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HUBBARD, DAVID
(1792-1874)
PAPERS
1807-1871

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INTRODUCTION

This collection is centered around David Hubbard, who lived most of his life in Lawrence County, Alabama. He was a veteran of the War of 1812 during which he attained the rank of major; Alabama state senator, 1827; speculator in Indian lands in Alabama and Mississippi, 1830s-1840s; Alabama state representative, 1831; Democratic presidential elector from Alabama, 1844 and 1860; delegate to Southern Commercial Conventions at Knoxville, Tennessee, 1857, and Savannah, Georgia, 1859; Alabama representative to the Confederate government, 1861; and Commissioner of Indian Affairs for the Confederate government, 1863. The David Hubbard Papers were taken from the Campbell Brown and Ewell Papers which were given to the Manuscript Unit in 1965 by Mrs. C. Hughes Lyon of Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

The materials in this finding aid measure .42 linear feet. There are no restrictions on the materials. Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the David Hubbard Papers may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The David Hubbard Papers, containing approximately 240 items, cover the years 1807-1871. The collection is composed of correspondence; accounts; land records (contracts, deeds, titles, indentures, schedules, and a certificate); legal documents (lawyer certification, company record, and bills of sale for Negroes); list of bonds; newspaper clippings; and pictures.

There are few letters of David Hubbard, so his incoming correspondence makes up the largest single part of the collection. People wrote to Hubbard about a variety of subjects, chief among them politics and land transactions. Letters written by John C. Calhoun, James K. Polk, D. H. Lewis, Henry A. Wise and others can be found in the collection. Many of the letters, dated primarily in the 1830s, 1840s, and 1850s, contain information on national, as well as Alabama and Tennessee politics. Such relevant topics as the national bank, slavery, and economic problems of the country are discussed by Hubbard's correspondents. The elections of Martin Van Buren, James K. Polk, and Abraham Lincoln are also discussed. Clement Claiborne Clay and Andrew B. Moore were prominent Alabamians corresponding with Hubbard on Alabama politics; James K. Polk did likewise with Tennessee politics.

A prominent topic of concern during the 1830s and 1840s was the sale of Indian lands in Alabama and Mississippi. David Hubbard's enterprise, the "Chickasaw Company," made up primarily of a group of eastern investors who worked directly with the Indians, came under the auspices of the New York and Mississippi Land Company in 1835. Some correspondence, an agreement, and a list of unsold lands can be found in the David Hubbard Papers which deal with this New York and Mississippi Land Company.

The correspondence among members of the Hubbard and their related families comprises another major part of the David Hubbard Papers. There are twelve letters, dated 1829-1841, written by Eliza (Campbell) Hubbard to her husband, David Hubbard; thirty letters, dated 1851-1863, written by Lizinka (Campbell) Brown Ewell, a niece by marriage to David Hubbard; nine letters dated 1867-1871, written by Rebecca (Stoddert) Hubbard, second wife of David Hubbard, to Susan Rebecca (Polk) Brown, a cousin; and other family correspondence. Besides family news, such topics as the Confederacy, Tennessee politics and government, and slavery are discussed. For a complete listing of the correspondents in the Hubbard family correspondence, see the index in this register.

The biographical material in this collection consists of data on the Hubbard family, as related in the correspondence of Stephen Hubbard, Eliza (Campbell) Hubbard, David Hubbard, Jr., and Duncan Hubbard.

The remainder of the David Hubbard Papers is made up primarily of land records, certificates, legal documents, and papers about other business matters in which David Hubbard, his family, and his acquaintances were involved.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

David Hubbard

- 1792 Born at Old Liberty (Bedford), Virginia; son of Thomas (Regimental Quartermaster, First Virginia, 1777 to May 1778) and Mary B. Swann Hubbard
- Moved to Rutherford County, Tennessee, and received his early education at country schools; entered an academy
- 1812 Enlisted with Andrew Jackson to fight British at New Orleans; attained rank of major
- 1814 December 23. In midnight attack on British he was wounded in the hip and left on the battlefield; prisoner of the British
- After the war, he studied law briefly in a lawyer's office
- 1819 Worked in Huntsville, Alabama, as a carpenter
- ca. 1820 Admitted to bar
- 1823 Opened law office. Elected solicitor for four years
- 1827 Moved to Moulton, Alabama, where he practiced law, owned a mercantile business, was a planter, manufacturer, and a politician
- 1827 Married Eliza Campbell; six children
- 1827-1828 Member of Alabama Senate
- 1828-1835 Member of Board of Trustees of University of Alabama
- 1829 Moved to Courtland, Alabama, where he engaged in buying and selling Chickasaw Indian land
- 1830 Investigated desirability of establishing railroad line in Alabama; Congress appropriated money for what became the Tuscumbia, Courtland and Decatur Railroad

- 1831-1859 Member of Alabama House of Representatives for this period, with several gaps
- ca. 1835 Speculator in Creek Indian lands in Mississippi
- 1839-1841 U.S. Representative from Alabama
- 1844 Presidential elector on Democratic ticket for Polk and Dallas
- 1845 Married Rebecca Stoddert
- 1847, 1851, 1857 Defeated in congressional races by George S. Houston
- 1849-1851 U.S. Representative from Alabama
- Opposed the Compromise of 1850, classed with others in Democratic party as “Fire-Eaters”
- 1857 Delegate to Southern Commercial Convention at Knoxville, Tennessee
- 1859 Delegate to Southern Commercial Convention at Savannah, Georgia; advocated possible separation from the Union – a year before Lincoln was elected President –“.... It becomes our duty to examine well our condition in the Union....”
- 1860 Presidential elector on Democratic ticket for Breckinridge and Lane
- 1861-1863 Member of Confederate State House of Representatives
- 1863-1865 Commissioner of Indian Affairs in Confederate government
- Moved to Nashville, Tennessee
- Lived at Spring Hill, Tennessee, near General Ewell (a relative); established a tanyard near Ewell Station
- 1874 Died at home of son, Duncan, in Pointe Coupee Parish, Louisiana; was buried at Trinity Church (Episcopal), Rosedale, Iberville Parish

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

1. Accounts – Bills, notes, receipts – 1821-1865
2. Account Book -- 1854
3. Correspondence – Incoming – Hubbard, David and Rebecca (Stoddert) Ewell, Lizinka (Campbell) Brown
4. Correspondence – Incoming – Hubbard, David – Hubbard, Eliza (Campbell)
5. Correspondence – Incoming – Hubbard, David – Albert - Clemens
6. Correspondence – Incoming – Hubbard, David – Crallé - Mackey
7. Correspondence – Incoming – Hubbard, David – McCormick - Wood
8. Correspondence – Outgoing – Hubbard, David – Anderson - Sherrod
9. Correspondence – Family – Outgoing – Hubbard, Rebecca – Brown, Susan Rebecca (Polk) and Ewell, Lizinka (Campbell) Brown
10. Correspondence – Family – Brown - Turner – 1827-1871
11. Correspondence – General – Crawford - Weakley
12. Instructions – Planter to Overseer – 1840
13. Land records – Contracts – 1834-1870
14. Land records – Deeds, titles, indentures – 1807-1857
15. Land records – Deeds, titles, indentures – 1810-1869
16. Land records – Indians land indentures – 1834-1835
17. Land records – Schedules and certificate – 1837-1841
18. Legal documents – Licenses, court case, agreements – 1826-1854
19. Legal documents – Bills of sale for Negroes – 1819-1855
20. List and memorabilia – List of bonds and men on farm – 1866-1870
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22. Picture – Melrose Gin House
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24. Writings – David Hubbard
25. Land titles – Registration and transfer – 1820-1841

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This is a name index for the correspondence in the David Hubbard Papers other than that of the Hubbard and related families, together with the dates of the letters and information regarding their contents. Unless otherwise indicated, the letters are addressed to David Hubbard. The numbers in parentheses immediately following the name denote the number of letters, if more than one. The last number refers to the folder in which the material can be found.

- Albert, John J., 1834, re: Creek Indian treaty and sale of Creek Indian land, 5
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Moore, Andrew B. (2), 1860, re: Alabama politics and government; converting of legislature; David Hubbard given commission to Arkansas; election of Abraham Lincoln, 7-11

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Polk, James K. (2), 1839-1840, re: politics and government; election forecast; Governor William Pennington of Pennsylvania; Tennessee politics and government; Whig meeting in Nashville, 7

Sherrod, W. C., 1870, re: payment for land, 7

Weakley, R., to Thomas Hubbard, 1813, re: disagreement over title of land in Rutherford County, Tennessee, 11

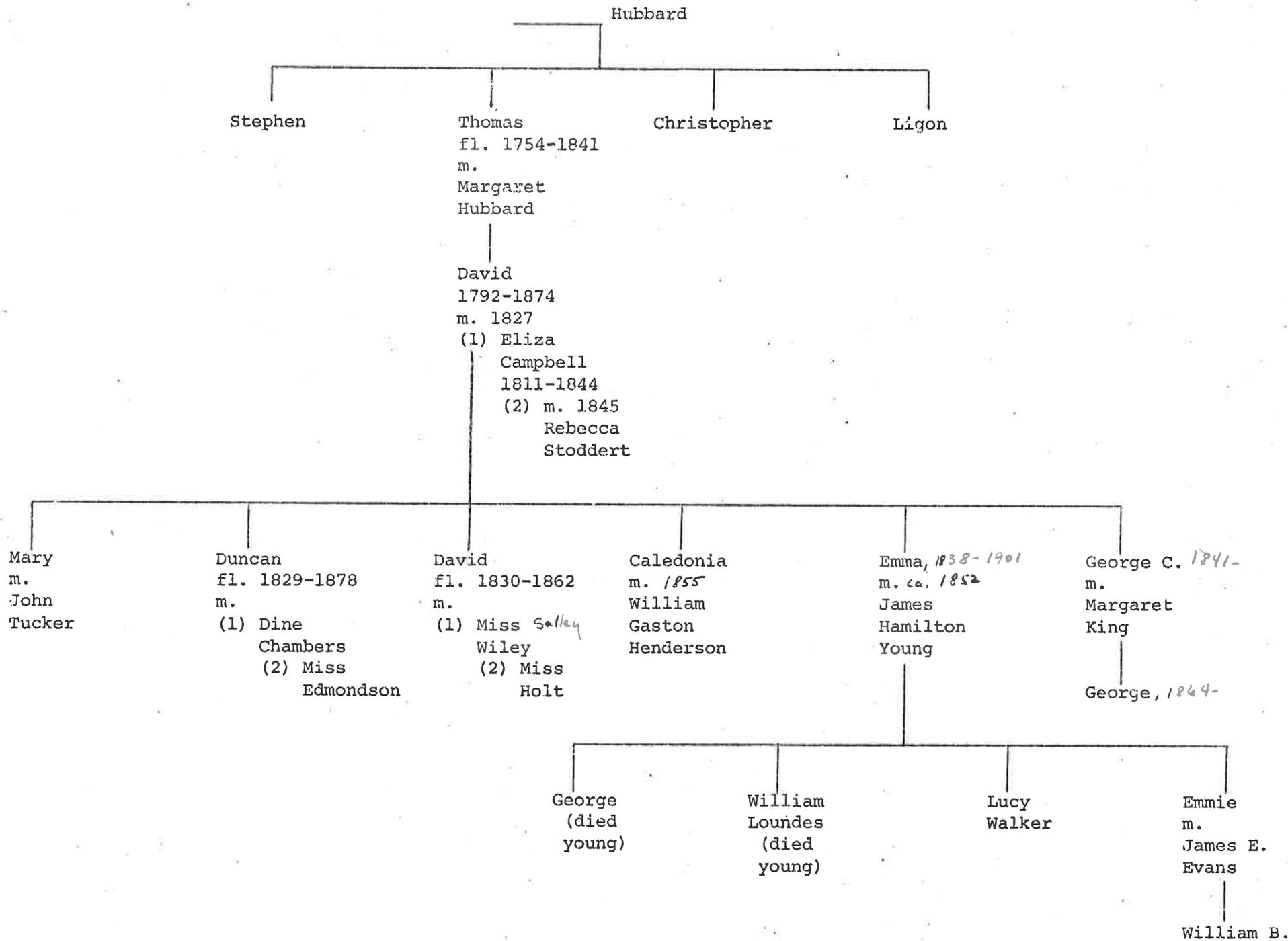
Wise, Henry A. (2), 1859, re: college of William and Mary, politics and government, slavery and Southern prestige; national political conventions; Black Republicans, 7

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HUBBARD FAMILY CORRESPONDENCE INDEX

This is a name index for the correspondence of the Hubbard and related families, together with the other members of the family, together with the dates of the letters and information regarding their contents. Unless otherwise indicated, the letters are addressed to David Hubbard. The numbers in parentheses immediately following the name denote the number of letters, if more than one. The last number refers to the folder in which the material can be found.

- Brown, George Campbell, cousin by marriage, 1861, re: Confederacy, request for rifles, Jeff Davis, 10
- Brown, George Campbell, to his aunt, Rebecca (Stoddert) Hubbard (5), 1865-1872, re: family news, Dr. Quintard; offer to sell some of Major Hubbard's books; Tennessee politics and government; Mr. Brownlow and Mr. Fletcher, 10
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- Hubbard, Rebecca (Stoddert), to Susan Rebecca (Polk) Brown, cousin, (9), 1867-1871, re: family news; Ku Klux Klan; Negroes; Mrs. Sarah (Yorke) Jackson to have life estate at the Hermitage; tornado in St. Louis, 9
- Hubbard, Rebecca (Stoddert) to Lizinka (Campbell) Brown Ewell, cousin (2), n.d., re: illness; purchase of sideboard, 9
- Hubbard, Stephen to his brother, Thomas Hubbard, 1827, re: family news; Virginia news, especially growth of Lynchburg, 10
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See MISS File - Hubbard Family