

**BELL, JAMES JACKSON
FAMILY PAPERS
1837-1972**

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INTRODUCTION

The James Jackson Bell Family Papers, 1837-1972, are centered around James Jackson Bell (1815-1892) and related families of Antioch, Tennessee. The James Jackson Bell Family Papers are a gift of Mrs. Harold James Baird, Nashville, Tennessee through the agency of Mrs. Jacqueline L. Baird, Nashville, Tennessee.

The collection occupies .84 cubic feet of shelf space, and numbers approximately 300 items. Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the James Jackson Bell Family Papers may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The James Jackson Bell Family Papers, consisting of approximately 300 items, span the period 1837-1972. The collection is composed of accounts, church records, correspondence, court records, genealogical data, land records, a legal document, memorial cards, photographs, printed materials, school records, railroad tax receipts and several miscellaneous items.

Among the account papers are receipts issued to James Jackson Bell (1815-1892) for fees collected as administrator for various estates in Davidson County, Tennessee. Church records consist of "Letters of Dismission" issued to various congregational members from the Mt. View Baptist Church of Antioch, Tennessee and the Central Baptist Church of Nashville, Tennessee.

Correspondence is generally of a family nature, consisting largely of family news. One exception is a letter - author unknown - written to B. F. Bell (1864-1899), the son of James J. Bell, concerning the capture of Iloilo in the Philippine Islands during the Spanish-American War (see box 1, folder 12).

Among the court records are "Letters of Administration" issued to James J. Bell as executor of several estates in Davidson County. Genealogical data consists of a letter written to Mrs. J. A. Rice of Antioch, Tennessee regarding the descendants of Samuel Bell (1799-1869). Among the land records is a map survey of land conveyed to John A. Rice in District Two, Davidson County in 1920. There are several unidentified photographs in the collection.

An issue of the *Christian Advocate*, January 10, 1880, is among the printed materials. Benjamin F. Bell was a teacher in the rural Antioch area schools in the latter part of the nineteenth century. There are several of his "Teacher Class Records" books for this period. Among the railroad tax receipts in the collection are several for the Edgefield and Kentucky Railroad.

Although a fragmented collection, the Bell Family Papers add to the already existing materials on various Bell families in the Tennessee State Library and Archives.

CONTAINER LIST

Box No. 1

1. Account book--Farm records--Rice, J. A., 1902-1910
2. Accounts--Bills, notes, receipts--Bell, B. J., 1892-1899
3. Accounts--Bills, notes, receipts--Bell, James F., 1861-1874
4. Accounts--Bills, notes, receipts--Bell, James J., 1853-1890
5. Accounts--Bills, notes, receipts--Rice, J. A., 1896-1941
6. Accounts--Bills, notes, receipts--Miscellaneous, 1851-1949
7. Associations, institutions, etc.--Waller Burial Club--Rice, Evie May and Rice, Melissa, 1933
8. Cards--Greeting--Miscellaneous
9. Church records--Letter of Dismission--Hibbitt, Mrs. Rae, n. d.
10. Church records--Letter of Dismission--Stevens, Mrs. L. P. and Patton, L. P., 1897
11. Clippings--Miscellaneous
12. Correspondence--Author unknown
13. Correspondence--Buckley - Dorsey
14. Correspondence--Ellis - Gleaves
15. Correspondence--Mai - Norwood
16. Correspondence--Quillian - Williams
17. Correspondence--Miscellaneous - fragments
18. Court records--Bill of complaint--Buchanan, Alexander and wife Margaret Buchanan against James Mattlock et al, 1865
19. Court records--Letter of Administration--James J. Bell for John H. Ellis, 1849
20. Court records--Letter of Administration--James J. Bell for Simon Stephens, 1847
21. Farm management--Ledger--Rice, Ben, 1916-1924
22. Financial records--Bank book--Bell, Mary, 1887
23. Financial records--Bank book--Johnson, Charles, 1912

Box No. 2

1. Genealogical data--Bell, Samuel, 1797-1869
2. Insurance papers--Collateral Loan Agreement--John A. Rice, ca 1917
3. Insurance papers--Policies--James S. Rice et al, 1918-1931
4. Inventories--Household items, n. d.
5. Land records--Deed--Ensley, Enoch and Laura Ensley to J. T. Williams and Melissa Williams, 1883
6. Land records--Deed--Harwood, C. B. to Cephas Howard et al 1893
7. Land records--Deed--Morgan, Nancy et al to J. T. Williams, 1883
8. Land records--Survey--John A. Rice, 1920
9. Legal documents--Will--William W. Anderson, 1859
10. Lists--Household, 1880-1885
11. Medicine--Remedy, n. d.
12. Memorabilia--Linen handkerchief
13. Memorial card--Bell, Ben J., 1899
14. Memorial card--Bell, J. J., 1892

CONTAINER LIST, continued:

Box No. 2 continued:

15. Memorial card--Williams, Mrs. Melissa A., 1895
16. Music--Miscellaneous
17. Notes--Miscellaneous
18. Obituaries--Rice, Mrs. Evelyn Williams et al, 1972
19. Photographs, drawings, etc., Unidentified
20. Politics and government--Campaign literature--Sen. John K. Shields, n.d.
21. Printed materials--Christian Advocate, 1880
22. Printed materials--Precious Promises of God, n. d.
23. Real property--Sale--Williams, J. S., 1892
24. School records--Class assignments--Rice, Melissa, 1931, 1933
25. School records--Handbook of Central High School--Rice, Melissa, 1930
26. School records--Report cards--Rice, Fred and Jimmie, 1911-1926
27. School records--Teacher's Abstract from Register--Bell, B. J., 1887
28. School records--Teacher's Class Record--Bell, B. J., 1885, 1890-1896
29. School records--Miscellaneous
30. Scrapbook--Author unknown
31. Taxes--James J. Bell et al, 1837-1915
32. Writings--Author unknown--Miscellaneous