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ODOM, ELI
(1793-1869)
PAPERS
1865-1869

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INTRODUCTION

This is a brief collection of business and personal papers of Eli Odom, a prominent farmer, businessman and a captain in the Confederate Army of Gallatin (Sumner County), 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 Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the Eli Odom Papers may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Eli Odom Papers, consisting of 75 items, cover some of his business affairs during the closing years of his life. Odom died on October 31, 1869, at the age of 76.

Many of the items are routine orders and receipts for bonds, many of them county and state bonds for railroad construction. He apparently was a major stockholder in the Louisville and Nashville Railroad.

Odom was a major landowner, farmer, horse-breeder, and financier in Sumner County, Tennessee.

G.R. Keith, a Knoxville native who had moved to Cottage Home, near DeSoto (Clark County), Mississippi, wrote to buy horses by mail. The ensuing lengthy letters tell much about early Reconstruction days in Mississippi: no cash, drought, problems of transporting fine horses interstate, and cotton at two cents a pound and falling.

Emily Peyton writes to ask for a loan, reminding Odom that he had made a loan to her father, Balie Peyton, when the family returned from overseas diplomatic service.

C.F. Morris, a nephew, writes from Pacific Place, Arkansas, to report a family death.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Eli Odom

Family moved to Sumner County, Tennessee in the closing years of the 18th century

- ca. 1793 Born
- 1823 July 17, license issued for marriage to Caty K. Phagan, niece of his brother-in-law, George Elliott
- 1837 Officer in Gallatin Jockey Club
- 1861 December 3, organized Company F of the 7th Tennessee Cavalry Battalion at Hartsville with men from Sumner and Trousdale counties
- 1869 October 31, died. Buried in Gallatin City Cemetery, Section B, Row 14

Caty K. Phagan Odom

- 1805 February 8 – Born
- 1823 July 17 – Married to Eli Odom (license only)
- 1842 January 18 – Died. Buried in Gallatin City Cemetery, Section B, Row 14
- Mother of Ellen Odom, Mrs. Charles Trousdale

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

1. Correspondence – Fink, Albert, 1868
2. Correspondence – Morris, C.F., 1866-1869
3. Correspondence – Keith, G.R., 1867
4. Newspaper clipping from Jos. W. Allen, 1868
5. Correspondence – Peyton, Emily T., 1867
6. Receipts – Allen, Jos. W., 1866
7. Correspondence – Allen, Jos. W., 1867
8. Correspondence – Allen, Jos. W., 1869
9. Correspondence – Anderson, Johnson & Smith, 1867-1869
10. Correspondence – Burns, Alexander, 1867
11. Correspondence – Caruthers, R.L., 1867
12. Correspondence – Caruthers, R.L., Jr., 1868
13. Correspondence – Charlton, L., 1866-1868
14. Correspondence – Crockett, A.J., 1869
15. Correspondence – Elliston, W.R., 1866
16. Correspondence – Frazier, J.G., 1867
17. Correspondence – Gatewood, John J., 1867
18. Correspondence – Gordon, A.A., 1869
19. Correspondence – Houston, Russell, 1869
20. Correspondence – Keieger, Jacob, Sr., 1869
21. Correspondence – Marr, Thomas S., 1869
22. Correspondence – Milliken, C.W., 1867
23. Correspondence – Smith, Guild, 1869
24. Correspondence – Stark, James L., 1865
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26. Correspondence – Walker & Young, 1865
27. Correspondence – Wing, Tobey & Company, 1867
28. Certificate – McKinley, Thompson, 1865
29. Receipts – Coulter, T.J., 1863
30. Correspondence – Fry, Speed S., 1864?
Accounts – Bonds, 1855-1869

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