



State of Tennessee  
Department of State  
**Tennessee State Library and Archives**  
403 Seventh Avenue North  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312

**LIGON FAMILY  
PAPERS  
1866-1973**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The Ligon Family Papers, 1866-1973, is centered around items that focus on the Ligon family of Hermitage, Tennessee. The Ligon Family Papers were purchased by the Tennessee State Library and Archives from Charles Apfelbaum of Watchung, New Jersey.

The materials in this collection constitute 3 linear feet of shelf space. There are approximately 632 items included in this collection. There are no restrictions on the materials. Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the Ligon Family Papers may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

### **Ligon Family**

James Duncan and Gladys Ligon lived in Hermitage, Tennessee. They owned Ligon's Flower Shop in Donelson, Tennessee as well as Cloydland Farm in Wilson County, Tennessee. Cloydland Farm dates back to 1789 and is well known for its experimentation in breeding new variations of cattle, pigs and sheep. J. Duncan and Gladys had two children, Lanova and Herschel. Lanova married W. J. McCluskey about 1945. Herschel married Wydell Lott on January 17, 1942. Herschel was a captain in the United States Army during World War II. He was sent to France on June 14, 1944. This was eight days after the D-day invasion and he never saw any enemy fire.

Source: Information in the biographical note was gleaned from various items within this collection and the following two websites on the Internet:  
[http://histpres.mtsu.edu/centfarms/wilson\\_county/#Cloydland\\_Farm](http://histpres.mtsu.edu/centfarms/wilson_county/#Cloydland_Farm)  
[www.ourcoop.com/news/news2.asp?CAT=17&ID=1085](http://www.ourcoop.com/news/news2.asp?CAT=17&ID=1085)

## SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Ligon Family Papers, containing approximately 632 items, spans the period 1866-1973. The collection is composed of assorted correspondence, business licenses, genealogical information, newspaper clippings, promissory notes, programs, receipts, and school report cards. All of the items in this collection relate to the Ligon family of Hermitage, Tennessee. The arrangement of the collection is alphabetical by format.

The business licenses, located in folder 1 of box 1, are issued by Davidson County, Tennessee to Ligon's Flower Shop in Donelson, Tennessee.

The Charles A. Ware correspondence, located in folder 2 of box 1, is centered around various letters written by or addressed to Charles A. Ware. The correspondence is primarily composed of letters written by Mr. Ware's children but also includes some legal issue letters regarding oil and land.

The Gladys Ligon (Mrs. J. Duncan Ligon) correspondence, located in folders 3-8 of box 1, is centered around various letters addressed to Gladys Ligon. The correspondence is primarily composed of letters written to Gladys Ligon from her children, Lanova and Herschel, and her daughter-in-law, Wydell Lott Ligon. The correspondence also includes some bank statements addressed to Gladys Ligon.

The Herschel C. Ligon correspondence, located in folders 9-20 of box 1 and folders 1-16 of box 2, is centered around various letters addressed to Herschel Ligon. The correspondence is primarily composed of letters written to Herschel from his mother, father, sister, wife, and friends. Several of the letters were written to Herschel when he was serving in the United States Army during World War II. There are a few letters regarding Herschel's applications to various colleges and some bank statements mixed in with the letters.

The India Cloyd Vivrett correspondence, located in folder 1 of box 3, is centered around various letters addressed to India Cloyd Vivrett. The majority of the letters were written by India Cloyd Vivrett's daughter, Maude.

The J. Duncan Ligon correspondence, located in folders 2-9 of box 3 and folders 1-8 of box 4, is centered around various letters addressed to J. Duncan Ligon. The correspondence is composed primarily of letters written by J. Duncan Ligon's children, Lanova and Herschel, his wife, Gladys, and his daughter-in-law, Wydell Lott Ligon.

The J. Duncan Ligon family correspondence, located in folder 9 of box 4, is centered around various letters addressed to Mr. and Mrs. J. Duncan Ligon or to the J. Duncan Ligon family. The correspondence is composed primarily of letters written by the Ligon's children, Lanova and Herschel. This correspondence also includes a letter of congratulations to the Ligon's on their marriage.

The Lanova Ligon McCluskey correspondence, located in folders 10 and 11 of box 4, is centered around various letters addressed to Lanova Ligon McCluskey. The correspondence is primarily composed of letters written by her parents, brother, sister-in-law, and friends.

The Ligon's Flower Shop correspondence, located in folder 12 of box 4, is centered around various mailed items addressed to Ligon's Flower Shop. The

correspondence is primarily composed of bank statements; however, it does include a few letters and telegrams from other florists regarding flower orders.

The genealogical information, located in folder 13 of box 4, contains various genealogical information regarding the John Hunter Cartwright family of Goodlettsville, Tennessee.

The newspaper clippings, located in folder 14 of box 4, contain an article regarding the laying of an extension to the electric co-op line in Turkey, Hall County, Texas. Herschel Ligon was the supervisor of construction for this project.

The remainder of the collection is comprised of a program, a promissory note, receipts, report cards, photographs and negatives. The program, located in folder 15 of box 4, is a program to a football game on October 21, 1938 between the Tennessee Industrial School and Columbia Military Academy. The promissory note, located in folder 16 of box 4, is made out to Cumberland University and is signed by Herschel Ligon. The receipts, located in folder 17 of box 4, are comprised of several livestock receipts and a canceled check of Herschel Ligon's that states that it is for payment on a note. The report cards, located in folder 18 of box 4, contain Herschel Ligon's First Grade, Fifth Grade, Sixth Grade, Seventh Grade, and Eighth Grade report cards. The photographs, located in box 5, and negatives, located in box 6, are pictures of various members of the Ligon family as well as a few military photos.

## CONTAINER LIST

### **Box 1**

1. Business License -- Ligon's Flower Shop, 1941-1942
2. Correspondence -- Charles A. Ware, 1932-1951
3. Correspondence -- Gladys Ligon (Mrs. J. Duncan Ligon), 1937-1940
4. Correspondence -- Gladys Ligon (Mrs. J. Duncan Ligon), 1941
5. Correspondence -- Gladys Ligon (Mrs. J. Duncan Ligon), 1942
6. Correspondence -- Gladys Ligon (Mrs. J. Duncan Ligon), 1943
7. Correspondence -- Gladys Ligon (Mrs. J. Duncan Ligon), 1944-1945
8. Correspondence -- Gladys Ligon (Mrs. J. Duncan Ligon), 1950-1973, n.d.
9. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, 1935
10. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, May-September, 1936
11. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, October, 1936
12. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, November, 1936
13. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, December, 1936
14. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, January-September, 1937
15. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, October-December, 1937
16. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, 1938
17. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, 1939
18. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, 1940
19. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, January-March, 1941
20. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, April, 1941

### **Box 2**

1. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, May, 1941
2. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, June, 1941
3. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, July, 1941
4. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, August, 1941
5. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, September, 1941
6. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, October-December, 1941
7. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, February-March, 1942
8. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, April, 1942
9. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, May-June, 1942
10. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, August, 1943
11. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, September, 1943
12. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, October, 1943
13. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, November, 1943
14. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, December, 1943
15. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, 1944-1945
16. Correspondence -- Herschel C. Ligon, 1950, n.d.

### **Box 3**

1. Correspondence -- India Cloyd Vivrett, 1866-1883
2. Correspondence -- J. Duncan Ligon, 1912
3. Correspondence -- J. Duncan Ligon, January-October, 1913

4. Correspondence -- J. Duncan Ligon, November-December, 1913
5. Correspondence -- J. Duncan Ligon, January-May, 1914
6. Correspondence -- J. Duncan Ligon, June-December, 1914
7. Correspondence -- J. Duncan Ligon, January-March, 1915
8. Correspondence -- J. Duncan Ligon, April-August, 1915
9. Correspondence -- J. Duncan Ligon, October-December, 1915

#### **Box 4**

1. Correspondence -- J. Duncan Ligon, January-March, 1916
2. Correspondence -- J. Duncan Ligon, April-May, 1916
3. Correspondence -- J. Duncan Ligon, June-December, 1916
4. Correspondence -- J. Duncan Ligon, 1917
5. Correspondence -- J. Duncan Ligon, 1939-1941
6. Correspondence -- J. Duncan Ligon, 1942-1943
7. Correspondence -- J. Duncan Ligon, 1944
8. Correspondence -- J. Duncan Ligon, 1969, n.d.
9. Correspondence -- J. Duncan Ligon Family, 1916-1944, n.d.
10. Correspondence -- Lanova Ligon McCluskey (Mrs. W. J. McCluskey), 1941-1942
11. Correspondence -- Lanova Ligon McCluskey (Mrs. W. J. McCluskey), 1943-1945, n.d.
12. Correspondence -- Ligon's Flower Shop, 1941-1971
13. Genealogical Information -- John Hunter Cartwright Family, n.d.
14. Newspaper Clippings -- Herschel C. Ligon, n.d.
15. Program -- Tennessee Industrial School vs. Columbia Military Academy Football, October 21, 1938
16. Promissory Note -- Herschel C. Ligon, 1936
17. Receipts, 1917-1956
18. Report Cards -- Herschel C. Ligon, 1924-1932

#### **Box 5 - Photographs**

1. P1 "Blandford, England", [Herschel C. Ligon?], 1944
2. P2 "Cambridge, England - Facing Picture L to R - Capt. Reid, Lt. Graham, Lt. Cloutier, Lt. Schleimer 'A' Co., Lt. Brennan, Lt. Dall, Lt. Timney 'A' Co., Capt. Posner, Lt. Ligon 'A' Co., Lt. Cary 'A' Co., Lt. Swabb 'A' Co., Lt. Gates, Lt. Elliott, Col. Moody, Lt. Wolfe, 'Cole Chester in front'", 1944
3. P3 "Woolfox Lodge, England - Lt. Swabb, T/ Sgt. Jordan of Nashville and crew", 1944
4. P4 Herschel and Wydell Ligon, 1943
5. P5 [Lanova Ligon?], 1942
6. P6 [Lanova Ligon?] sitting on a car, 1942
7. P7 [Washington Monument?], 1917
8. P8 Unidentified couple standing by a park bench, 1917
9. P9 Unidentified couple standing in front of a large white building with columns, 1917
10. P10 Unidentified group of people standing in front of a white block building, 1917

11. P11 Unidentified garden, 1917
12. P12 Unidentified white house, 1917
13. P13 Dark view of an unidentified river bed, 1917
14. P14 Unidentified man in a suit and hat, n.d.
15. P15 "September 4, 1935"
16. P16 Unidentified man laying on a tree branch, n.d.
17. P17 Unidentified group of people with a baby in the snow, n.d.
18. P18 House in the snow, n.d.
19. P19 Trees in the snow, n.d.
20. P20 Domed building in the snow, n.d.
21. P21 Inside of a flooded building, n.d.

**Box 6 - Negatives**

1. N1 Unidentified woman in a dress standing in front of a corn field, n.d.
2. N2 Unidentified woman standing in front of a corn field, n.d.
3. N3 Two unidentified women in dresses standing in front of a corn field, n.d.
4. N4 Rocky stream, n.d.
5. N5 Unidentified factory, n.d.