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Descriptive Inventory

MSS 741 BRYANT, Farnsworth Dudley, b. 1939 – Collector

½ box. 11 folders. 66 items. 1844-1896. Originals.

SC2022.27.38

COLLECTION NOTE

This collection consists primarily of business papers of the Thomson family of Fayette County, Kentucky. Most frequently represented are Patrick Henry Thomson (1819-1901), his son William Z. Thomson (1848-1932), and his daughter and son-in-law Ann Eliza (Thomson) Gaines (1840-1900) and Squire C. Gaines (1840?-1888?). A few papers of other family members are also included. Brief genealogical notes are included with the collection inventory in Folder 1.

Of particular interest are the following:

- The 1852 will of Roger Quarles, and the 1885 will of his grandson Patrick Henry Thomson (Folder 2). Thomson's bequests evidence his considerable wealth at the time the will was made and his intent to provide for his daughters as well as his sons. Other materials in this collection, however, suggest that his financial condition became more precarious.
- An 1849 deed of trust signed prior to the second marriage of Patrick Henry Thomson's mother, Sarah Ann Elizabeth Thomson, to Samuel Salyers (Folder 3). The deed conveys Sarah's land and enslaved persons to her son as trustee, an arrangement designed to avert the laws of coverture and ensure that Sarah retained control of her property.
- Papers of Patrick Henry Thomson (Folder 4), including deeds and insurance premium receipts; a Civil War-era certificate attesting to his loyalty; and contracts and other documentation of transactions involving son-in-law Squire Gaines, which evidence Thomson's efforts to protect his daughter's financial future as Gaines deals with the couple's property.
- Papers of Patrick Henry Thomson's son William Z. Thomson (Folder 5), who took primary responsibility in the 1890s for managing his father's debts, landholdings in Kentucky and Mississippi, and other complex financial affairs. William writes to his mother and siblings with detailed proposals ("heroic measures") for juggling his father's various obligations.
- Papers of Squire Gaines (Folder 8), which reflect his financial relationship with his father-in-law Patrick Henry Thomson as he attempts to monetize wife Ann's property interests. The couple appear to relocate to Missouri in the late 1860s before returning to Kentucky, where Squire enters a period of bankruptcy before his discharge in 1876.

SHELF LIST

BOX 1	F. Dudley Bryant – Collector	1844-1896	66 items
Folder 1	Inventory		1 item
Folder 2	Roger Quarles and Patrick Henry Thomson – Wills	1852, 1885	2 items
Folder 3	Sarah A. E. Thomson – Deed of trust to Patrick Henry Thomson prior to her marriage to Samuel J. Salyers	1849	1 item
Folder 4	Patrick Henry Thomson – Papers	1844-1890, n.d.	22 items
Folder 5	William Z. Thomson – Letters and papers	1891-1896	8 items
Folder 6	Roger Quarles Thomson – Survey of land in Fayette County, Kentucky	1875	1 item
Folder 7	Rodes Thomson – Loyalty oath	1862	1 item
Folder 8	Squire C. Gaines – Papers	1866-1883, n.d.	12 items
Folder 9	James V. Prewitt – Deeds	1866-1870	3 items
Folder 10	Tax receipts – Fayette County, Kentucky	1867-1879	10 items
Folder 11	Miscellaneous	1870-1891, n.d.	5 items

BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD

MSS BRYANT, Farnsworth Dudley, 1844-1896
741 b. 1939 – Collector

Business papers of the Thomson family of Fayette County, Kentucky, most notably Patrick Henry Thomson, his son William Z. Thomson, and son-in-law Squire C. Gaines.

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SUBJECT ANALYTICS

Bankruptcy, 1876 – Relating to B1,F8
 Berry, Gabriel Gaines, 1836-1927 – Relating to B1,F11
 Bryant, Sarah Quarles (Thomson), 1851-1911 – Letter to B1,F5
 Certificates – Stock – Kentucky Agricultural and Mechanical Association, 1856 B1,F4
 Civil War, 1861-1865 – Loyalty oaths, 1862 B1,F7
 Deeds – Fayette County, 1844, 1879 B1,F4
 Deeds – Fayette County, 1861 B1,F8
 Deeds – Scott County, 1861, 1866, 1870 B1,F8,9
 Gaines, Ann Eliza (Thomson), 1840-1900 – Relating to B1,F4,8
 Gaines, Henry T., b. 1861? – Relating to B1,F4
 Gaines, Squire C., 1840?-1888? B1,F8
 Gaines, Squire C., 1840?-1888? – Relating to B1,F4,8
 Insurance policies, 1864-1868, 1880, 1887 – Relating to B1,F4
 Leases – Fayette County, 1882 B1,F4
 Married women – Fayette County, 1849 B1,F3
 Mortgages – Fayette County, 1866 B1,F8
 Mortgages – Missouri, 1868 B1,F8
 Mortgages – Scott County, 1866 B1,F8
 Norton, Pryor N., 1838-1888 – Relating to B1,F10
 Poems B1,F11
 Prewitt, James V., 1831-1906 – Relating to B1,F9
 Quarles, Roger III, 1772-1856 – Relating to B1,F2
 Salyers, Samuel J., 1819-1883 – Relating to B1,F3
 Salyers, Sarah Ann Elizabeth (Quarles) Thomson, 1801-1881 – Relating to B1,F3,4
 Slavery – Fayette County, 1865 B1,F4
 Surveys – Fayette County, 1875 B1,F6
 Tax receipts – Fayette County B1,F10
 Thomson, Julia Maria (Farnsworth), 1821-1916 – Letter to B1,F5
 Thomson, Patrick Henry, 1819-1901 – Letters to B1,F4,5,8
 Thomson, Patrick Henry, 1819-1901 – Relating to B1,F2-5,8
 Thomson, Rodes Carleton, 1844-1929 – Relating to B1,F7
 Thomson, Roger Quarles, 1853-1926 – Relating to B1,F6
 Thomson, William Z., 1848-1932 B1,F5
 Trusts – Fayette County, 1849 B1,F3
 Wills – Fayette County, 1852, 1885 B1,F2
 Wirgman, Mary Esther (Jackson), 1871-1952 B1,F11