

Guide to the Daniel C. Smyly Papers, 1843-1871

Title: Daniel C. Smyly Papers, 1843-1871

Creator: Smyly, Daniel C.

Extent: .4 linear foot

Inclusive Dates: 1843-1871

Collection Number: MS1300

Provenance: unknown

Processed by: Natalie Beth Burnett Fall 2001 Updated: May 2002

Restricted: no

Copyright Statement: This collection may be protected under Title 17 of the U.S. Copyright Law.

Preferred Citation: The Daniel C. Smyly Papers, W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library, The University of Alabama.

Reference Code: USALM1300

Language: English

ABSTRACT

Includes correspondence, financial papers, and other material of this Dallas County, Alabama, plantation owner and family

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH:

Daniel C. Smyly lived in Pleasant Hill, in Dallas County, Alabama during the Nineteenth Century. He had a license to practice medicine and owned a cotton plantation. Daniel had two brothers, Samuel and James (J. J.), and four sisters. Carolyn Smyly, one of Daniel's sisters, married John Bender. One of Daniel's other sisters, Rebecca Adeline,

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married Sam Catts (there is a manuscript collection for the Catts family in the W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library). Rebecca Louise Craig's *My Family Heirloom Tales Etcetera* (1974) provided some information about the Smyly family.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS:

The bulk of papers in this collection involve Daniel C. Smyly's business transactions, for both his household and plantation affairs and cotton business. In this collection there are also papers belonging to Daniel C. Smyly's family, including his brothers and brother-in-law. The papers include receipts for goods purchased, account statements, receipts for cotton sold, business correspondence, and tax receipts. The receipts range from school tuition to clothing to magazine subscriptions to hardware and equipment.

Also included in this collection are two bills of sale for slaves. One lists the following names: Martha, Jim, Jake, Gus, Sarah, Mike, Jordan and [Tennepee]. The other is a description of a woman named Abbey and her child Amelia that were sold to Daniel C. Smyly.

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

The collection is divided into the following series: Correspondence, Receipts and Account Statements, Miscellaneous Papers, and Family and Others. With the exception of the Family and Others Series, these items concern the affairs of Daniel C. Smyly.

SERIES: CORRESPONDENCE

Incoming business correspondence to Daniel C. Smyly. The content of the letters is mainly focused on cotton sales, negotiations, and the cotton market. There is one outgoing letter from Daniel C. Smyly to Kirkpatrick.

SERIES: RECEIPTS AND ACCOUNT STATEMENTS

Receipts and account statements for Daniel C. Smyly. Slave bill of sale. Many of the receipts are for household items, though there are also bulk purchases that would likely be goods purchased for the slaves living on the plantation. A number of the receipts are for cotton sold from Smyly's business and shipped by cotton merchants from Mobile, Alabama.

SERIES: MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

Miscellaneous papers and tax statements. Included here is a 1843 license to practice medicine in the State of Alabama for Daniel C. Smyly. Some of the tax documents are for a special tax paid by Daniel C. Smyly for his occupation as a physician. There is also a document related to Daniel C. Smyly's payment for time spent appearing in court as a State Witness. This series also includes envelopes from correspondence addressed to Dr. Daniel Smyly.

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SERIES: FAMILY AND OTHERS

Receipts and account statements for other Smyly family members. A legal petition and estate inventory listing slaves and outstanding payment due for the slaves are included in Malena Smyly's folder (17). Individual folders are used for each family member. Additionally, there are miscellaneous receipts; their connection to the Smyly family is unknown.

CONTAINER LIST:

Box Folder Description

SERIES: CORRESPONDENCE

Box	Folder	Description
1551	1	Incoming business correspondence and 1 outgoing letter to Kirkpatrick.

SERIES: RECEIPTS AND ACCOUNT STATEMENTS

Box	Folder	Description
1551	2	Slave bill of sale. 1850.
	3	Receipts and account statements. 1851-1858.
	4	Receipts and account statements. 1859.
	5	Receipts and account statements. 1860-1862
	6	Receipts and account statements. 1863-1866
	7	Receipts and account statements. 1867
	8	Receipts and account statements. 1868.
	9	Receipts and account statements. 1869-1871.
	10	Receipts. [No date]

SERIES: MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

Box	Folder	Description
1551	11	Miscellaneous papers, tax receipts, and empty envelopes.

SERIES: FAMILY AND OTHERS

Box	Folder	Description
1551	12	John Bender. Receipts.
	13	Daniel Davis. Receipts.
	14	Ed Gunter. Business correspondence and receipts.
	15	J. J. Smyly. Receipts.
	16	Kate Smyly. Receipts.
	17	Malena Smyly. Receipts, copy of legal petition, and estate inventory of slaves.
	18	Samuel Smyly. Receipts, correspondence, account statements.
	19	Miscellaneous receipts, some with no date.