



State of Tennessee  
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**Tennessee State Library and Archives**  
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**FERGUSON FAMILY PAPERS – ADDITION**  
**1829-1972**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The Fergusson Family Papers Addition (1829-1972) are centered around the Fergusson family, a prominent Southern family. The Fergusson Family Papers Addition is a gift of Dr. Charles M. Fergusson, Jr., Austin, Texas.

The materials in this collection measure .84 linear feet. There are no restrictions on the materials.

Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the Fergusson Family Papers may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Fergusson Family Papers Addition, containing approximately 200 items, span the period 1829-1972. The collection is composed of correspondence, diaries, financial documents, genealogies, invitations, photographs, printed materials and several miscellaneous items. The collection compliments the much larger Fergusson Family Papers (see Fergusson Family Register, 1784-1927).

The majority of this collection is composed of correspondence between members of the family. This correspondence centers upon the varied and fascinating careers of the two sons, Frank K. Fergusson and Sterling Price Fergusson. The Fergusson family members were noted letter writers and these letters provide fascinating reading. A small portion of the correspondence deals with pension requests and provide valuable genealogical information concerning war veterans.

Other miscellaneous items include newspaper clippings highlighting the careers of Sterling and Frank Fergusson, two early diaries of Adam Fergusson, information concerning the United States Military Academy and photographs of the family.

The Fergusson Family Papers Addition represents an important contribution to the study of a prominent Southern family. The collection traces the role played by the Fergusson family in the government, military, and scientific communities throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. As a genealogical source the collection is unequalled in its range and scope.

# CONTAINER LIST

## Microfilm Container List

### Microfilm Reel # 1

#### **Box 1**

1. Advertisement – Morton, Smith and Company, 1848
2. Biographical sketch – Fergusson, Frank K.
3. Clippings – Fergusson family – Miscellaneous
4. Correspondence – unknown
5. Correspondence – Bell - Duncan
6. Correspondence – Durant - Edwards
7. Correspondence – Fergusson, Frank K.
8. Correspondence – Fergusson, Medora
9. Correspondence – Fergusson, Sterling Price
10. Correspondence – Fergusson, W.A.-Fergusson, William W.
11. Correspondence – Hagner-Heath
12. Correspondence – Hill-Hume
13. Correspondence – Livingston-Smith
14. Correspondence – Washington-Wooden
15. Correspondence – Wright, Orville
16. Diaries – Fergusson, Adam, 1830
17. Diaries – Fergusson, Adam, 1845
18. Financial documents – Bank notes, 1843-1846
19. Genealogical data – Fergusson - Kerby families
20. Invitations – Dinner – United States Corps of Cadets
21. Invitations – Graduation – United States Military Academy, 1895
22. Pension certificates – Haynie, Charles F., 1847
23. Photographs – Fergusson family
24. Photographs – Fergusson family

#### **Box 2**

1. Photographs – “One Hundredth Night Celebration”
2. Postal envelopes – 1864
3. Printed material – Booklet – The One-hundredth Night Entertainment, 1891-1895
4. Printed materials – Booklet – West Point Reunion Bulletin, 1946-1947
5. Printed materials – Circular letter – West Point, 1889
6. Receipts – Bills, notes, etc. – Bulletin of American Meteorological Society, 1935
7. Speech – “Christmas”

#### **Box 3**

1. Volume – Piano music

## NAME INDEX

This is a name index of the correspondence only in the Fergusson Family Papers Addition, together with the dates of the letters and information regarding their contents. The figures in parentheses denote the number of letters, if more than one. The last numbers refer to the box and folder in which the material is to be found.

- Bell, N. to Adam Fergusson, 1852, re: seeks settlement of a pension request; mentions steam boating, 1-5
- Duncan, B. to Adams Fergusson, 1839, re: makes oath that his sister was married to a Mr. Mr. White before the war (for pension purpose), 1-5
- Durant, Thomas to Adam Fergusson, 1829, re; discusses the settlement of a loan; payment of a bank note, 1-6
- Edwards, J.L. (3) to Adam Fergusson, 1837-1838, re: reply from War Department concerning pensions for John Bird, William Bird, Mrs. Elizabeth Darnell, Mrs. Eleanor Reeves, Mrs. Rachel Debow and Mrs. Sally Meadows, 1-6
- Fergusson, Frank to Medora Fergusson, 1891, re: his military company's encampment at Bennington, Vermont; life at West Point, 1-7
- Fergusson, Medora to Charles M. Fergusson, 1920, re: birth of C.M. Fergusson Jr.; health of his father; family news, 1-8
- Fergusson, Sterling Price to William W. Fergusson, 1911, re: work at the Meteorological Center in Reno, Nevada; establishment of the Mt. Rose Observatory; attendance at musical events, 1-9
- Fergusson, Sterling Price (4) to Rena \_\_\_\_\_, 1926-1950, re: arrival in Greenland; family news; retirement from the Council of the Meteorological Society; comments on race relations after the Columbia race riot; visit of Billy Graham to Massachusetts, 1-9
- Fergusson, W.A. to Adam Fergusson, 1833, re: return from Jackson and Vicksburg; will operate a tavern in Mississippi, 1-10
- Fergusson, William W. to Adam Fergusson, 1856, re: plans for a "great barbecue" at Peyton's Creek; barbecue at Hartsville; visit to Nashville; sickness at Carthage, Tennessee, 1-10
- Hagner, Peter (2) to Adam Fergusson, 1838-1839, re: War of 1812 pension settlement; pension claim to the widow of Samuel Hunter, 1-11
- Heath, James E. to Adam Fergusson, 1841, re: Virginia Auditor's Office can furnish no additional information respecting the services of Joel Preston (pension applicant), 1-11
- Hill, William to Adam Fergusson, 1848, re: military service and pension request for Richard Jones, 1-12
- Hobson, N. to Adam Fergusson, 1839, re; "I find upon examination the bank note does not belong to the Planters Bank of Tennessee," 1-12
- Hume, John K. to Adam Fergusson, 1854, re: Mrs. G. M. Britton requests payment for overdue bank note on the company of Shepherd and Gordan, 1-13
- Livingston, Brien to Adam Fergusson, 1849, re: Mrs. G. M. Britton requests payment for the boarding of William Fergusson, 1-13
- Parrish, Joel to Adam Fergusson, 1826, re: notifies Fergusson that he has been appointed

the Bank of the State of Tennessee agent for Smith County, 1-13  
Smith, J.M. to Adam Fergusson, 1843, re: seeks endorsements of business papers, 1-13  
Washington, Thomas to Adam Fergusson, 1851, re: requests the payment of an overdue  
bank note, 1-14  
Wooden, Arthur to Adam Fergusson, 1843, re: reply for payment of a debt, 1-14  
Wright, Orville to Sterling Price Fergusson, 1916, re: apologizes for delay in answering  
letter; is now connected with the Wright Company only as a consulting engineer;  
is currently setting up a small laboratory to carry out aerodynamic experiments,  
1-15