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Helm Family Papers (MSS 633)

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Descriptive Inventory

MSS 633 HELM Family Papers

2 boxes. 27 folders. 433 items. 1797-1992. Originals, photocopies, photographs.

1958.39.1

COLLECTION NOTE

This collection consists chiefly of correspondence and business papers of members of the Helm family of Butler County, Kentucky, and related families, especially the Carsons and Porters. Some of the material is in poor condition. An inventory is in Box 1, Folder 1.

Box 1 contains papers of Moses Helm (1777-1847), three of his sons, and his grandson Thomas Oliver Helm. Moses Helm's papers (Folders 2 and 3) include a photograph of his Butler County home, a notebook with business notations and a few brief diary entries, receipts (including two from his children for advances on their inheritance), deeds, accounts for goods and services, promissory notes, and a typescript of his travel expenses in connection with the settlement of his brother-in-law David Owen's estate in Virginia. Letters to Moses and his wife Nancy (Owen) Helm (Folder 4) are from Nancy's brother-in-law Benjamin Walrond discussing his plan to move to Missouri; Justus Walrond, a nephew of Nancy's, reporting the death of Nancy's sister Martha "Patsy" Walrond; Moses's brother Thomas Helm and his wife Elizabeth with family news from Williamson County, Tennessee; Moses's nephew William M. Helm, also of Williamson County, reporting the death of his stepmother; and Nancy's nephew James O. Hensley in Bedford County, Virginia, regarding the death and estate settlement of Nancy's brother David Owen. Papers of Nancy (Owen) Helm consist of bills for medical services and son Robert's tuition, and a memorandum regarding distribution of slaves held in her estate. Papers of Moses Helm's son John Barnett Helm (Folder 5) consist of accounts and receipts, and letters from two cousins: William M. Helm of Williamson County, Tennessee, who mourns his family's losses from speculation and notes the election of the "notorious" James K. Polk as governor; and from cousin John A. Porter in Paris, Texas, who writes of Texas politics. Papers of Moses Helm's son David Owen Helm (Folder 6) include accounts, receipts, medical bills, deeds from several siblings conveying to him their share of their deceased father's lands, a letter from a cousin in Missouri with family news, and contracts relating to a license to manufacture and sell Remington's "condensing coffee pot"; also included (Folder 7) are assessment notices relating to Helm's membership in the Kentucky Masonic Mutual Life Insurance Company. Papers of David O. Helm's wife Lydia A. (Boadley) Helm (Folder 8) are dated prior to her marriage and consist of a slave bill of sale and letters from a former schoolmate and an ardent suitor; also included (Folder 9) is a small book recording clothing measurements for various individuals, lists of students, and rules for a school. Papers of Moses

Helm's son Robert Jordan Helm (Folder 10) consist of accounts, receipts, promissory notes, a deed of his share of his father's lands, and lists of the property and assets of Robert's estate. Letters of Moses Helm's grandson Thomas O. Helm (Folder 11) are to his cousin William A. Helm; Thomas writes of his activities while teaching in Illinois and includes comments on temperance and on Kentucky politicians. Also included (Folders 12 and 13) are two account books from Thomas's later career as a physician.

Box 2 contains miscellaneous material relating to the Helm, Carson and associated families. Helm family papers (Folder 1) include genealogy notes, undated or unidentified early family accounts, scans of photographs of the James Wilson Helm family, and Civil War enlistment papers for Tilford Helm, an African American of Butler County. Papers of William Porter Carson include a few documents relating to his work as surveyor of Butler County; deeds; letters from Virginia and Texas relatives regarding estate settlements (Folder 2); and his surveyor's and ciphering books (Folders 3 and 4). Carson family papers (Folder 5) include genealogical notes, John Porter Carson's will, and enlistment papers for African American soldier Sylvester Carson. Blakey family papers (Folder 6) include a duplicate commutation money receipt signed by George D. Blakey; part of an unidentified writing, possibly by George D. Blakey, criticizing supporters of Kentucky's neutrality during the Civil War in light of the "murderous" attack on Fort Sumter; and other miscellaneous letters, clippings and writings. Materials relating to Auburn College, Auburn, Kentucky (of which Churchill H. Blakey was an incorporator) consist of the minute book of the stockholders and managers (Folder 7) and deeds and bonds relating to the college property (Folder 8). Kuykendall family papers (Folder 9) consist of a deed, a Civil War pass, and a promissory note. Porter family papers (Folder 10) include accounts, estate administration documents, and promissory notes. The remainder of Box 2 consists of miscellaneous material: circulars from Smiths Grove College in Smiths Grove Kentucky (Folder 11); medicinal remedies for a cough and for menstrual irregularities (Folder 12); and papers associated with families related to the Helms and their business activities, unidentified writings, and a letter (in poor condition) from a member of the Haggard family of Winchester, Kentucky reporting on numerous deaths in that area from an epidemic, perhaps of cholera, in 1843 (Folder 13). Also included (Folder 14) are leather billfolds used by members of the Helm family.

SHELF LIST

BOX 1	Helm Family Papers	1799-1902	308 items
Folder 1	Inventory and associated data		9 items
Folder 2	Moses Helm – Papers	1799-1836	37 items
Folder 3	Moses Helm – Papers	1837-1847	73 items
Folder 4	Letters to Moses and Nancy Helm; Nancy Helm papers	1830-1863	10 items
Folder 5	John Barnett Helm – Papers	1833-1892	19 items

Folder 6	David Owen Helm – Papers	1849-1882	75 items
Folder 7	David Owen Helm – Kentucky Masonic Mutual Life Insurance Company assessments	1874-1881	57 items
Folder 8	Lydia Amanda (Boadley) Helm – Papers	1849-1853	3 items
Folder 9	Lydia Amanda (Boadley) Helm – Account book with school rules	1850-1863	1 item
Folder 10	Robert Jordan Helm – Papers	1860-1868	20 items
Folder 11	Thomas Oliver Helm – Letters	1883-1887	2 items
Folder 12	Account book of Drs. Thomas O. Helm and Edwin? Burr, Auburn, Kentucky	1901	1 item
Folder 13	Account book of Dr. Thomas O. Helm	1893-1902	1 item
BOX 2	Helm Family Papers	1797-1992	125 items
Folder 1	Helm family – Miscellaneous papers, photos and genealogical notes	1801-1992	31 items
Folder 2	William Porter Carson – Papers	1817-1853	9 items
Folder 3	William Porter Carson – Surveyor’s book	1813-1851	4 items
Folder 4	William Porter Carson – Ciphering book	1797-1799	1 item
Folder 5	Carson family – Miscellaneous papers	1854-1872	5 items
Folder 6	Blakey family – Miscellaneous papers	1864-1895	14 items
Folder 7	Auburn College – Record book of proceedings of stockholders and board of managers	1885-1910	7 items
Folder 8	Deeds, bonds relating to Auburn College	1892-1893	6 items
Folder 9	Kuykendall family – Miscellaneous papers	1860-1899	3 items
Folder 10	Porter family – Miscellaneous papers	1855-1881	9 items
Folder 11	Smiths Grove College – Circulars	1880-1881	2 items

Folder 12	Medicines and remedies	n.d.	3 items
Folder 13	Miscellaneous papers	1802-1890	27 items
Folder 14	Wallets, billfolds belonging to family members	n.d.	4 items

BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD

MSS HELM Family Papers 1797-1992
633

Correspondence, business papers, deeds,
and miscellaneous records of the Helm family of
Butler County, Kentucky, and related families.

2 boxes. 27 folders. 433 items. Originals,
photocopies, photographs.

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Blakey, George Douglas, 1809-1886 – Relating to B2,F6
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SEE and SEE ALSO

Auburn College

See:

Auburn Seminary

Niedermeier/Jeffrey 03/20/2018