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WHITEFOORD R. COLE, Jr.
COLLECTION
1818-1951

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INTRODUCTION

The Whitefoord R. Cole, Jr. Collection, 1818-1951, contains correspondence of Felix Grundy (1777-1833) and John M. Bass (1804-1878) and other ancestral papers. The Whitefoord R. Cole, Jr. Collection was a gift of Whitefoord R. Cole, Jr., Louisville, Kentucky.

The materials in this finding aid measure 1.26 linear feet. There are no restrictions on the materials. Literary rights in these papers have been dedicated to the public. Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the Whitefoord R. Cole, Jr., may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Whitefoord R. Cole, Jr. Collection containing approximately 800 items, spans the period 1818-1951. The collection is composed of accounts, correspondence, diaries, genealogical data, indentures, wills, court and estate papers, land grants, stocks, receivership papers for the City of Nashville (1869), programs, writings, and some miscellaneous memoranda. The bulk of the material falls within the years 1818-1900 and deals with such important people as Andrew Jackson, James K. Polk, Felix Grundy, John M. Bass, Jacob McGavock, Henry Clay and John C. Calhoun.

The collection contains correspondence of Will White, 1818-1825, and The Rev. John W. Ogden, 1838, first and second husbands respectively, of Eliza Caroline Wharton. The letters of Will White give interesting descriptions of the country between Nashville and New Orleans in the early 1800s. He made a trip to Natchez in 1820 for the purpose of disposing of some of his Negroes. He complained that they had given him so much trouble he was almost ready to give them away to anyone who would punish them. Will White wrote one letter in 1825 from his home in Louisa County, Virginia. The Rev. John W. Ogden was the second husband of Eliza Caroline and there are several letters written by him in 1838. Eliza's daughter, Jane, married Dr. Berry, and their daughter, Mary Wharton Berry, married John M. Bass, Jr..

The John M. Bass correspondence, 1839-1877, deals with Union Bank of Tennessee and State bonds. Mr. Bass was a wealthy financier and son-in-law of Felix Grundy. He had extensive property in Davidson County, St. Louis, Missouri, "Talla Bena" plantation, Louisiana and lands in Arkansas. In 1869, he was made Receiver for the City of Nashville.

The diaries of Mary Conner Bass include her trip to New Orleans in 1892 and her extensive European travels in 1889-1890. One little volume contains sample materials of dresses worn on important occasions. The wills of the Bass and Grundy families plus other estate papers contain information regarding financial conditions of the period from 1800-1870. Genealogical data for the Bass, Berry, Caldwell, Daughtery, Grundy, McGavock, Ogden, Rodgers, Wharton and White families make up the remainder of this collection.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

John M. Bass

- 1804 January 19, born the son of Peter and Anna Bass
 Attended Transylvania University in Lexington, Kentucky
- 1826 Appointed trustee of the University of Nashville by Philip Lindsley
- 1829 Married Malvina Grundy, daughter of Felix Grundy
- 1831-1832 Served as alderman of Nashville
- 1833 Elected mayor of Nashville
- 1837 President of the Union Bank of Tennessee during panic of that year
- 1844-1848 Chairman of commission for building the Tennessee State Capitol
 Succeeded by Samuel D. Morgan
- 1850 Appointed trustee of the University of Nashville when Lindsley resigned
- 1851 Removed from the University of Nashville Board of Trustees when his
 business took him to New Orleans
- 1854 Executor of Harry R. W. Hill's estate
- 1856 Member of the Board of Trustees, University of the South, Sewanee,
 Tennessee
- 1860 Owned Nashville property worth \$540,000.00, plus plantations in Arkansas
 and Louisiana
- 1866 Filed suit to annul Collins D. Elliott contract with the Nashville Female
 Academy in order to sell property
- 1867 Returned from New Orleans
 Again appointed trustee of the University of Nashville
- 1868 Authorized to act as president of the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad
 Company in absence of Cole the president who had gone to Washington,
 D. C., to negotiate settlement with the United States government

- 1869 Appointed Receiver for the City of Nashville
- 1870 Remained on reorganized Board of Montgomery Bell Academy
- 1873 Submitted written opinion on will of Montgomery Bell bequest for education
- 1874 Voted against combining the Medical School of the University of Nashville with Vanderbilt University Medical School
- 1878 Died in New Orleans

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Felix Grundy

- 1777 September 11, the son of George Grundy an immigrant from England
- 1779 Family removed to Pennsylvania
- 1780 Moved to Kentucky
Instructed by Dr. James Priestley at Bardstown Academy
Studied law under George Nicholas
- 1797 Admitted to the Kentucky bar
- 1799 Member of Constitutional Convention of the Commonwealth of Kentucky
Married early in life to Ann P. Rogers
- 1800-1806 Served as a member of the Kentucky legislature
- 1806-1807 Appointed Associate Justice on Kentucky Supreme Court of Errors and Appeals and was almost immediately promoted to Chief Justice
- 1807 Moved to Nashville where he became an outstanding criminal lawyer
- 1811 Elected to Congress from Tennessee
- 1813 Re-elected to Congress and was a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs
- 1815-1819 Abstained from office
- 1819-1825 Elected to Tennessee legislature and supported state-owned banks
He was opposed by Andrew Jackson, and the two men were never intimate after this time
- 1825-1827 Withdrew from public life
- 1827 Ran for Congress in Jackson's home district and received the support of "Old Hickory" against John Bell, but lost the race

- 1829 Grundy was selected to fill vacancy in Senate created by John H. Eaton who became a Cabinet member
- 1833 Elected to the Senate after a bitter struggle with Eaton who was supported by Jackson

CONTAINER LIST

1. Box 1, folder 1 to Box 2, folder 2 – Diaries – Mary C. Bass, 1889-1890
2. Box 2, folder 2 – Diaries – Mary C. Bass, 1892 to Box 3, folder 16

Microfilm Roll #1

Box 1

1. Accounts: Bills, Notes, Receipts, 1816-1841 – Bass, Grundy, McGavock
2. Accounts: Bills, Notes, Receipts, 1842-1878 – Bass, Grundy, McGavock
3. Biographical Data – John M. Bass
4. Biographical Data – Felix Grundy
5. Biographical Data – George Grundy
6. Civil War – Nashville
7. Correspondence - Asher, L. C. – Bass, Eli Everett
8. Correspondence – Baylor, O. W. – Boldrick, Samuel J.
9. Correspondence – Caldwell, W. C. – Clarkson, T. A.
10. Correspondence – Clay, Henry
11. Correspondence – Clay, Mary Rogers – Correy, James
12. Correspondence – 1863-1941 – Duncan, J. Tate – Gordon, Mrs. Nancy R.
13. Correspondence – Grundy, Felix – 1827-1838
14. Correspondence – Grundy-Hunter – 1839-1928
15. Correspondence – Jackson, Andrew – 1832-1839
16. Correspondence – Jones-Moore – 1836-1941
17. Correspondence – O’Conner-Overton – 1829-1923
18. Correspondence – Page-Pence – 1904-1934
19. Correspondence – Peyner-Porter – 1839-1919
20. Correspondence – Reed-Vaughan – 1820-1934
21. Correspondence – Warden-Yates – 1818-1946

Box 2

1. Court Records – 1827-1903 – Bass’ appointment as Receiver of City of Nashville (1869), etc.
2. Diaries – Mary Conner Bass: European Trip, 1889-1890

Microfilm Roll #2

Box 2

2. Diaries – Mary Conner Bass: New Orleans, 1892
3. Estate Papers and will – Bass, John M.
4. Estate Papers – Mrs. Anna Russell Cole
5. Estate Papers and Will – Felix Grundy
6. Estate Papers and Will – Hill, H. R.W. - Andrew Rodgers
7. Genealogical Data – Bass Family

8. Genealogical Data – Grundy Family
9. Genealogical Data – Miscellaneous – Berry, Caldwell, Hill, McGavock
10. Genealogical Data – Rodgers Family

Box 3

1. Land Grants, etc. – 1848-1865
2. Legal Documents – 1829-1870
3. Legal Documents – Deeds and indentures – 1827-1905
4. Newspaper Clippings – Whitefoord Cole data
5. Newspaper Clippings – Historic events and places
6. Newspaper Clippings – Felix Grundy data
7. Newspaper Clippings – Andrew Jackson data
8. Newspaper Clippings – Obituaries – Bass, Dorsey, Ewing, McGavock
9. Obituaries and Funeral Notices – Bass, Grundy, McGavock, Ogden, Wharton
10. Photographs – Felix Grundy, Mrs. Grundy, Albert Gleaves, etc.
11. Poems – Crabb, Dunbar, Moore, Bret Harte, Ogden
12. Programs and Notices
13. Schools – Nashville Female Academy – 1825
14. Schools – St. Joseph's College, Bardstown Kentucky – 1850-1852
15. Sketches – Grundy County, Polk House, "Uncle Wash"
16. Wills – George Grundy – 1873

NAME INDEX

This is a name index of the correspondents in the Whitefoord R. Cole, Jr., Collection, together with the dates of the letters and brief note of contents. The figures in parentheses immediately following the name denote the number of letters. All of the correspondence is in Box 1.

- Asher, L. C. (1), 1896, re: John Caldwell, grandfather of John C. Calhoun; Flat Creek Church, Virginia
- Bass, Eli E. (3), 1848-1927, re: St. Louis, Missouri, property and daughter, Sallie; Bass Family genealogy and 1927 and 1927 flood at Greenville, Mississippi
- Bass, John M. (3), 1839-1877, re: Sale of lot at Beersheba, etc.
- Bass, John M. Jr. (1), 1897, re: Rodgers and Daughtery Families in Kentucky and Indiana
- Baylor, O. W. (2), 1936-1937, re: Elizabeth Grundy's will; George Grundy's will
- Bender, I. L. (2), 1898, County Court Clerk, Berkeley County, Martinsburg, West Virginia, re: George Grundy's estate
- Boldrick, Sam J. (1), 1937, re: Biography of Felix Grundy
- Buckner, Mrs. M. G. (1), 1935
- Caldwell, W. C. (3), 1891-1897, to Supreme Court Justice, re: Genealogy
- Calhoun, John C. (1), 1825, re: Caldwells
- Campbell, G. W. (1), 1818, re: Trip to St. Petersburg
- Cannon, Jouett Taylor (1), 1933, Kentucky State Historical Society
- Clarkson, T. A. (2), 1941, Secretary of Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railroad
- Clay, H. (1), 1813, re: Stanford and Turner debt
- Clay, Mary Rogers (2), 1897, re: Family history
- Clayton, Alex M. (1), 1833, re: Trip to Arkansas
- Clayton, Mrs. Robert B. (1), 1896, re: Genealogy
- Cleaver, Mrs. Thomas F. (1), n.d., re: Grundy genealogy
- Cole, Mrs. Whitefoord R. (4), 1941
- Conway, Elias N. (1), 1847, re: Land in Jefferson County, Arkansas
- Correy, James (1), 1853, re: Union Bank of Tennessee and sale of "Talla Bena"
- Duncan, J. Tate (1), 1928, re: Incident in life of Felix Grundy
- Duncan, Mary Kercheval (1), n.d.
- Earle, Louise Maddin (1), 1941, re: Genealogy
- Elliott, Mabel E. (1), n.d., re: Genealogy
- Elliott, Lizzie P. (1), 1928, re: Grundy-Polk Home in Nashville
- Enoch, Susan C. (1), 1932
- Ewing, Albert G. (2), 1931, re: Felix Grundy
- Ewing, Edwin H. (1), 1863, Executor of David M Harding
- Farquharson, J. W. (1), 1933, Clerk, Goodspeed's Book Shop, Boston, Massachusetts

Gillingham, A. H. (1), 1905, re: Lands
Gordon, Nancy Reed French (2), n.d., re: Rodgers-Grundy genealogy
Grundy, Felix (10), 1829-1838, re: Bass-Porter suit; Whig elections; James P. Grundy's appointment; the U. S. Banks; receivership of land at Pontotoc; Negro insurrection in Nashville
Grundy, Mrs. G. W. (1), n.d. re: Grundy Family genealogy
Grundy, James B. (1), 1900, re: Grundy Family genealogy
Grundy, Margaret Ridgway (1), n.d., re: Grundy Family genealogy
Guild-Smith, (1), 1895, re: Rodgers genealogy
Hart, A. M. (1), 1839, re: Baptist Camp Meeting
Hunter, Nina Reid (1), 1928, re: Grundy burial at Mt. Olivet Cemetery
Jackson, Andrew (5), 1832-1839, re: Bank bill veto; Kentucky elections; Virginia election; Judiciary bill vs. Clay tariff; appointment of Grundy's son
Jones, George W. (1), 1895, re: John M. Bass
Kinkead, Ludie J. (1), 1927, Louisville, Kentucky
Lea, John M. (1), 1901, re: Howard estate, bequest to Fiske, etc.
Lewis, M. M. (1), 1927, re: American Historical Society
Lewis, Sallie Stone (1), 1888, re: Stone genealogy
Martin, Mrs. Cyrus Griffin (1), 1951, Chattanooga, Tennessee
McChord, Nell G. (1), 1932, Washington, D. C.
McCormick, J. B. (1), 1836, re: Judgment in favor Grundy
McElory, Mrs. June M. (1), 1896, Paducah, Kentucky
Moore, Cath A. (3), 1895-1897
Moore, Mrs. John Trotwood (1), 1941
O'Connor, Charles A. (1), 1923, New York
Ogden, Eliza C. (3), 1845-1861, Personal
Ogden, John W. (4), 1838, Minister, re: Trip through Tennessee and Louisiana
Overton, J. W. (1), 1829, re: West Point appointment
Page, Thomas Nelson (1), 1904, President of the University of Virginia Alumni Association
Payne, Bruce R. (1), 1923, re: John M. Bass Scholarship, Peabody College, Nashville, Tennessee
Pelley, J. J. (1), 1934, President of the Association of American Railroads
Pence, Lafe Stiles (7), 1928, Attorney, Lebanon, Kentucky
Peyner, H. W. (1), 1851, Manager, "Talla Bena" plantation
Poinsett, J. R. (1), 1839, President of the Union Bank, Nashville, Tennessee
Polk, James K. (1) 1848, re: Purchase of Grundy house in Nashville
Porter, George C. (1), 1919
Reed, M. M. (1), 1820
Richards, Malvina Ewing (1), re: Genealogy
Rouse, Alice (1), 1933, Covington, Kentucky
Seymour, Charles M. (2), 1929, re: Will of Felix Grundy
Shoemaker, Floyd C. (1), 1927, State Historical Society of Missouri

Stewart, W. K. (1), 1934, Louisville, Kentucky
Stone, Miss S. Stephens (1), 1904, Louisville, Kentucky
Thomson, Belle M. (1), 1897, re: Wharton Family genealogy
Vaughan, D. C. (1), 1922, Brooks Brothers Clothiers, New York
Warden, Margaret Lindsley (1), 1946, re: Polk-Grundy house
Wharton, Lindsay (1), 1936, re: Wharton genealogy
White, McChord A. (1), 1828, Lexington medical student
White, Will (8), 1818-1825, Chickasaw Agency, Fort Pickering and West Tennessee,
re: Lands
Whitley, Edna T. (1), n.d., Paris, Kentucky
Williams, B. W. (1), 1833, Hardeman County
Williams, H. C. (2), 1841-1843, Washington, D. C., re: Bank & Filmore Treasury
Notes
Wright, Silas (1), 1866, re: Politics
Yates, John L. (1), 1897, re: Caldwell genealogy

George Grundy d. fl. 1783
m. Elizabeth Beckham

Felix Grundy
1777-1833/1840
married 1797

Ann Phillips Rodgers
1779-1847

Louisa Caroline
1798-1878
married 1819
Jacob McGavock
1790-1878

Eliza Burkham
1800-
married 1816
Ramsey Mason

George Gray
(died in infancy)
1801-1802
John Rodgers
1803-1836
m. 1825
Jane Eliza Caswell
1808-1887

Margaret Ann Cannon
1805- fl. 1836
married 1822
Dr. Edward G. Rawlings

John Priestley
1807-
m.

Mary Malvina Chenault
1810-1863
married 1829
John M. Bass
1804-1878

Martha A. F.
1812-
married 1828
Van P. Winder

Maria Green Ried
1815-
married 1838
John Masterson
1810-1860

Felicia Anna
1820-1889
married 1842
1. William Eakin
1810-1844
2. Dr. Robert Porter
1818-1851
Manningill

Dr. William James
1830-1862
married
Caroline Watkins

Margaret Ann
1832-1892
married
Thomas J. Harding

Sarah Edwards
1833-1882
married
John Overton Ewing

Maria Louise
1835-1882
married
Vernon King Stevenson

Mary Van Winder
1838-1922
married
Henry Workman Conner

Malvina Grundy
1840-1848

Felicia Eakin
1843-1904
married
W.N.R. Beall

John Meredith
1845-1908
married 1868
Mary Wharton Berry
1846-1932

Anne E.
1820-1868
m.

Margaret Jane
1821-1822

Felix Hugh
1823-1824

Hugh Felix
1825-

Randal William
1826-1863

Mary Louise
1838-
m.
James Todd

Martha Winder
1839-1840

Hugh Albert
1842-1854

John M. Bass III
1869-1919

Jeanie Bass
1871-1942
married
James Eakin Allison
1865-1926

Mary Conner Bass
1873-1945
married 1901
Whitefoord Russell Cole
1874-1934

Whitefoord Russell Cole Jr.

1903-

m. 1933

Helen Lane Moore
1907-