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**WOOD FAMILY
PAPERS, 1833-1864**

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INTRODUCTION

The Wood Family Papers, 1833 to 1864, center on the family of Felix Wood (- 1837) and Lockey (Adams) Wood (1802-1900) and their children Francis Adams, Thomas B., Sarah E., John M., Joshua C., Rachel Caroline, Robert Kennon, Felix, and Lockey and a son by Lockey's second marriage, John T. Davis. They were loaned for copying by Annie Wood Howell Saner, La Canada, California.

The materials in this collection measure 62 feet. There are no restrictions on the materials.

Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the Wood Family Papers may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Wood Family Papers, containing approximately 62 items for the dates 1833 to 1864, are composed primarily of correspondence of members of the Wood and related families along with some genealogical data compiled by Annie Wood Howell Saner.

Included among the letters are several Civil War letters. Felix Wood who was a member of the 43rd Mississippi Regiment, Confederate States Army, wrote of illness the army, prospects of peace, and his parole. In a letter written in 1864 from Texas he told of the crops, the health of the Wood kin living in Athens (Henderson County), Texas, and stated that the county was full of refugees and Negroes. Thomas B. Wood, living in Texas in 1864, told of large numbers of deserters from the Confederate Army in Arkansas. One man reported that he deserted from the Confederate Army on Christmas Day and said "35 came to his gang" and that the greater part of the army were deserting. A few letters written by J.C. Wood from Arkansas and Texas during the War years comment on the terrible conditions facing the South if the war should be lost. Also, he told of fighting at Prairie Grove and White River, Arkansas, the prices of food, and the lack of supplies in the Confederate Army. There are a few letters of John T. Davis, half-brother of the Wood boys, who served in the Confederate Army under Johnston in the Atlanta campaign.

Martin B. Wood wrote his nephew, Francis A. Wood in Mississippi, from Giles County, Tennessee, telling of his plans to move to the Chickasaw country and later wrote from Lauderdale County, Alabama, in 1839 and 1840. He commented on the hard times in Alabama, cotton prices, and told of some slaves that he wanted to sell. Three letters of Sarah E. Wood to her brother Francis A. Wood were also from Lauderdale County, Alabama, where she was in school. She told of her studies and some news of her uncle's family.

Several letters were written by Thomas B. Wood while he was in school at Wesleyan College, Middletown, Connecticut, during the years 1837 to 1840. There are comments about Yankees and abolitionists. Several students at Wesleyan were from Mississippi, including Edward McGehee with whom Thomas roomed. Francis Wood, brother of Thomas, had been at Wesleyan earlier but had been called home because of the death of his father and being the eldest son he had to take on the responsibilities of the family. Thomas commented on the southern students and the attitudes of both northern and southern students. Thomas G. Boucher, a student at Middletown, also from Mississippi, wrote several letters about Yankees and abolitionists, the weather in New England and his studies. This was period when so many southern were being educated in the North and Thomas Jefferson wrote that the South should educate its own young men.

One other letter written in 1837 by W.T. Young to Francis A. Wood from LaGrange College in North Alabama is worthy of note. He wrote that "six or eight young scamps who had succeeded [sic] in the final overthrow of the University at Tuscaloosa being emboldened by their former success have tried to bring about a revolution in this institution. They have committed some depredations of the most direful hue such as arming themselves [sic] and assailing the professors at the dead of midnight and burning down the chapel [sic]". This seems comparable to the students' riots of 1968 and 1969.

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

1. Biographical and Genealogical
2. Correspondence-Bangs-Boucher, 1837-1839
3. Correspondence-Brown-Henderson, 1837-1864
4. Correspondence- McConnell-White, 1835-1860
5. Correspondence-Wood family (Felix, Joshua C., John M., Martin B., and Sarah E.) 1837-1864
6. Correspondence-Wood, Thomas B. – Young, 1837-1864

NAME INDEX

This is a name index of the correspondence only in the Wood Family Papers 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.

- Bangs, Aaron C. to Francis A. Wood, 1837, re: death of his father, Felix Wood, Sr. F2
- Bangs, Herman to Francis A. Wood (4), 1837-1839, re: death of his son Aaron C. Bangs in shipwreck. F2
- Boucher, Joshua to Thomas B. Wood, 1839, re: prices of education at Middletown, Connecticut. F3
- Boucher, Thomas G. to Francis A. Wood (3), 1837-1838, Yankees, abolitionists, Mississippi, Southerners. F2
- Brown, D.F. to Francis A. Wood, 1838, re: Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut. F3
- Buck, Mildred M. to daughters, Fannie Mixon, Penelope Wood, and Caroline Murray, 1962, re: family news. F3
- Davis, John T. to sister, Mrs. R.C. Murray and brother, Felix Wood (3), 1861-1864, re: war clouds; Atlanta Campaign. F3
- Davis, Lockey (Adams) Wood to son (2), 1861-1864, re: family news and religion. F3
- Fisk, W. (President of Wesleyan College, Middletown, Connecticut) to Francis A. Wood, 1837, re: Francis Wood's recall home. F3
- Goshins, John to Francis A. Wood (4), 1837-1838, re: financial matters; roads, etc. in Mississippi; Edward McGehee. F3.
- Henderson, John to Thomas Wood, 1840, re: Abolitionists; Yankees; Henry Clay; Daniel Webster, etc. F3.
- McConnell, Martha A. to sister Caroline, 1863, re: family news. F4
- Mixon, Wesley M. to Thomas B. Wood (3), 1839-1840, re: practice of medicine in Pickens County, Alabama (thirteen miles from Columbus); family news; schooling of Thomas, etc; Columbus, Mississippi; museum items from cave in North Alabama; Southern people's morals; use of bowie knife. F4
- Murray, Luvenia to Caroline Murray, 1843, re: family news. F4
- Murray, W.P. and P.C. to sister, 1835, re: family news. F4
- Murray, William (Fayette County, Alabama) to Mr. James Murray, 1854, re: family news. F4
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- Powell, Rachel Caroline (Murray) to mother, 1860, re: family news. F4
- White, William Jr. to Francis A. Wood, 1838, re: school friends at Wesleyan University; most of the Southerners are leaving including Edward McGehee. F4
- Wood, Felix to sisters and mother (3), 1850-1864, re: school in Columbus, Mississippi (1850); Confederate service, illness, equipment, peace prospects, Texas relatives and crops, Henderson, Texas full of refugees and Negroes (1864). F5
- Wood, Francis A. to father, Reverend Felix Wood, 1837, re: journey from Columbus, Mississippi to Lexington, Kentucky; met Reverend Mr. Richardson, President of

- Tuscumbia Female Academy. F5
- Wood, Joshua Cassidy to mother and others (5), 1847-1863, re: Roman priests (1847); teaching and its remuneration (1850); Texas health and desirability (1855); conditions in the South if war should be lost; prices paid for food (186?); fighting in Arkansas, Prairie Grove, White River, etc. (1863). F5
- Wood, John M. to mother, 1855, re: move to Buena Vista, Mississippi and his school and family. F5
- Wood, Martin B. to Francis A. Wood (3), 1837-1840, re: plans to move from Giles County, Tennessee to the Chickasaw country; hard times in Lauderdale County, Alabama; cotton prices low; comments on slavery. F5
- Wood, Sarah E. to Francis A. Wood (3), 1838, re: schooling in Lauderdale County, Alabama, studies, family move. F5
- Wood, Thomas B. to sisters and brothers (9), 1838-1864, re: school work; Wesleyan College, Middletown, Connecticut; dwarfs; rooms with Edward McGehee; marriage of brother Francis; (to Felix) deserters from C.S.A. army in Arkansas (1863) from Athens, Texas; family news (1864). F6
- Young, W.T. to Francis A. Wood, 1837, re: LaGrange College, Alabama; trouble with students at University of Alabama and LaGrange College. F6