

Western Kentucky University

TopSCHOLAR®

Manuscript Collection Finding Aids

Manuscripts

7-26-2001

Rowan, Rebecca (Carnes), 1813-1897 (MSS 71)

Manuscripts & Folklife Archives

Western Kentucky University, mssfa@wku.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_mss_fin_aid



Part of the [United States History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Folklife Archives, Manuscripts &, "Rowan, Rebecca (Carnes), 1813-1897 (MSS 71)" (2001). *Manuscript Collection Finding Aids*. Paper 211.

https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_mss_fin_aid/211

This Finding Aid is brought to you for free and open access by TopSCHOLAR®. It has been accepted for inclusion in Manuscript Collection Finding Aids by an authorized administrator of TopSCHOLAR®. For more information, please contact topscholar@wku.edu.

Manuscripts & Folklife Archives
 Department of Library Special Collections
 Western Kentucky University
 Bowling Green, KY 42101-1092

Descriptive Inventory

MSS 71 ROWAN, Rebecca (Carnes), 1813-1897

½ box. 3 folders. 50 items. 1855-1872, 1976. Originals.

1976.44.1

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Rebecca Briscoe Carnes, the daughter of Peter A. and Mary Eden (Briscoe) Carnes, was born in 1813 in Baltimore, Maryland. The Carnes families were early Maryland settlers and were relatively prosperous. Rebecca was endowed with beauty and possessed a gracious manner, both of which she retained throughout her lifetime. In 1835, she married John Rowan, Jr., of Bardstown, Kentucky. They lived on a Mississippi plantation for a short period of time, and then moved to Federal Hill near Bardstown, where they resided thereafter.

An accident at Federal Hill claimed the life of John on 14 August 1855. At age forty-two, Rebecca found herself a widow with ten children to rear and a large farm to manage. For several years she struggled to maintain her household on a very limited income. Her father-in-law's estate, of which she and her children were heirs, was not settled completely until 1903. The problems caused by such long litigation created many hardships for Rebecca and her children, but better times appeared in the 1870s. Rebecca died at Federal Hill on 16 November 1897, leaving five surviving children.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Capps, Randall. *The Rowan Story: From Federal Hill to My Old Kentucky Home*, 1976.
 The Collection.
 Rowan Family (MSS 69).

COLLECTION NOTE

The collection is comprised chiefly of Rebecca's letters (originals and photocopies of typescripts of all letters), dating from 1855 to 1872 (37 items), which were written to attorney William P. Boone of Louisville, Kentucky. Boone was married to Eliza Rowan (Harney) Boone, a granddaughter of Judge John Rowan, Sr., and Ann (Lytle) Rowan, who reared her.

There are six letters (photocopies of typescripts only), written to Rebecca by her eldest son William, while he was serving in the Confederate army from 1861 to 1865.

The collection also contains photographs (3 items) of May and Rebecca Rowan, and a news release and photographs of the donor and associates, 1976.

SHELF LIST

BOX 1	ROWAN, Rebecca (Carnes), 1813-1897	1855-1872; 1976 1976	50 items
Folder 1	Letters to William P. Boone and photographs	1855-1872	41 items
Folder 2	Photocopies of typescripts of letters of W. P. Boone and of letters from her son, William (6)	1855-1872	44 items
Folder 3	News release letter and photographs of donor of letter (Mrs. Clowes) and associates	1976	3 items

BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD

MSS ROWAN, Rebecca (Carnes), 1855-1872;
71 1813-1897 1976

Letters, 1855-1872 (37 items), of Mrs. Rowan, Bardstown, Kentucky, to lawyer William P. Boone, Louisville, Kentucky, which reveal Rebecca's struggles to maintain her family and farm after the death of her husband, John Rowan, Jr.; photocopies of Confederate Civil War letters from her son, William, 1861-1865 (6 items); and photos of May and Rebecca Rowan (3 items). Also news release and photos of donor and companions, 1976 (3 items).

½ box. 3 folders. 50 items. Originals.
1976.44.1

SUBJECT ANALYTICS

Bardstown
Bardstown and Louisville Railroad Company – Taxes, 1860 F2
Bardstown – Social life and customs F2
Boone, William Pennebaker, 1813-1875 – Letters to F2
Bull Run, Virginia – First Battle, 1861 F2
Capps, Randall – Photos, 1976 F3
Churchill, Alexander P. F2

Civil War – Campaigns, battles, military actions – Virginia, 1861 F2
 Civil War – Prisoners and prisons – Delaware, 1864-1865 F2
 Civil War – Prisoners and prisons – Ohio, 1863 F2
 Clowes, Carolyn (McDonald) – Photos, 1976 F3
 Confederate States of America – Army – Infantry, 1861 F2
 Debts F2
 Delaware – Civil War – Prisoners and prisons, 1864-1865 F2
 Estates F2
 Farm management F2
 Farm rent F2
 Federal Hill
 Fort Delaware, Delaware – Civil War – Prisoners and prisons, 1864-1865 F2
 Guthrie, James, 1792-1869 – Comments about, 1857, 1858 F2
 Handy, Riley Dean, 1941-2010 – Photos, 1976 F3
 Historic houses – Federal Hill F2
 Holt, Joseph, 1807-1894 – Comments about, 1865 F2
 Johnson's Island, Ohio – Military prison, 1863 F2
 Lawyers F2
 Morgan's Calvary Division (C.S.A.) F2
 Nelson County
 Nelson County – Taxes, 1860 F2
 Nicaragua – Filibuster War, 1855-1860 F2
 Nicholas, Mrs. P. N., b. 1906 – Photos, 1976 F3
 Ohio – Civil War – Military prisons, 1863 F2
 Pirtle, Henry, 1798-1880 – Comments about, 1857, 1869, 1872 F2
 Rowan family
 Rowan, John, Jr., 1807-1855 – Relating to F2
 Rowan, John, Sr., 1773-1843 – Relating to F2
 Rowan, May, b. 1851? – Photos F1
 Rowan, Rebecca (Carnes), 1813-1897 – Photos
 Rowan, William Atkinson Hill, 1838?-1900 F2
 Slave trade, 1856, 1859 F2
 Slaves – Employment, 1860 F2
 Walker, William, 1824-1860 – Comments about, 1856 F2
 Women