, but he did not sign an oath of allegiance and much of his property in New Orleans was confiscated. The New Orleans Property folder (Reel 9, Frame 0734) includes materials pertaining to the seizure of Mercer's property and the return of the property on October 1, 1865. Mercer's diary spans from 1865 to 1874. The diary for 1865 includes some revealing observations about the Civil War and comments about the evil of slavery. Mercer also wrote that

Frame No.

he would have been willing to manumit his slaves before the war. Much of the diary comments on the weather and financial transactions.

- 0001 **Louisiana State University Libraries, Collection Inventory.** 15 frames.
- 0016 **Correspondence, 1865–1866.** 96 frames.
Major Topics: Stock investments; Boston, Newport, and New York Steamboat Co.; effect of Civil War on economy, including comment on wish for end of the war; expression of sadness regarding assassination of President Lincoln; cotton prices in Liverpool, England; accounts with laborers for Bohemia plantation in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana.
- 0112 **Correspondence, 1867–1874.** 79 frames.
Major Topics: Cotton prices in Liverpool, England; cotton sales; personal finances; stock investments.
- 0191 **Correspondence, Undated.** 66 frames.
Major Topic: Health conditions.
- 0257 **Wilmer Shields Letters, 1853–1866 [1865–1866].** 56 frames.
Major Topics: Laurel Hill plantation, Adams County; status of Mercer’s former slaves; weather conditions; cotton production, including comments on slow pace of work; list of former slaves who remained on or returned to Ormond, Buckhurst, Ellis Cliffs, and Laurel Hill plantations; reports on agricultural operations at Ormond, Buckhurst, and Ellis Cliffs plantations; land owned by Mercer; demands by workers for extra days off and for a school; taxation; care of elderly former slaves; payment of wages to agricultural laborers.
- 0313 **Wilmer Shields Letters, 1867.** 66 frames.
Major Topics: Problems with African American agricultural laborers, including desertion from Buckhurst plantation and difficulty of finding new workers; demands by workers for a school; list of former slaves remaining on Ellis Cliffs plantation; agricultural operations; weather conditions; payment of wages to agricultural laborers; shipping payments; cotton prices; reports on agricultural operations at Ormond, Buckhurst, and Ellis Cliffs plantations; low cotton production; Laurel Hill plantation; taxation.
- 0379 **Wilmer Shields Letters, 1869.** 30 frames.
Major Topics: Reports on agricultural operations at Ellis Cliffs, Ormond, and Buckhurst plantations; Laurel Hill plantation; weather conditions; cotton production; problems retaining agricultural laborers; African American political participation; payment of wages to agricultural laborers; goods stolen from Laurel Hill plantation.
- 0409 **Financial Records, 1860–1867.** 49 frames.
Major Topics: Taxation; investments; cotton shipments; accounts with commission merchants and retail stores; expenses at Bohemia plantation (sugar); insurance.
- 0458 **Financial Records, 1868–1870.** 90 frames.
Major Topics: Sales of wines; accounts with commission merchants and retail stores.
- 0548 **Financial Records, January–June 1871.** 67 frames.
Major Topic: Accounts with commission merchants and retail stores.
- 0615 **Financial Records, July–December 1871.** 55 frames.
Major Topic: Accounts with commission merchants and retail stores.
- 0670 **Financial Records, 1872–1874.** 52 frames.
Major Topics: Accounts with commission merchants and retail stores; investments; molasses sales from Bohemia plantation.
- 0722 **Financial Records, Undated.** 7 frames.
- 0729 **Succession of William Newton Mercer, 1869.** 5 frames.

Frame No.

- Major Topic:* Will of William Newton Mercer.
- 0734 **New Orleans Property, 1860–1869 and Undated.** 59 frames.
Major Topics: Taxation; seizure of William Newton Mercer's New Orleans property by Union army and return of the property on October 1, 1865; rental payments.
- 0793 **Illinois Property, 1860–1867.** 23 frames.
Major Topics: Taxation; land sales.
- 0816 **Reprints and Typescript, 1936.** 50 frames.
Major Topic: Diary of William Newton Mercer on trip from Baltimore to New Orleans.

Reel 10

William Newton Mercer Papers cont.

- 0001 **Introductory Materials.** 3 frames.
- 0004 **Bank Book, 1872–1873.** 7 frames.
Major Topic: Banking records.
- 0011 **Diary, January–August 1865.** 18 frames.
Major Topics: Weather conditions; personal finances; expression of joy regarding end of Civil War and statement on cause of war; comment on evil of slavery and willingness to manumit slaves; possibility of gradual emancipation; expression of loyalty to United States.
- 0029 **Diary, August 1865–January 1866.** 17 frames.
Major Topics: Weather conditions; personal finances; cotton sales; investments.
- 0046 **Diary, January–July 1866 and November 1866–March 1867.** 79 frames.
Major Topics: Land sales; rental payments; weather conditions; personal finances; Bohemia plantation.
- 0125 **Diary, July–October 1866.** 16 frames.
Major Topics: Personal finances; weather conditions.
- 0141 **Diary, March–April 1867.** 16 frames.
Major Topics: Taxation; weather conditions; personal finances; cotton sales.
- 0157 **Diary, May–July 1867.** 16 frames.
Major Topics: Personal finances; taxation; cotton sales; weather conditions.
- 0173 **Diary, July–October 1867.** 16 frames.
Major Topics: Personal finances; weather conditions; wage payment to overseer.
- 0189 **Diary, June–July 1867 and September 1867–January 1868.** 14 frames.
Major Topics: Personal finances; weather conditions; agricultural production.
- 0203 **Diary, January–April 1868.** 16 frames.
Major Topics: Weather conditions; personal finances; joint ownership of Bohemia plantation.
- 0219 **Diary, April–August 1868.** 15 frames.
Major Topics: Weather conditions; personal finances.
- 0234 **Diary, August–October 1868.** 8 frames.
Major Topic: Weather conditions.
- 0242 **Diary, July–August 1868 and October–December 1868.** 16 frames.
Major Topics: Weather conditions; cotton sales; election of 1868; African American political participation.
- 0258 **Diary, December 1868–March 1869.** 16 frames.
Major Topics: Weather conditions; cotton sales.

Frame No.

- 0274 **Diary, April–August 1869.** 20 frames.
Major Topics: Taxation; weather conditions; agricultural operations at Bohemia plantation; cash advances; investments; payment of wages to agricultural laborers.
- 0294 **Diary, August–December 1869.** 20 frames.
Major Topics: Weather conditions; agricultural operations at Bohemia plantation.
- 0314 **Diary, January–March 1870.** 16 frames.
Major Topics: Weather conditions; personal finances.
- 0330 **Diary, March–July 1870.** 20 frames.
Major Topics: Rental payments; personal finances; weather conditions.
- 0350 **Diary, July–October 1870.** 20 frames.
Major Topics: Personal finances; gold sales; weather conditions; investments.
- 0370 **Diary, July 1872–February 1873.** 20 frames.
Major Topics: Weather conditions; personal finances.
- 0390 **Diary, February–June 1873.** 15 frames.
Major Topics: Weather conditions; payment of wages to house servants; health condition, including medicinal consumption of alcohol.
- 0405 **Diary, June–October 1873.** 15 frames.
Major Topics: Health condition, including medicinal consumption of alcohol; weather conditions; payment of debts and servants' wages.
- 0420 **Diary, November 1873–January 1874.** 9 frames.
Major Topics: Health condition, including medicinal consumption of alcohol; weather conditions.
- 0429 **Eliza Young Record Book, 1867–1868.** 8 frames.
Major Topic: Inventory of personal consumer items.
- 0437 **Cashbook, November 1868–January 1869.** 16 frames.
Major Topic: Food purchases.
- 0453 **Cashbook, May 1872–December 1873.** 14 frames.
Major Topic: Personal finances.
- 0467 **Photographs of Maps and Documents, 1826–1899 and Undated.** 8 frames.
Major Topic: Laurel Hill and Ormond plantations.
- 0475 **Passport, Survey Map, and Architectural Drawings, Undated.** 19 frames.

Joseph Addison Montgomery Papers, 1806–1886 Claiborne County, Mississippi

Joseph Addison Montgomery owned Belmont plantation near Port Gibson, Mississippi, and also worked as a cotton factor in New Orleans. This collection consists of correspondence written by Joseph Addison Montgomery; his wife, Amelia Smylie; his father-in-law, James Smylie; and his brother, Samuel Montgomery. Letters from the antebellum period comment on family matters, the flooding of the Mississippi River, punishment of slaves, and Joseph's work as a cotton factor in New Orleans. Letters from Samuel in 1861 mention his plan to join a Confederate cavalry company as a chaplain. Amelia's correspondence to her husband in 1861 includes her dismissal of rumors about possible slave uprisings in Port Gibson. This 1861 correspondence also discusses Amelia's management of Belmont plantation. There are no letters from November 1861 to September 1865. Amelia's correspondence to her husband from the postwar period also covers her management of agricultural operations at Belmont plantation. She often commented on the status of the labor force, including her occasional difficulty in making wage payments. Joseph's correspondence from 1870 and 1871 pertains to his activities as a cotton factor in New Orleans.

Frame No.

- 0494 **Louisiana State University Libraries, Collection Inventory.** 10 frames.
- 0504 **Correspondence, 1806–1830.** 18 frames.
Major Topics: Flooding of Mississippi River; cash advance; religious activities; weather conditions; childbirth; comments on punishment of slaves; health conditions; personal debt.
- 0522 **Correspondence, 1831–1839.** 19 frames.
Major Topics: Weather conditions; religious activities in New Orleans; health conditions.
- 0541 **Correspondence, 1840–1847.** 24 frames.
Major Topics: Employment of Samuel Montgomery as reverend in Canton, Mississippi; health conditions; parental advice.
- 0565 **Correspondence, 1848–1860.** 36 frames.
Major Topics: Activities of Joseph Addison Montgomery as cotton factor in New Orleans; health conditions; estate of James Smylie; conditions on Belmont plantation.
- 0601 **Correspondence, 1861 and 1865.** 31 frames.
Major Topics: Samuel Montgomery's plan to join Confederate cavalry company as chaplain; health conditions; dismissal by Amelia Montgomery of concerns about slave uprisings in Port Gibson; management of Belmont plantation by Amelia Montgomery, including problems obtaining supplies; weather conditions.
- 0632 **Correspondence, [January–July] 1866.** 71 frames.
Major Topics: Health conditions; management of Belmont plantation by Amelia Montgomery, including shortage of money to pay wages of African American agricultural laborers; New Orleans cotton factor.
- 0703 **Correspondence, [July–December] 1866.** 84 frames.
Major Topics: Management of Belmont plantation by Amelia Montgomery, including cotton production and settlement with African American agricultural laborers; health conditions; house servants; concerns about stealing of goods by African American servants and laborers.
- 0787 **Correspondence, 1867.** 68 frames.
Major Topics: Management of Belmont plantation by Amelia Montgomery; weather conditions; house servants; education costs; shortage of money for payment of wages to African American agricultural laborers; health conditions.
- 0855 **Correspondence, 1868.** 82 frames.
Major Topics: Management of Belmont plantation by Amelia Montgomery; concerns about stealing of goods by African American servants and laborers; hiring of agricultural laborers; health conditions; weather conditions.
- 0937 **Correspondence, 1870–1871.** 30 frames.
Major Topics: Shipment of supplies by Joseph Addison Montgomery in New Orleans to Belmont plantation; activities of Joseph Addison Montgomery as cotton factor in New Orleans.
- 0967 **Printed Items, [1856].** 2 frames.
Major Topic: A. Levi Bloom & Co. (wholesale and retail store).
- 0969 **Financial Records, [1819–1860].** 5 frames.
Major Topic: Personal finances.
- 0974 **Cashbook, 1826–1858.** 74 frames.
Major Topic: Financial records of *Mississippi Statesman* newspaper.

Reel 11

Pugh-Williams-Mayes Family Papers, 1844–1933 [1845–1900] Coahoma County, Mississippi

The Pugh-Williams-Mayes Family Papers microfilmed for this edition by UPA focus on John Williams, a plantation owner in the Mississippi Delta; his son-in-law, Richard Pugh; and R. B. Mayes, a commission merchant in Tennessee. The collection begins with correspondence between R. B. Mayes and John Williams. A major topic of these letters is the financial problems of John Williams, including his plan to sell slaves and his plantation in order to pay off his debts. Financial records pertain to John Williams and his son-in-law, Richard Pugh. Cotton sales, accounts with laborers, and personal finances are recorded in the cashbooks, daybooks, and ledgers.

Related Pugh family collections microfilmed by UPA can be found in *Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations from the Revolution through the Civil War, Series G: Selections from the Barker Texas History Center, University of Texas at Austin, Part 1: Texas and Louisiana Collections* and *Series I: Selections from Louisiana State University, Part 1: Louisiana Sugar Plantations*. Pugh family collections can also be found in UPA's *Records of Southern Plantations from Emancipation to the Great Migration, Series B: Selections from the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, Louisiana State University Libraries, Part 3: Louisiana Sugar Plantations (Bayou Lafourche and Bayou Teche)*.

- 0001 **Louisiana State University Libraries, Collection Inventory.** 14 frames.
- 0015 **Correspondence, R. B. Mayes to John Williams, 1845–1854.** 29 frames.
Major Topics: Land sales; personal finances of R. B. Mayes; health conditions; will of Patrick Maguire; sale of slaves.
- 0044 **Correspondence, R. B. Mayes to John Williams, 1855–1857 and 1859.** 65 frames.
Major Topics: Financial problems of John Williams, including debts and plan to sell slaves and plantation; estate of Patrick Maguire.
- 0109 **Financial Records, Accounts of John Williams, 1847–1860 and Undated.** 54 frames.
Major Topics: Personal finances; accounts with R. B. Mayes and with Mayes, Orr, and Gant.
- 0163 **Cashbook, 1891–1892.** 23 frames.
Major Topics: Personal finances of John Williams; cotton sales; accounts with laborers.
- 0186 **Cashbook, 1893–1900.** 28 frames.
Major Topics: Personal finances of John Williams; accounts with King & Anderson; accounts with laborers; cotton sales by John Williams.
- 0214 **Daybook, 1882–1883.** 63 frames.
Major Topics: Accounts of food purchases at Maguire Place; cotton production on Maguire plantation.
- 0277 **Journal, 1891–1892.** 21 frames.
Major Topics: Accounts with commission merchants; accounts with laborers.
- 0298 **Ledger, 1868–1869.** 88 frames.
Major Topic: Accounts with laborers.
- 0386 **Ledger, 1888–1889.** 52 frames.
Major Topics: Cotton sales; accounts with laborers; personal finances.
- 0438 **Ledger, 1891–1892.** 62 frames.
Major Topics: Personal finances; accounts with commission merchants; cotton production and sales.
- 0500 **Ledger, 1892–1895.** 51 frames.
Major Topics: Accounts with laborers; cotton sales.

Reel 12

Salisbury Plantation Papers, 1858–1900 Wilkinson County, Mississippi

This collection consists of a plantation record book for Salisbury plantation noting payments made to laborers for cotton picked and other agricultural labor.

0001 **Louisiana State University Libraries, Collection Inventory.** 4 frames.

0005 **Papers, 1894 and 1900.** 17 frames.

Major Topic: Accounts with laborers.

0022 **Arthur Crisfield Notebook, 1858.** 15 frames.

Major Topic: Education.

Joseph D. Shields Papers, 1802–1960 Adams County, Mississippi

The Joseph D. Shields Papers consist of correspondence, financial records, photographs, and writings, dating from 1802 to 1960. Major figures represented in the collection include Joseph D. Shields—lawyer, politician, judge, author, and plantation owner; William Bayard Shields—father of Joseph D. Shields and a Mississippi politician during the territorial period; Elizabeth Conway Shields—wife of Joseph D. Shields; and Joseph D. Shields Jr.—son of Joseph D. Shields and a soldier in the Confederate army killed in action in Virginia.

The collection begins with correspondence of William Bayard Shields on Mississippi politics. Letters from the 1830s and 1840s cover Joseph D. Shields' education at the University of Virginia and his engagement to Elizabeth Conway. After their marriage, correspondence from the 1840s and 1850s discusses social and economic conditions in Natchez, health conditions, and Joseph's legal practice. During the Civil War, Joseph D. Shields Jr. wrote regularly to his parents about his service in the Confederate army. There are also letters from other soldiers describing his death in a battle near Culpeper Court House, Virginia. Other correspondence from the Civil War years pertains to Joseph D. Shields Sr.'s tenure in the Mississippi State legislature. Correspondence from after the war covers operations at Pecano plantation in Tensas Parish, Louisiana; the U.S. military occupation of Natchez, Mississippi; and the legal practice of Joseph D. Shields. By the 1880s, much of the correspondence is about Shields' writing of a biography of Mississippi politician Seargent Smith Prentiss.

Financial records (Reel 13, Frames 0504–0566) date from 1802 to 1909. Records from before 1865 cover the sale of slaves, cotton, and land. Postwar financial papers include labor contracts with freedmen for Pecano plantation and claims for cotton seized from Wakefield plantation during the Civil War. A ledger from 1873 includes accounts with laborers (Reel 15, Frame 0318).

The last major series in this collection consists of the political writings of Joseph D. Shields. Topics covered in these writings include federal-state relations, the Bank of the United States, the Compromise of 1850, the secessionist movement in Mississippi, and equal political rights for women.

Frame No.

- 0037 **Louisiana State University Libraries, Collection Inventory.** 15 frames.
- 0052 **Correspondence, 1807–1822.** 43 frames.
Major Topics: Complaints about administration of Mississippi Governor Robert Williams; Mississippi political matters; relationship between federal government and Mississippi territorial government; weather conditions; corn and cotton production.
- 0095 **Correspondence, 1835–1839.** 32 frames.
Major Topic: Education of Joseph D. Shields at University of Virginia, including tensions between faculty and students.
- 0127 **Correspondence, 1840.** 58 frames.
Major Topics: Education of Joseph D. Shields at University of Virginia; engagement of Joseph D. Shields to Elizabeth Conway; correspondence between Joseph D. Shields and Elizabeth Conway.
- 0185 **Correspondence, 1841.** 58 frames.
Major Topics: Correspondence between Joseph D. Shields and Elizabeth Conway; law license to Joseph D. Shields; travel to Jackson, Mississippi, and New Orleans and description of buildings and business conditions.
- 0243 **Correspondence, 1842.** 44 frames.
Major Topic: Correspondence between Joseph D. Shields and his wife, Elizabeth.
- 0287 **Correspondence, 1843–1849.** 45 frames.
Major Topics: Social life; boll weevil.
- 0332 **Correspondence, 1850–1859.** 49 frames.
Major Topics: Correspondence between Joseph D. Shields and his wife, Elizabeth; travel in Virginia; health conditions; economic and social conditions in Natchez; legal practice of Joseph D. Shields.
- 0381 **Correspondence, 1860–1861.** 83 frames.
Major Topic: Confederate army service of Joseph D. Shields Jr. (“Dunbar” Shields).
- 0464 **Correspondence, 1862–1863.** 103 frames.
Major Topic: Confederate army service of Joseph D. Shields Jr. (“Dunbar” Shields).
- 0567 **Correspondence, 1861–1863.** 99 frames.
Major Topics: Flooding of Mississippi River; organizing of Confederate army units; service of Joseph D. Shields Sr. in Mississippi State legislature; attendance at religious services; correspondence from Elizabeth Shields in Natchez; death of Joseph D. Shields Jr. in battle near Culpeper Court House, Virginia, on August 1, 1863.
- 0666 **Correspondence, 1865.** 40 frames.
Major Topics: Agreement with freedmen to work on Pecano plantation (Tensas Parish, Louisiana); amnesty oath; agricultural operations on Pecano plantation; health conditions.
- 0706 **Correspondence, 1866.** 58 frames.
Major Topics: Correspondence between Joseph D. Shields Sr. and his wife, Elizabeth; legal practice of Joseph D. Shields Sr.; reports on death on Joseph Shields Jr.; attendance at religious services.
- 0764 **Letter Book, 1866–1867.** 97 frames.
Major Topics: Correspondence with Buckner & Newman (New Orleans commission merchants); agricultural operations at Pecano plantation; financial status of Joseph D. Shields Sr.; requests for cash advances to pay wages of African American agricultural laborers; health conditions.

Frame No.

- 0861 **Correspondence, 1867–1874.** 93 frames.
Major Topics: Correspondence between James Biddle, U.S. military commander in Natchez, and Joseph D. Shields Sr., regarding Shields' plan to disregard Special Order 35 (military authority); health conditions; flooding; agricultural operations at Pecano plantation.
- 0954 **Correspondence, 1874–1879.** 78 frames.
Major Topics: Episcopal Church conventions; health conditions; silver prices.

Reel 13

Joseph D. Shields Papers cont.

- 0001 **Introductory Materials.** 2 frames.
- 0003 **Correspondence, 1880–1882.** 108 frames.
Major Topics: Election of 1880; political divisions between northern and southern states; discussion of biography of Seargent Smith Prentiss.
- 0111 **Correspondence, 1883–1884.** 134 frames.
Major Topics: Discussion of biography of Seargent Smith Prentiss; death of Elizabeth Shields; public reaction to Prentiss biography.
- 0245 **Correspondence, 1885–1903.** 50 frames.
Major Topics: Public reaction to Prentiss biography; request for portrait of Joseph D. Shields Sr. for Mississippi State capitol building.
- 0295 **Correspondence, 1906–1934.** 39 frames.
Major Topics: Natchez Cotton Carnival; Little Theatre Players; publishing industry; Natchez Association of Commerce.
- 0334 **Correspondence, 1935–1949.** 29 frames.
Major Topic: Historical pageant organized by Elizabeth Dunbar Murray.
- 0363 **Correspondence, Undated.** 93 frames.
Major Topics: Social life; Confederate army service of Joseph D. Shields Jr.; detention of Joseph D. Shields Sr. by U.S. Army Captain James Biddle; flooding.
- 0456 **Correspondence, Undated.** 48 frames.
Major Topic: Confederate army service of Joseph D. Shields Jr.
- 0504 **Financial Papers, 1802–1864.** 46 frames.
Major Topics: Liabilities; land sales; sale of slaves; cotton sales; supplies to Confederate States of America.
- 0550 **Financial Papers, 1865–1885, 1909, and Undated.** 17 frames.
Major Topics: Labor contracts with freedmen for Pecano plantation; Wakefield plantation lease agreement; publishing expenses; claims for cotton seized from Wakefield plantation during Civil War.
- 0567 **Genealogical Materials and Biographical Sketches, [1868, 1937, and Undated].** 70 frames.
Major Topics: William Bayard Shields; Joseph Dunbar Shields Sr.; Birds Nest residence in Natchez; Elizabeth Conway.
- 0637 **Genealogy (John Willis Family), [1912].** 17 frames.
- 0654 **Miscellaneous, 1836–1935.** 54 frames.
Major Topics: Granting of law license to Joseph D. Shields Sr.; Special Order Number 50 (military occupation of Natchez), regarding Elizabeth Shields' apology for her treatment of American flag; loyalty oath; Natchez Federation of Women.
- 0708 **Miscellaneous, Undated.** 24 frames.

Frame No.

- 0732 **Photographs, Undated.** 4 frames.
Major Topic: Portrait of Joseph D. Shields Jr. in Mississippi State capitol building.
- 0736 **Photographs, Undated.** 2 frames.
- 0738 **Photographs, Undated.** 2 frames.
- 0740 **Photographs, Undated.** 2 frames.
- 0742 **Photographs, Undated.** 8 frames.
- 0750 **Photographs, Undated.** 11 frames.
- 0761 **Photographs, 1935.** 4 frames.
- 0765 **Photographs, Undated.** 1 frame.

Reel 14

Joseph D. Shields Papers cont.

- 0001 **Introductory Materials.** 2 frames.
- 0003 **Writings—Political, 1833–1861.** 67 frames.
Major Topics: U.S. Constitution; federal-state relations; Bank of the United States; Whig Party; political participation by women; Compromise of 1850; criticism of secessionist movement in Mississippi; slavery; fugitive slaves.
- 0070 **Writings—Political, Undated.** 49 frames.
Major Topics: Federal-state relations; states' rights philosophy; secession; U.S. Constitution; Wilmot Proviso; fugitive slave law; Compromise of 1850; abolitionist movement; public debt of state of Mississippi.
- 0119 **Writings—Political, Undated.** 52 frames.
Major Topics: Public debt of state of Mississippi; Mississippi territorial government; Republican Party and Federalist Party; slavery; criticism of secession; slavery in U.S. territories; property rights; immigration to California; slavery in District of Columbia.
- 0171 **Writings—Political, Undated.** 100 frames.
Major Topics: Electoral college; U.S. Constitution; federal-state relations; independence of Texas from Mexico; public debt of state of Mississippi; slavery in U.S. territories; property rights; slavery in Maryland, Virginia, and District of Columbia; criticism of secession; fugitive slave law; relations between former masters and former slaves; Mississippi Governor John A. Quitman and secession; Compromise of 1850; admission of California as free state.
- 0271 **Writings and Speeches—Political, Undated.** 46 frames.
Major Topics: Advocacy of equal political rights for women; Whig Party; personal debt; Bank of the United States; Democratic Party; taxation; annexation of Texas; tariffs; secession.
- 0317 **Writings—Legal, 1866–1868.** 26 frames.
Major Topics: U.S. Army Special Order Number 35; loyalty oath; Fourteenth Amendment to U.S. Constitution; estate of Eliza Sanderson; theft and robbery.
- 0343 **Writings—Legal, Undated.** 50 frames.
Major Topics: Slander; personal debt; taxation; homicide of plantation owner and conviction of slave and free person of color; theft by slave.
- 0393 **Writings—Speeches and Addresses, 1836–1860.** 92 frames.
Major Topics: George Washington; Napoleon; Jefferson Society, University of Virginia; education; slavery; capital punishment; Revolutionary War.

Frame No.

- 0485 **Writings—Speeches and Addresses, 1877–1882.** 38 frames.
Major Topics: Jefferson County Agriculture, Mechanics, and Manufacturing Association; agricultural operations; cotton production; railroads; lumber industry.
- 0523 **Writings—Speeches and Addresses, Undated.** 32 frames.
Major Topics: Compensation for widows of officers killed during Civil War; education.
- 0555 **Writings—Speeches and Addresses, Undated.** 109 frames.
Major Topics: Education; taxation; Confederate army; George Washington; political rights and responsibilities of U.S. citizens.
- 0664 **Writings—Sermons, Undated.** 7 frames.
- 0671 **Writings—Poetry, 1877–1880.** 6 frames.
- 0677 **Writings—Poetry, Undated.** 90 frames.
- 0767 **Writings—Poetry, Undated.** 119 frames.
- 0886 **Writings—Poetry, Undated.** 77 frames.
- 0963 **Writings—Poetry, Undated.** 58 frames.
- 1021 **Writings—Poetry by William Forman Dunbar, 1896.** 1 frame.

Reel 15

Joseph D. Shields Papers cont.

- 0001 **Introductory Materials.** 3 frames.
- 0004 **Writings—Notes and Recipes, 1908 and Undated.** 57 frames.
- 0061 **Writings—Essays and Book Reports [from University of Virginia], Undated.** 41 frames.
- 0102 **Writings—Prose, Undated.** 66 frames.
- 0168 **Writings—Prose, Undated.** 96 frames.
- 0264 **Writings—Prose, 1933.** 54 frames.
- 0318 **Ledger, 1873.** 67 frames.
Major Topics: Wakefield plantation; cotton sales; accounts with laborers; cotton production; floods.
- 0385 **Daily Packet Book, [1840–1850].** 46 frames.
- 0431 **Legal Notebook, [1840–1881].** 105 frames.
Major Topics: Legal practice of Joseph D. Shields Sr.; cotton sales; loyalty oath; voter registration; land sales.
- 0536 **Scrapbook, 1844–1876.** 65 frames.
Major Topics: Public debt of state of Mississippi; admission of California as free state; criticism of Mississippi Governor John A. Quitman's statements on sectional divisions and secession; slave trade; Choctaw Indians; correspondence between James Biddle, U.S. military commander in Natchez, and Joseph D. Shields Sr., regarding Shields' plan to disregard Special Order 35; missions and missionaries; Blanche K. Bruce; whiskey ring cases.

SUBJECT INDEX

The following index is a guide to the major topics in this microform publication. The first number after each entry refers to the reel, while the four-digit number following the colon refers to the frame number at which a particular file folder containing information on the subject begins. Hence, 14: 0070 directs the researcher to the folder that begins at Frame 0070 of Reel 14. By referring to the Reel Index, which constitutes the initial section of this guide, the researcher will find the folder title, inclusive dates, and a list of the Major Topics, listed in the order in which they appear on the film.

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Silliman Female Collegiate Institute

3: 0061

West End Institute Boarding and Day

School 1: 0157

Wrought Iron Range Company

3: 0612–0733, 0889; 4: 0076, 0857

Yale University

1: 0406

Young, Eliza

10: 0429

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Part 2: North Carolina and Virginia Plantations

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