CLAYTON COLLECTION
1836-1884

Processed by:

Elaine G. Powers
Archival Technical Services

Accession Number: 87-002
Date Completed: May 7, 1985
Location: XVIII-F-3
Microfilm Accession Number: 1297

MICROFILMED
INTRODUCTION

The Clayton Collection is centered around Jesse Beard, (1811-1863) and his daughter, Caledonia Spurgeon Beard (1842-1869), of Sullivan County, Tennessee. The materials in this finding aid measures .42 linear feet. There are no restrictions on the materials.

Single photocopies of unpublished writings in Clayton Collection may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Clayton Collection contains 149 items and two volumes and spans the period 1836-1884. The collection includes two account books, accounts, clippings, correspondence, genealogical data, legal documents, personal notes and essays, promissory notes, school notes and exercises, and school records.

Jesse Beard’s business accounts and Caledonia S. Beard’s correspondence make up the larger portion of this collection. Most of the letters are written by Caledonia Beard’s school friends and concentrate on social activities.

The two account books and the other account statements indicate that Jesse Beard was in business with A.L. Gammon and John Barns. The company, Gammon, Beard, & Barns, evidently bought and sold boats and hauled freight on the Holston River in East Tennessee during the years 1841-1855. Payments were made in cast, produce and goods, and sometimes in services rendered, such as sawing lumber and blacksmithing. The records suggest that Gammon, Beard, and Barns acted independently as well as in partnership.

An index has been compiled for one of the account books. The names provide information about Jesse Beard’s debtors and creditors in the vicinity of Jonesboro, Tennessee (Hilton’s Post Office).

The Clayton Collection is interesting because it provides information about a small business in a rural area in the nineteenth century.
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

Jesse Beard

1811 August 3, born at St. Clair, Hawkins County, Tennessee

1841 June 4, married Sarah Spurgeon

c. 1841-1857 Partnership in boat business with A.L. Gammon and John Barns (Gammon, Beard & Barns)

1842 November 11, a daughter, Caledonia Spurgeon born

1863 August 31, died

Jesse Beard owned two farms, both in Sullivan County, Tennessee. One was a general store near where Jesse Beard lived.

Caledonia Spurgeon Beard

1842 November 11, born, probably in Sullivan County, Tennessee

1854-1860 Attended Holston Baptist Female Academy Institute (Jonesborough, TN)

c. 1861 Signed contract to teach “spelling, reading, writing, ciphering, and anything essential in a common school” at Helton’s School (Sullivan County, Tennessee) for the term of five months to commence April 1, 1863

1867 December 12, married William Amos Hall

1868 December 1, a son, Edgar Fulton Hall, born

1869 January 3, died
Sarah Spurgeon

1817              January 29, born
1841              June 4, married Jesse Beard
1842              November 11, a daughter, Sarah Spurgeon, born
1863              August 31, death of Jesse Beard
1873              April 5, bought Patent Deed for “Victory” (bee) Hive from Amos R. Moulton and William Mullennix
1900              November 26, died.

Charles H. Spurgeon, famous English Baptist Preacher, was for many years pastor of the great Metropolitan Tabernacle in London. Capt. John Spurgeon, a first cousin of the Rev. Charles Spurgeon, migrated from England in the nineteenth century to the United States and settled in what is now Sullivan County (Tennessee) near the airport. He was a farmer and a miller. He was a member of the old Muddy Creek Baptist Church for many years and served as clerk for some time.

Capt. John Spurgeon, shortly after settling in Sullivan County, acquired 97 acres of land on which was built an old fort which was used as headquarters for the people of that section in their battles with the Indians, and later in the War Between the States.

Mrs. Jessie Mae Hall Clayton believes that the Capt. John Spurgeon mentioned above was either the father of Sarah Spurgeon, or at least a close relative, but there is no proof of this.
CONTAINER LIST

Microfilm Reel # 1:

Box 1
1. Account Books – Jesse Beard, 1836-1884 (with index and transcription)
2. Account Books – Jesse Beard, c.1856-1863
3. Accounts – Jesse Beard, 1849
4. Accounts – Jesse Beard, 1850-1860
5. Accounts – Bills Paid Out, 1844-1845
6. Accounts – Gammon, Beard & Barnes, 1841-1855
7. Accounts – Gammon, Beard & Barnes, (boat business), 1841-1855
8. Accounts – Gammon, Beard & Barnes w/ Brandon & Lewis Co., 1841
9. Accounts – Gammon, Beard & Barnes w/ Wm. King, 1841-1848
10. Accounts – Gammon, Beard & Barnes – Statement of Freighting, 1841-1846
11. Accounts – Wm. L. and A.L. Gammon
13. Accounts – Miscellaneous
16. Clippings – Presentation of Clayton Collection, 1969
17. Correspondence – Beard, Caledonia S.
18. Correspondence – Beard, Jesse and Sarah
19. Correspondence – Blair, F.S.; Cash, Joseph
20. Correspondence – Brown, Sallie M.
21. Correspondence – Calloway, Carrie
22. Correspondence – Cox, Adalene
23. Correspondence – Hopkins, Mary A.
24. Correspondence – Jones, Adah
25. Correspondence – Kuhn, Ruth
26. Correspondence – McKee, Robert C.
27. Correspondence – Miscellaneous
28. Correspondence – Miscellaneous
29. Correspondence – Miscellaneous
30. Correspondence – Miscellaneous
31. Correspondence – Miscellaneous (found in large account book)
32. Correspondence – Morris, Lou R.
33. Correspondence – Murray, Kate L.
34. Correspondence – Russell, Mary L.
35. Correspondence – Spurgin, M.E.
36. Correspondence – Tipton, Lou
37. Correspondence – West, Lizzie J.
38. Genealogical Data – Beard Family
40. Legal Documents – Article of Agreement – Gammon, Beard & Barns w/ Brandon & Lewis Co., 1840
41. Legal Documents – Article of Agreement – Beard, Callie S., 1861
42. Legal Documents – Guardianship Papers – Francis Amanda Jane McCall, 1838
43. Legal Documents – Patent Deed – Beard, Sarah 1873
44. Legal Documents – Power of Attorney – Beard, Mariah McCall, 1838
45. Legal Documents – Line of Corner Contract – Gasper Smith and Lucinda White, 1856
46. Legal Documents – Warrant – George Gammon, Jesse Beard, and Clayton D. Abernathy, 1840
47. Personal Notes and Essays – Beard, Caledonia, n.d.
48. Personal Notes and Essays – Beard, Caledonia
49. Personal Notes and Essays – Beard, Caledonia
50. Personal Notes and Essays – Beard, Caledonia
51. Promissory Notes – Sarah Beard to S.J. Millard, 1877
52. Promissory Notes – W.K. Yost to Sary Beard, 1864
53. School Notes and Exercises – Beard, Caledonia, n.d.
54. School Records – Certificate – Beard, Caledonia, 1860
55. School Records – Tuition Receipts – Holston Baptist Female Institute, 1854-1860
NAME INDEX

This is a name index of correspondence in the Clayton Collection 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.

B[eard], C[aledonia] to Friends, 1859, (including a draft of the letter) re: writes at request of grandmother with family news, 17
Beard, Caledonia S. to Martha Johnson, 1855, re: news from school in Jonesboro, 17
Beard, Jesse and Sarah (2) to Calla Beard, 1860, re: mother’s health and wants to know how things are going with studies; will plant corn instead of tobacco and will send box with Mr., Pence, 18
Blair, F.S. to Cally Beard, n.d., re: asks permission to call, 19
Brown, Sallie M. to Callie Beard, 1860, re: personal news from school, 20
Calloway, Carrie to Callie Beard, 1859, re: wrote an earlier letter and now lives in Concord where her father sells goods, 21
Cash, Joseph (2) to Callie Beard, 1866-1867, re: feels mistreated and wants her to answer this letter; working at carpenter’s trade and wants to hear from her, 19
Cox, Adalene to Callie Beard, 1852, re: at grandmother’s house and has seen Billy E. twice, 22
Hopkins, Mary A. to Sarah Beard, [1884], re: names her children and grandchildren, 23
Jones, Adah (2) to Callie Beard, 1860, re: relates family news Wheeling, Indiana, 24
Kuhn, Ruth to Callie [Beard], 1867, re: family news, 25
McKee, Robert C. to Mariah McCall (Beard), 1837, re: as executor of Joseph McCall’s estate in Hamilton County, McKee writes that he is trying to settle the account and advises Mrs. McCall to appoint a guardian for her daughter, 26
Morris, Lou R. (6) to Cally Beard, 1856-1858, re: personal news, 32
Murray, Kate L. to Caledonia Beard, 1859, re: personal news and social activities since Christmas, 33
Russell, Mary L., (2) to Caledonia Beard, 1855-1857, re: disappointed Cally didn’t attend her marriage; has daughter named Kate Cornelia Russell, 34
Spurgin, M.E. to cousin, 1859, re: writes from Madison County, Iowa that Isabell, the baby, and father and not well, 35
Tipton, Lou to Callie S. Beard, n.d., re: thanks her for letter, 36
West, Lizzie J. (4) to Callie Beard, 1858, re: heard Mr. Taylor preach and has been quilting; wants news from schoolmates – Martha Poindexter and Matte Brown; has been to Mossy Creek; speaks of Jane Stokely, Lou Morris, and Jane Mills, 37
ACCOUNT BOOK NAME INDEX

Akard, James, 110, 112
Akerd, James, 105
Bar __, Redman, 116
Barns, John, i, iv, 19, 22, 23, 166
Barns, Noah, i161
Barns, Wm., 7, 29
Barns & Beard, iv
Bates, John, 54
Beard, _____, 95
Beard, A.H., 24, 103
Beard, David, 43, 162
Beard, J., 3, 22
Beard, Jesse, iii, 19, 25, 40, 41, 94, 112, 166, 168
Beard, Jesse, i, 2, 27
Beard, John, 4, 12, 13, 17, 18, 20, 22, 24, 32, 93, 99, 114, 142
Beard, Sarah, 144, 157
Beard, Thomas, 1
Beard, William, iii
Beard, Wm., 40, 50, 51
Bice, George W., 7, 38, 97
Binding, Jacob, 25
Bowery, Francis, i
Bowery, Wm., 124
Brit, Lord, 66
Buckner, J., 15
Buckner, James, iii, iv, 12, 16, 26
Carlton, Frederick, 7, 88, 100, 163
Cate, Noah, 98
Chalmon, Richard, 66
Chineth ?, Henry, 22
Cole, Jacob, 7, 78, 94, 95
Cole, John, 7, 24, 28, 56, 57, 152, 169
Cole, William, iv, 24, 25
Cole, Wm., 80, 95, 151, 152
Crawford, Tho., 124
Cross, Thomas J., 151
Crouch, J.M., 148
Cunningham, Osco, 153
Denten, Wm., 66
Dulaney, Wm. R., 124
Ecard, James, 105
Easley, Robert, 104, 162
Elsey, David, 25
Elsey, George, 75
Isaac, 164
Fain, John R., 22, 168
Fain, Thomas, 154
Fain & Gammon, 167
Finature ?, James, 20
Fitzpaterick, Samuel, 163
Fitzpaterick, Samuel, 74
Ford, Daniel, 75
Ford, E., 4
Ford, Enoch, iv, 3
Ford, Grant, 17, 66
Ford, Henry, 135
Ford, James, 66, 164, 167
Ford, John, 66
Ford, Lord, 84
Ford, Lou, 17
Foust, John, 168
Foust, John N. , 52
Galloway, James, 7, 46, 47, 59, 68, 73, 74, 91, 92, 164
Galloway, J.H. 89
Galloway, James H., 7, 102
Galloway, John, iv, 1, 33, 41, 69, 102, 112
Galloway, John M., 122
Galloway, Marshall, 124, 126
Galloway, Sarah, 140
Galloway, Thomas, 108, 114
Galloway, Wm., 7, 46, 58, 61, 68, 73, 89, 101, 109
Gammon, A.L., 7, 22, 120
Gammon, George, 42
Gammon, George F., 108
Gammon, Noah, 164
Gammon, Rachel, 168
Gammon, Wm., 161
Gammon, Wm. & Looney, iv, 21, 22
Gammon & Vance, 157, 162
Gammons, 23, 65
Gammons, James, 96
Gamons, 23
Godsey, Jerry, 138, 139
Godsey, Sigh, 139
Gunnel, Alexander S., 7
Gunning, A.S., 124
Gunning, Alexander S., 5
Gunning, Alexandria S., iv, 6
Gunning, George, 124, 127
Gunning, James, 124
Hail, Nathaniel, 75
Hale, James, 7, 65, 79
Hale, Nathan, 7, 65
Hale, Robert, 104
Hall, Samuel D., 22, 27, 36
Harper, John, 78, 83
Hashbarger, Sylvenus, 35
Hashbarger, Sylvester, 48
Hawk, Marten, 84
Heartman, Jacob, 167
Heartman, Martin, 167
Heartmon, Jesse, 94
Heartmon, Tho., iv, 9
Heartmon, Thomas, 106, 107
Hickum, John, 143
Hilton, Charles, 22
Hilton, E.S., 8, 18, 19, 34, 35, 136, 137
Hilton, George, 7, 86, 117, 163
Hilton, James A., 7, 62, 92, 159
Hodges, John, 23, 96, 97
Hodges, Rowlen, 77
Hodges, Wm., 87
Hopkins, Wm., 24, 78, 114, 150, 151
Hopkins, Joseph, 152
Hopkins, Wm., 82, 88
Hoppkings, John 79
Hopskings, Wm., 67, 72
Hull, Frederick, 124, 126
Hull, Noah, 124
Hulse ?, John, 7, 77
Hurley ?, Francis, 39
James, Wm., 124
Kid ?, John, 134
King, Samuel, 160
Kuhn, Elbert, 7, 77
Kuhn, John, i. 31, 41
Kuhn, Peter, iv, 20, 144
Huhn, Liener, _____, 157
Linere, Lewis, 150
Little, G., 71
Little, George, 70
Little, John, 7, 75
Little, Jonas, 7, 76
Longmire, Joseph, 134
Longmires, Joseph, 127, 128
Loots, Jacob, 123
Loudermilk, John, iv, 1, 7, 10, 11, 22, 24, 37, 44, 45, 66, 72, 103, 151, 153, 156, 160, 164, 165
Massengille, James, 101
McCrary, Joseph, 145
Meredith, James, iv, 24, 44, 47, 55, 69, 70, 151, 160, 165
Miller, J., 24
Miller, Joshua, 24
Myers, Henry, 7, 32
Myers, John, 7, 33, 95
Phillips, Henry, 150, 151
Phillips, William, 150
Phillips, Wm. 151
Poe, A., 124
Poe, W.R., 146
Prophet, Daniel, 76
Right, Uriah, 118, 119
Right, Wm., 118
Rogers, B., 124
Rogers, Benjamin, 124, 126, 127
Rogers, David, 12, 4
Rogers, Thomas, 151
Sanders, Abram, 113
Sanders, Wm., 101
Sells, John, iv, 17, 18
Sherfey, John, 95, 121
Sherfy, _____, 7, 158
Sherfy, John, 7, 158
Slaughter, G.W., 165
Slaughter, Jacob, 7, 64, 105
Slaughter, John, 64
Slaughter, Washington, 66
Slaughter, Wm., 66
Smith, Ben, 161
Smith, Gasper, 7, 125
Smith, John R., 120
Smith, Wm., 152, 157
Spurgin, Jesse, 7
Spurgin, John 104, 116, 124
Spurgin, Joseph, 7, 30, 60, 63, 104, 124, 159, 164
Spurgin, Samuel, 27, 60, 66
Spurgin, Samuel, 60, 66
Spurgin, William 156
Spurgin, Wm, 7, 60, 61, 61, 77
Tate, James C., 129, 131
Tate, W.J., 157, 158
Tate, Wm., 130, 132
Taylor, Alva ?, 55, 150
Taylor, Alvey, 7, 62
Taylor, Alvy, 31, 32, 82
Taylor, John, iv, 1, 2, 13
Weneger, Joseph, 66
White, Benjamin, 54
White, James, 78
White, Jesse, 52, 53, 74
White, John, 153
White, Rufus M., 138, 141
Wiel, Joseph, 41
Wyet, Joseph, 60
Yoakley, Charles, 47, 49, 90, 91
Yoakley, Endimon, 7, 111, 119
Yoakley, Jesse, 75
Yoakley, John, 136, 137
Yoakley, Peter, 49, 80, 81, 124, 126, 160
Yoakley, _____, 167
_____ , Hyman, 32