

238 Dabney, Mrs. Charity, papers, 1873–1898. 24 items. Mss2D1123b.

Most of these papers are tax receipts of Charity Dabney, an African American property owner of Jackson Ward in Richmond.

239 Dabney, Charles (1744–1829), commonplace book, 1811–1825. 150 pp. Mss5:5D1124.1. Photocopy.

The contents of this volume are nearly illegible because of the fragile condition of the original. Scattered entries refer to spinning cloth; the amount of cloth needed to make jackets, pantaloons, petticoats, shifts, dresses, and shirts; charges for having clothing made in bulk; and clothing distributions. Some lists of slaves also appear.

240 Dabney family papers, 1742–1928. 4,012 items. Mss1D1124b. Microfilm reels C328-C332.

The items of African American focus in this collection relate to Charles William Dabney, a lawyer and planter of Aldingham plantation in Hanover County. Most of the items concern estates administered or settled by Dabney.

Jesse Mallory executed an 1822 deed to Charles Dabney for Candis, a slave girl (section 16). A deed of trust, 1833, of Henry King and Abner Robinson to Charles Dabney involves land in Richmond and the slave George. An 1855 deed records the sale of Edith and her two children, John and Charlotte, from W. C. Shelton to George Doswell for \$700 (section 64). An 1867 agreement with John Tyler, a freedman, his wife Winney and her son Moses concerns work and provisions for the family (section 65). In the same section, an 1850 agreement between Dabney, Shelton, and Puryear provides values for six slaves, while a detailed 1866 agreement covers the hiring of John Wyatt, a freedman, to farm at Aldingham in Hanover County. A number of activities are concerned, such as fencing and care of the ice house, tools, fuel, livestock, and buildings. In section 67 is an estate inventory of Samuel R. Jones, naming sixteen slaves and their values and indicating two family groups. In section 68 are several notes for hire of slaves by J. Thacker. In particular, an 1828 bond to Barbara Pettus promises payment for the hire of Sary, in addition to midwife's fees for her. An 1859 broadside announcing the sale of property belonging to the estate of Mrs. Nancy Rountree mentions land, livestock, and "2 men slaves," one being Edmond, a miller, and the other Shadrack, a blacksmith.

241 Dame family papers, 1836–1901. 436 items. Mss1D1825a. Microfilm reels C454-C455.

Papers of George Washington Dame (1812–1895), an Episcopal minister affiliated with Danville Female Academy, and his wife, Mary Maria (Page) Dame (1813–1895). Section 3 includes newsy letters written to Mrs. Dame from her children while at school. Notable items are a letter, 28 August 1851, from Jonathan Cushing Dame describing the escape of the fugitive slave James by ferry and another letter, 14 August, of William M. Dame, reporting an incident involving a free African American who shot the owner of his wife and child.

242 Damerel, John E. (1905-1995), compiler, “Pressures and Reactions: Documents Relating to the Employment of Negroes by the City of Richmond, 1952-1966.” 493 pp. Mss7:2R4155:40.

John Damerel served as director of personnel for the City of Richmond during the 1950s and 1960s. Included in this compilation are memoranda, correspondence, city employee registers, and newspaper clippings concerning the attempts of various parties to effect change in policies regarding the hiring of African Americans by the City of Richmond. A 29 May 1952 listing showed 807 African Americans employed by the city, primarily as cooks, assistant cooks, kitchen helpers, maids, and janitors. The compilation also contains documents pertaining to the hiring of African Americans as fire fighters and police patrolmen. There is significant correspondence on reaction to the city’s pledge to employ fairly all qualified persons, which was enacted in June 1962. A complete listing of all persons employed by the city in 1963 is also contained in the compilation. Correspondents include Roy West (a future mayor of Richmond), Horace H. Edwards, Richmond city manager, and numerous organizations, including the Richmond Urban League, Virginia Union University, Ebenezer Baptist Church, and the Right Worthy Grand Council of the Independent Order of St. Luke.

243 Dandridge, Julia Burbidge (1770?–1828), letter, 1796. 1 p. Mss2 D19978a1.

Letter, 8 April 1796, Richmond, to William Branch Giles, Philadelphia, concerning Amos, Giles’s slave currently hired to Major Watts. Watts wants to buy Amos; Amos does not want to be sold to Watts.

244 Daniel, Robert Williams (b. 1936), collector, papers, 1776–1882. 26 items. Mss1D2266a.

Collector of early Virginia manuscripts. Included in section 8 is a receipt, 1827, issued to Samuel Hawkins of Richmond by Mrs. Eliza Dandridge for purchase of the man Emanuel, age fifty, and a girl Beck, age two.

245 Daniel, William V., papers, 1977–1984. 92 items. Mss1D2270a.

The papers of William V. Daniel of Richmond in part concern his involvement with the Citizen’s Legislative Committee (CLC), 1982–1984 (4 folders). The Richmond City Council created the CLC in September 1981 upon the recommendation of the Capital City Government Commission to help advance the city’s agenda before the Virginia General Assembly. The collection also reflects Daniel’s leadership with the Metropolitan Richmond Chamber of Commerce’s “Dialogues on Racial Relations,” 1977-1982 (3 folders). The Chamber of Commerce sponsored a series of dialogues in 1981 between African American and white civic, religious, and business leaders. These dialogues were prompted by the report of the Richmond Commission on Human Relations on “Racial Polarization in the City of Richmond” in March 1981. A copy of this report is included. The Chamber wanted to find a role for itself in “promoting better understanding among Whites and Blacks as we live and work together under White economic power and Black political control.” These dialogues served as the first steps in this endeavor. Daniel served as moderator for these sessions and summarized the proceedings in memos to the executive committee of the Chamber of Commerce. These memos and supporting materials comprise this portion of the collection. Other than discussing the troubled state of race relations in general, participants specifically addressed the issues of

education, the local press, city council, and jobs. Also included is a report by J. John Palen and Richard D. Morrison, both of Virginia Commonwealth University, on the representation of African Americans and women in positions with policy-making potential. This report is dated spring 1982, after Daniel and John Howlette made their final report to the executive committee.

246 Darby, Thomas F., letters, 1861–1863. 17 items. Mss2D2425a.

A series of letters written by a Union soldier of the 29th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment while serving in Kentucky, Mississippi, and Virginia. The letters contain many details of army life and various battles and Darby's impressions of the South, including samples of seed and flora for those at home with a horticultural interest. In his descriptions of the South are several references to slaves, mostly playing with the children, to his desire to send one back to tend the garden (July 1861 letter to his niece, January 1862 letter to Ellen), and to a comparison of slave cabins (July 1861 letter to his niece).

247 Dashiell, Mrs. Segar, “Isham Jordan.” 13 pp. Mss7:1J7635:1.

Concerns the life of Isham Jordan (1769–1837) of Isle of Wight County. Included is a copy of Jordan's will, dated 19 July 1834, which lists slaves left to his wife.

248 Davidson, Charles E. (d. 1870), papers, 1850-1870. 21 items. Mss2D2815b.

Papers of a Confederate Army surgeon. Section 3 contains a commission, 2 November 1865, of Davidson as an agent of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands in Buckingham County.

249 Davis, Daniel Webster (1862–1913), papers, 1900–1959. 52 items. Mss1D2915a.

These papers contain notes for speeches and lectures of this prominent African American educator from Richmond. Geographically his appearances ranged from Toronto, Canada, to Georgia and Kentucky. As a minister and educator, most of his lectures focused on family, religion, and education as the answer to the problem of racial inequities. Davis's lectures were humorous and anecdotal; he frequently drew on customs and practices of the daily life of slaves.

In a series of lectures given at the Hampton Normal Institute (now Hampton University) in 1902 (section 2), he laid a foundation for a plan to improve the life of African Americans through the home, church, and school. He stressed the need to be proud of African American culture and the unnecessary practice of imitating white culture. He reminded his audience of African American history and accomplishments.

In addition to lectures, Davis also wrote poetry (section 4). Drafts of published and unpublished poems are also included in this collection. Among them are “The Negro Meets to Pray” and “The Black Woman's Burden.” The typescript of “Daniel Webster Davis,” a biographical sketch

of his life (section 8), is also available in published form in *The Negro History Bulletin* 18 (1954): 55–57. In 1959 Richmond dedicated a new school to the memory of Daniel Webster Davis. Several of the programs and letters in sections 7 and 9 pertain to this event.

250 Dawson, John (1762–1814), letters, 1788–1794. 3 items. Mss2D3253b.

Letter, n.d., of John Dawson to Larkin Stanard of Fredericksburg requests Stanard to send two slaves, Sal and Sam, to Augusta County with Abraham Lymon, who is taking other slaves to Augusta to be sold.

251 Deans family papers, 1794–1863 and 1955. 30 items. Mss1D3464a.

Concerns the Deans family of Gloucester County. Section 1 contains an essay entitled “A Disregarded Contribution to American Civilization Taken from Plantation Notes of the Deans Family of Gloucester County, Va.,” by Anna Maria Dandridge Yeatman. This essay concerns, in part, slave life and relations between African Americans and whites on the Deans’ family plantation.

252 Deneale, George (1776–1818), papers, 1792–1842. 319 items. Mss1D4116a.

Papers of an Alexandria lawyer and clerk of the Fairfax County court. Include correspondence, 1805, of Deneale, Richard Bland Lee, Nathaniel Pendleton, and Thomas Pollard concerning the sale of slaves at Langley, Fairfax County, belonging to Daniel McCarty Fitzhugh and Henry Lee (1756–1818); bonds issued to Thomas Pollard to cover losses in the sale of the slaves; and an agreement concerning the sale of fifteen slaves in the state of New York and the settlement of a debt between Henry Lee and Philip Fitzhugh (section 40).

253 Dews, Julius C., letter, 1855. 1 p. Mss2D5191a1. Photocopy.

Letter, 16 August 1855, Wheeling (now W.Va.), to Arthur Emmerson, concerning the status of an unnamed slave woman entrusted to Mr. Cooper for sale.

254 Dickinson, Asa Dupuy (1816–1882), letter, 1859. 4 pp. Mss2D5606a1.

Letter, 21 October 1859, Prince Edward Court House, to William Purnell Dickinson about selling the slave Jim, whose behavior with regard to suspected thievery has become an embarrassment to Asa Dickinson.

255 Dickinson family papers, 1805–1988. 339 items. Mss1D5607a.

A Plantation & Farm Instruction, Regulation, Record, Inventory and Account Book (Richmond, 1852) kept by John Fayette Dickinson (section 2) for Berry Hill in King George County, 1855–1890, lists slaves’ names, ages, occupations, and values, and notes births, deaths, and sales (pages 82–83). Also includes lists of clothing and bedding distribution (pages 90–91).

256 Dickinson, Hill & Co., Richmond, receipts, 1856. [2] pp. Mss4D5605a1.

Receipts, dated 4 January 1856, issued to Dickinson, Hill & Co. for monies received from the sale of slaves. The receipts bear the signatures of John M. Albright (for the sale of slaves Agnes and Edmund), F. S. Ayres (for the sale of the slave Aaron), Lewis Dabney Crenshaw (for the sale of the slave Washington), H. I. McLewin (for the sale of the slaves Peter, Ailsey, and Alleck), and William M. Sutton.

257 Douthat, Robert William (1840–1925), papers, 1861–1995. 113 items. Mss1D7493a.

Materials compiled by Robert William Douthat, Confederate veteran of Morgantown, W.Va.

Collection largely concerns the battle of Gettysburg, Pa., and the charge of troops under command of General George E. Pickett. Section 4 contains notes of Mary Jane (Wells) Douthat concerning a slave.

258 Douthat, William H. (1801–1858), account book, 1827–1835. [2], 71 pp. Mss5:3D7495:1.

Covers operations of a general store at Natural Bridge, Rockbridge County. Includes remarks of an unidentified author concerning African Americans (p. 63).

259 Douthat family papers, 1795–1922. 1,432 items. Mss1D7495a. Microfilm reels C240-C242.

Family members lived at Shirley and Weyanoke plantations in Charles City County. Section 4 includes an 1801 receipt of William S. Peachy to Fielding Lewis for purchase of Milly and her son Richard; an 1826 certificate stating the wishes of Rebecca Jones for John Lewis to have the slave Monmouth and for Aleck to be freed to be with his family and be supported; and an 1833 list of thirty slaves at Belle Farm.

260 Dove, John (1792–1876), memorandum, 1856. 2 pp. Mss7:1W9974:3.

Memorandum concerning the deaths of George Wythe, an African American woman, Lydia Broadnax, and her son, Michael Brown.

261 Downing family papers, 1819–1940. 41 items. Mss1D7595a.

Papers of the Downing family of Lancaster Court House. Section 1 includes a report, dated 18 December 1830, of Robert Alexander, J. Basye, and Thomas S. Sydnor concerning the division of slaves among Betsy Downing, Hannah Downing, and William Hendley. The two slaves in question were to be purchased from Hannah Downing by Betsy Downing and her husband, William Hendley.

262 Downman family papers, 1699–1909. 102 items. Mss1D7598a.

A series of letters written to Harriet Jane (Downman) Downman of Fauquier County includes a December 1863 letter from her daughter, Lavinia Yates (Downman) Hamilton of Culpeper County, asking Harriet to send for Stanley and to provide him with clothes and to hire out Mason as she cannot see to this herself because her residence is currently under Union control.

263 Dundore, John (d. 1863?), papers, 1791–1861. 10 items. Mss2D9163c.

Resident of Rockingham County. Include a certificate of emancipation, 1827, for Peggy Jones, age thirty-four, with physical description, freed by will of Elizabeth Baker. Papers also include a deed of trust, 1827, of Armistead M. Mosby to Jacob Swoop, for land in Staunton and seven slaves, most listed by name, including two brothers.

264 Dupuy, Emily (Howe) (1812–1883), papers, 1834–1883. 115 items. Mss1D9295b.

Emily Dupuy of Linden, Prince Edward County, wrote several letters to her kinswomen Sarah Howe and Anna (Howe) Whitteker (section 1). In particular, on 4 January 1835, Anna wrote to

Emily of cholera striking Stony Point, resulting in four fatal cases among the local African American population. In May of the same year she described the emigration of a number of Virginia landowners to plantations farther south and the process of moving their slaves with them, often involving large numbers of people. In the same letter she detailed the development of her friendship with a slave woman and the woman's change of roles from house servant to field hand to spinning, until her death while still young. In August Emily wrote to Sarah about southerners' distrust of strangers from the North and concerns about abolitionists. In February 1861 Emily wrote about secession from the perspective of a transplanted New Englander.

265 Dupuy, Emily (Howe) (1812–1883), letter, 1864. 2 pp. Mss2D9296a1.

In this letter of 19 May, Emily describes an incident of meat stolen from the smokehouse; two slaves were caught. One of Emily's slaves was whipped by the owner of another slave, who maintained that Emily's slave was involved. Emily is nonetheless convinced of her slave's innocence.

266 Dupuy family papers, 1781–1896. 38 items. Mss1D9295c.

The collection includes commonplace books kept by Joseph Dupuy (1797–1867) at Falkland, Prince Edward County (sections 3–5). The volume for 1851–1869 (section 3) contains entries in 1856 and 1857 covering the hire of Mary Eliza. Another volume (section 4), 1810–1865, serves as a slave register, recording births, deaths, and purchases for about sixty-five slaves at Falkland. The 1845–1858 book (section 5) contains notes on the back pages concerning allowances for meal and meat for the slaves, according to sex and age. Twenty slaves are listed.

267 Dupuy family papers, 1803–1890. 906 items. Mss1D9295a.

Include material pertaining to the Prince Edward County estates of Thomas Walton (d. 1817), John Purnall (d. 1825), John Watson (d. 1856), William Purnell (d. 1808), and Jonathan Penick (d. 1845?). A sampling of sections 1–7 indicates that the collection includes a number of accounts for slave hirings and inventories of estate slaves with values (sections 3, 5, and 7). Correspondence, 1827–1830, of Asa Dupuy with John Jones Alston concerns transportation costs and hirings. Section 7 contains account information pertaining to Thomas Walton's estate. The 1817 tax form lists "Blacks" instead of slaves (see folder 2), and an 1820 certificate of Nathaniel Jackson describes the low bidding for hiring the estate slaves (see folder 6). Costs of transporting slaves from Kentucky are also included. Section 21 contains slave lists for Linden in Prince Edward County. A slave register records approximately 140 slave births and deaths between 1799 and 1861. The preceding description offers but a sampling of pertinent items in this collection.

268 Durgin family papers, 1849–1950. 40 items. Mss1D9345a.

Most of the papers in this collection are those of John Milton Durgin (1813–1887), a Baptist minister from New England and chaplain in the Union army. Among his letters, 1861–1862, is an envelope used to write home on which a cartoon portrays slaves fleeing as contraband to Fort Monroe.