INTRODUCTION

The letters on this microfilm were loaned to the Tennessee State Library and Archives by Ms. Suzanne Borum Holloway. After filming the letters were returned to Ms. Halloway.

The letters are dated 1836 to 1888, but date mostly 1866-1867, and most were written by Ms. Holloway’s great-grandfather Joseph Beverly Borum, Sr., to his fiancé Eva McNeil Dobbins. Several of the letters were written by Ms. Dobbins.

Joseph Borum was captured early in the Civil War and was incarcerated at Johnson’s Island in Sandusky, Ohio, and most of the letters in this small collection were written by him during that period.

Joseph Borum was born in Virginia in 1830. He moved to Mississippi County, Arkansas, where he had a cotton plantation. He died in July 1876 and is buried in the City Cemetery in Memphis, Tennessee.

Mr. Borum married Eva McNeil Dobbins on January 22, 1867. They had three sons and one daughter. Joseph Beverly Borum, Jr., the eldest child (Ms. Halloway’s grandfather), was born in Luxora Arkansas, March 21, 1870. After Joseph Borum, Sr.’s death in 1876, Eva (Dobbins) Borum moved the family back to Columbia, Tennessee, where her family lived. The letters were handed down to Ms. Halloway through Borum’s daughter, Mai (Mrs. William Marion Frierson), then through Mai’s son, Marion Frierson.