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Rowan, Rebecca (Carnes) (MSS 71)

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

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

1976.44.1

BIOGRAPHY

Rebecca B. 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 August 14, 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 November 16, 1897, leaving five surviving children.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

The Collection.
Rowan Family, Descriptive Inventory, Manuscripts, Kentucky Library, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky.
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 and Mrs. 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 the associates, 1976.

SHELF LIST

BOX 1    ROWAN, Rebecca (Carnes), 1813-1897
         1855-1872; 1976  50 items 1976

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)
Folder 3 News release letter and photographs of donor of letter (Mrs. Clowes) and associates 1976 3 items

BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD

MSS 71 ROWAN, Rebecca (Carnes), 1855-1872; 1813-1897 1976
Letters, 1855-1872 (37 items), of Mrs. Rowan, Bardstown, Kentucky, to William P. Boone, lawyer, Louisville, Kentucky, which reveal Rebecca’s struggles to maintain her family and farm; 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 Pendleton, 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 and military actions – Virginia, 1861  F2
Civil War – Prisoners and prisons – Delaware, 1864-1865  F2
Civil War – Prisoners and prison – 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, b. 1941 – 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 prison, 1863  F2
Pirtle, Henry, 1798-1880 – Comments about, 1857, 1869, 1872  F2
Rowan family
Rowan, John, 1773-1843 – Relating to  F2
Rowan, John, Jr., 1807-1855 – Relating to  F2
Rowan, May, b. 1851? – Photos  F1
Rowan, Rebecca (Carnes), 1813-1897 – Photos
Rowan, William Atkinson Hill, 1838?-1900  F2
Slaves – Employment, 1860  F2
Slave trade, 1856, 1859  F2
Walker, William, 1824-1860 – Comments about, 1856  F2
Women