

606 Quesenberry family papers, 1827–1913. 209 items. Mss1Q375a. Microfilm reel C578.

These papers mainly consist of financial and legal records of the business firm of W. L. and J. S. Quesenberry of King George County and of William L. Quesenberry and James S. Quesenberry as individuals. The papers concern their assumption of outstanding debts, settlement of accounts, and James S. Quesenberry's role as a guardian, trustee, and executor for numerous estates. Other financial and legal papers relate to several Stiff family drygoods merchants in King George County and possibly Westmoreland County. Two bonds (an 1830 bond in section 2 and an 1826 bond in section 4) concern the hire of slaves. The bond in section 4 specifies that a deduction will be made if the hired slave's expected infant nurses (instead of requiring food from the kitchen).

607 Quioccasin School, Henrico County, roll book and attendance register, 1937–1938. [34] pp. Mss4Q467a1.

Includes records of African American children in the third grade class at Quioccasin School, taught by Mrs. Mamie M. Brown.

608 Ragland, William, inventory, 1851. 5 pp. Mss2R1277a1.

Inventory, 1851, of the estate of William Ragland of Louisa County records slaves according to which farm the slaves worked and to whom the slaves were sold. Also includes an 1858 inventory of Uriah Harris of Louisa County.

609 Randolph, John (1773–1833), diary, 1819. 48 pp. Mss5:1R1554:2. Microfilm reel C72.

Contains a list of slave births; on the verso of the list is a note on a slave's case of frostbite. For a related item, see the typescript copy of the 1797 will of Richard Randolph (1770–1796), probated in Prince Edward County, in which John Randolph's brother emancipates his slaves and discusses the matter of slavery generally (Mss2R1572a1).

610 Randolph, John (1773–1833), note, 1832. 1 p. Mss2R1554a28.

Extract from a letter, 1832, concerning a mulatto woman's attempt to influence Randolph.

611 Randolph, John (1773–1833), papers, 1806–1819. 23 items. Mss1R1554a.

U. S. congressman and horseman of Roanoke, Charlotte County, Va., and Washington, D.C. Two letters briefly mention slaves: one, written in 1806 from Washington, concerns Randolph's desire to return home as soon as possible so that the slaves would behave better, and the other written 1815 to Edward Cunningham in Richmond arranges for clothing for several slaves (item a14).

612 Randolph, Martha (Jefferson) (1772–1836), letter, [1826?]. 6 pp. Mss2R1562a1.

Written from Monticello, Albemarle County, to Ellen Wayles (Randolph) Coolidge, in part concerning Thomas Jefferson's ownership of slaves and his attitude toward their treatment and work regimens.

613 Randolph, Thomas Jefferson (1792–1875), papers, 1819–1939. 15 items. Mss2R1574b.

Thomas Jefferson Randolph of Albemarle County served in the Virginia House of Delegates. In settling the estate of his grandfather, Thomas Jefferson, he arranged payment of a debt to the Bank of the United States. Several slaves were part of the debt settlement proposed in 1838—Billy, Rob, and Bidy and her daughter (see folder marked “Accounts, 1838–1839”).

614 Randolph, Thomas Mann (1768–1828), papers, 1815–1819. 9 items. Mss2R15745b.

Among the papers are letters written by Randolph from Monticello, Albemarle County, to Thomas Taylor concerning the sale of Varina, Henrico County, and slaves on that and other plantations.

615 Raper, Arthur Jarrell (1934–1984), papers, 1940–1976. 437 items. Mss1R181a.

Correspondence, writings, newspaper and journal articles, and papers of the Citizens for Excellent Public Schools (CEPS) written and collected by Doctor A. Jarrell Raper, a Richmond, Va., cardiologist. The materials concern Dr. Raper’s interest in school integration and busing in Richmond in the 1970s. Section 1 in particular contains correspondence, 1960–1976, of Dr. Raper with journalists, political figures, friends and others sharing his concerns about school integration and busing at both the local and national levels. Included are letters written to Raper and drafts of letters written by him, many to the editors of local and New York newspapers. Correspondents of note include John Kifner (of the *New York Times*), U.S. Senator Edward M. Kennedy, and Doctor Thomas Pettigrew (of Harvard University). The records of CEPS, a local organization aiming to raise public awareness about school integration (section 4) consist of correspondence, by-laws, reports, and newsletters, 1971–1973.

616 Rawlings family papers, 1856–1987. 192 items. Mss1R1988a.

This collection contains the correspondence and accounts for three generations of the Rawlings and related families of Orange and Culpeper counties. Section 3 contains legal papers, 1858–1861, of Thomas E. McVeigh (of Culpeper County), brother to Martha Ann (McVeigh) Rawlings. Included in this section are legal papers concerning the hiring of slaves.

617 Redwell Furnace, Shenandoah County, account books, 1791–1816. 2 vols. Mss5:3R2495:1–2. Microfilm reels C529-C530.

Accounts concerning iron smelting operations; some concern the African American Moses and hired slaves.

618 Rennolds, Elizabeth Gordon, recollections, ca. 1860–1863. 4 pp. Mss5:1R2955:1.

Concern the activities of Elizabeth Gordon Rennolds in Spotsylvania County and Fredericksburg. Included are recollections of Yankee occupation, the end of slavery, and her father’s imprisonment.

619 Republican Party of Virginia, records, 1896–1926. 852 items. Mss3R2997a.

The records, which largely consist of the correspondence of party officers, concern party operations, leadership, political conventions, and elections in Virginia. Included in the collection are scattered broadsides and pamphlets that reflect African American participation in the voting process.

620 Reynolds, Willis M., account, 1835–1837. 2 pp. Mss2H9705a2.

Contemporary copy of a report to the Amherst County court concerning the hiring out of male and female slaves belonging to the heirs of the estate of John Hutcherson.

621 Rice, Marie, reminiscences, 1855–1885. 24 pp. Mss5:1R3652:1. Typescript.

Anecdotes of antebellum and wartime Southside Virginia plantation life, in particular at South Isle in Charlotte County, along with a description of the Reconstruction period. The narrative includes descriptions of individual slaves and freedmen associated with South Isle. These are the weaver, the laundress, the major domo, the gardener, the shoemaker, and several sharecroppers. Rice recounts daily living and seasonal work routines both before and after the Civil War. The account also concerns music, singing hymns, and the tradition of serenading the “big house”; language and dialect; how the announcement of emancipation was received by the new freedmen; communities of freedmen and relations with whites who had not been slaveowners; Christmas celebrations, toys for the children, and the practice of “keeping” (not working between Christmas and New Year’s); the education of a slave of mixed blood; morality, religious practice, remarriage, weddings and revivals, church politics, the building of a Presbyterian church for the freedmen after the war, and religious education; secular politics, voting, and elections; and the migration of African Americans to northern states and the West Virginia coal mines.

622 Richmond, City Sergeant, register, 1841–1846. 2 vols. Mss3R4156b. Microfilm reels A12 (incomplete) and C365-C366.

These records were kept by John M. Fergusson in his capacity as the city sergeant and by various deputies. The first volume primarily contains entries for fugitive slaves and free blacks who were unable to present their freedom papers. Each entry contains information on date committed, date discharged, number of days maintained in the jail and the charge for maintenance, charges for “turning the key,” apprehending fee, total charge to the prisoner or slaveowner, and arrangements (usually by public auction in the old market) for hiring out discharged inmates to pay jail charges. (When a free black was discharged after proving his freedom, he was sometimes unable to pay his maintenance fee at the jail. In such cases he would be sold at public auction for such time as it would take to pay off the charges. The time period ranged from several months to fifty-nine years.)

The second volume contains entries covering commitments for inability to provide security or bail, in particular for breach of the peace and “going at large contrary to an act of the General Assembly.” Entries are itemized according to maintenance fees (at thirty cents a day), charges for clothing, shoes, and other articles furnished to the inmate while in jail, and charges for whipping (thirty-nine lashes at fifty cents). The back page contains notes concerning physical maintenance for the building (water in the pipes and furnace).

Several loose items are appended to the collection—accounts for beef, affidavits, and charges for putting on and taking off irons.

623 Richmond, District Superior Court of Chancery, papers, 1817–1820. 12 pp. Mss4V8a15. Typescript copies.

Concern the emancipation of slaves by the will of IZARD BACON of Henrico County and include petition of the slaves, answer of the estate executor, court decree, accounts, and a list of the slaves.

624 Roach, Mahala Perkins Harding Eggleston (1825–1905), diaries, 1851–1852 and 1864–1865. 3 v. Mss5:1R5306:1-3. Microfilm reel C507.

The parents of Mahala Eggleston Roach emigrated from Virginia to Mississippi about 1821. Entries for the 1850s contain information on the acquisition of slaves by Roach's husband.

625 Roberts, George J., account book, 1835–1850. 50 pp. Mss5:3R5423:1. Microfilm reels C427 and C578.

In part, concerns the hiring of slaves from the estate of James Hamblett of Charlotte County by George J. Roberts and Thomas P. Richardson.

626 Roberts family papers, 1832–1919. 146 items. Mss1R5446a. Microfilm reel C476.

Collection contains correspondence, accounts, and other records of members of the Burwell and Roberts families of Charlotte, Mecklenburg, and Powhatan counties. Lewis S. Burwell writes to his mother in Virginia in 1855 about the work and health of slaves on his plantation, Makeshift, in Marengo County, Ala. (section 2). Section 9 contains unexecuted bonds, 1847, to Ann Eliza (Burwell) Roberts for the hire of Adelaide and Guy.

627 Robertson, Archibald Gerard (1889–1985), papers, 1787–1986. 3,134 items. Mss1R5453a.

Includes a fourteen-page speech delivered by Samuel Joseph May (1797–1871) of Syracuse, N.Y., entitled "The Rescue of Jerry." The speech provides a synopsis of the events and reactions of the population of Syracuse from the passage of the Compromise of 1850 until their staunch antislavery stand was put to the test in October 1852, when a fugitive slave was arrested. A large group of citizens demanded the slave's release, a street chase ensued, and Jerry was unshackled, treated, and guided to Canada, where he continued to make his living as a cooper until his death a year later (item a2).

628 Robertson, Doris Virginia Parker (b. 1916), memoirs, 1916–1925. 10 pp. Mss5:1R5454:1.

Robertson mentions an African American who operated her father's farm in Cumberland County and describes the relationship that she and her siblings had with him.

629 Robertson, Littleton Tazewell (1825?–1862), papers, 1846–1869. 95 items. Mss2R5474b.

Collection includes correspondence, 1860–1862, of Littleton Robertson (of Nottoway County and as a member of C Company, 18th Virginia Infantry Regiment, Confederate States Army),

primarily with his wife and an unidentified brother concerning camp life, farming and local politics, and a murder committed by slaves. Also included are financial records, some of which concern the hiring out of slaves.

630 Robertson family papers, 1786–1930. 1,051 items. Mss1R5498b.

Collection consists primarily of the professional papers of attorneys and the educational records of female members of the Cochran, Robertson, and Stuart families of Staunton. It includes a deed, 1860, of Joseph S. Deputy of Phillips County, Ark., to Asa Pool for a slave named George (section 38).

631 Robey family papers, 1820–1893. 59 items. Mss1R5497a.

Concerns members of the Brownlow and Robey families of Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County. Section 3 contains a letter written to Susan Frances (Brownlow) Robey ([1823–1865] of Hopewell Nursery, Spotsylvania County) from Sarah H. Jenkins Purcell, concerning a slave insurrection near Pembroke, Ky., in December 1856.

632 Robins family papers, 1784–1939. 4,290 items. Mss1R5595a.

Members of the Robins family of Gloucester County were planters of cotton and tobacco, as well as grains and other traditional agricultural products. The collection contains a number of deeds and notes pertaining to estate divisions, in addition to accounts and correspondence.

Deeds to slaves appear in section 3 (1802, John Robins to Jesse White), section 14 (1808–1810, mostly to or from Thomas Robins), and section 67 (1830–1840, to Thomas Robins). Lists and estate division notes are in section 6 (1808–1817, estate of Thomas Robins [1746–1808], including names, values, and hiring out information for thirty-two slaves and recording several births and deaths during that period) and section 17 (estate of Thomas Robins [1771–1821]).

In section 15, an 1804 agreement of William Vaughan employs Thomas Robins as overseer and lists responsibilities, one being to find ten “working hands.” In the same section are instructions indicating which laborers are to work timber and make shoes and distribution lists for corn. Section 16 contains affidavits attesting to standard hiring prices for harvest work, specifying cutting, pitching, stacking, raking, and carting.

Section 35 contains correspondence of Thomas Coleman Robins (1804–1888) of Point Lookout and The Glebe, both in Gloucester County. Of particular note is a letter from Thomas Henry Bayly with an enclosure of Philip Richard Fendall of Washington, concerning slaves (Mary Bell and her six children) for whom Robert Armistead made provisions to emancipate. After Armistead’s death, Mary Bell petitioned for her freedom in court; some of the children were carried off to Baltimore by a schooner and brought back; Mary Bell’s husband bought Mary’s freedom.

Sections 58 and 59 consist of loose accounts and an account book kept from 1836 to 1849 by Thomas Robins as guardian for the children of John Ransome. John Ransome’s estate contained a number of slaves who were hired out. Notes appended to the accounts reveal that Nancy was given care for Roseann’s three young children on Roseann’s death. The accounts also note the death of several children of Roseann and Nancy; midwife’s fees for Roseann, Nancy, and Judy; other medical fees; clothing; and the cost of coffins. Freedmen’s agreements are in sections 67 and 108. Two nearly identical 1866 agreements call for arbitration by respected white men in the event of a contract dispute. The work agreement in section 108 was never executed.

633 Robinson, Bill (1878–1949), letter, 1937. 1 p. Mss2R5607a1.

Letter, dated 15 January 1937, New York City, to William B. Layton, superintendent of the Virginia Manual Labor School for Colored Boys, Hanover. The letter concerns a potential visit with the young men at the school, which later became the Hanover Learning Center.

634 Robinson family papers, 1732–1921. 317 items. Mss1R5685d.

Personal, business, and legal records of members of the Powell, Robinson, and Russell families of Richmond and Williamsburg. Section 4 includes the will of Thomas Russell of Williamsburg, in part concerning the distribution of slaves, accompanied by receipts for money derived from the sale of slaves. A 1790 deed of trust of Henry Tazewell for the benefit of Benjamin Powell covers eight slaves in Williamsburg (section 7).

Materials concerning the estate of Jane Hunter Charlton of Williamsburg include an 1801 will providing for the emancipation of four female slaves and accounts kept by the estate executor (section 20).

An 1827 deed of Philip Smith of Surry County to Anthony Robinson of Richmond concerns the sale of Olivia (section 21). Thomas L. Hundley's 1853 affidavit concerns the sale of Charlton to William Armistead Robinson (section 27). Materials, 1842–1845, concerning the estate of Eliza S. Robinson of Richmond include a will concerning the distribution of slaves and executor's accounts concerning their care (section 28). An 1855 deed of trust of J. W. Harrison of Caroline County for the benefit of Edwin H. Clarke concerns the sale of five slaves hired out to employers in Chesterfield County (section 34). Finally, a deed of John Burwell of Dinwiddie County, executed in 1787, concerns the sale of eighteen slaves to Lewis Burwell of Mecklenburg County (section 40).

635 Robinson family papers, 1740–1887. 1,642 items. Mss1R5685b.

Primarily the papers of Richmond court clerk John Robinson and his son Conway Robinson, Richmond and Washington, D.C., lawyer and author. Among Conway Robinson's correspondence (section 17) are a number of letters concerning slavery and African Americans in general. Charles Campbell writes in 1849 from Petersburg enclosing an undated draft resolution in the hand of Dr. Theodorick Bland while a member of the Continental Congress concerning the return of fugitive slaves to their rightful owners as recovered property. Lawyer Robert Thruston Hubard of Buckingham County sought Robinson's views in 1870 on the legal right of Congress to abolish slavery without compensation to slaveholders. Robinson himself writes to his friend and former governor of Virginia Wyndham Robertson in 1860 concerning the election of Abraham Lincoln and encloses extracts from a number of Lincoln's speeches concerning the institution of slavery and the requirement that free states return runaways to their owners.

Several letters written to Robinson in 1840–1841 concern his "Essay on the Constitutional Rights as to Slave Property" that appeared in the *Southern Literary Messenger* and then in pamphlet form. Chancellor James Kent gave Robinson a positive review and lauded his candid approach to the issue. Clergyman Thomas C. Thornton of Washington, D.C., wrote two letters about the essay and also discussed the African colonization movement, abolition, and the slave trade. Richard Cox McMurtrie of Philadelphia sent a letter to Robinson in 1860 following publication of another essay on slave property and discussed the laws covering the recapture of fugitive slaves in Pennsylvania and the case of *Prigg v. Pennsylvania* (1842) in the U.S. Supreme Court. Judge J. Tremper of New York addressed an undated [1841?] letter to Thomas W. White, publisher of the *Southern Literary Messenger*, concerning Robinson's "Essay" and the right to slave property (section 44).

636 Roller family papers, 1837–1917. ca. 850 items. Mss1R6498FA2. Microfilm reels C131-C133.

Include papers of members of three generations of the Roller family of Rockingham County. Box 10 contains papers of John Edwin Roller (1844–1918), a Harrisonburg attorney. The folder of “Civil War Recollections” contains a volume that makes occasional references to slaves and in particular African American soldiers in the Union army (pages 27–28). The “Miscellany” section consists of three folders, the first of which includes a rosy reminiscence of antebellum slavery and concern for the future of African Americans.

637 Rose family papers, 1850–1992. 142 items. Mss1R7208a.

Consists of the correspondence of three generations of the Rose and Rutherford families of Amelia County and Richmond. Section 2 contains the correspondence of Charles Alexander Rose (of Richmond) and Mary Eliza (Rutherford) Rose, in part, concerning the sale of slaves and Charles’s need for a servant during his service in the Confederate States Army.

638 Ross, David (1740?–1817), letterbook, 1812–1813. 256 pp. Mss5:2R7338:1. Microfilm reels A20 and C530.

Includes information pertaining to the operation of the Oxford Iron Works in Campbell County, which employed slave labor. One letter, April 1812, concerns Fanny, accused of neglect and exposure of her infant child. Letters of January 1813 refer to Peter’s character; July and August 1813 correspondence provides information about the treatment of Pattsey, a slave woman who stopped a fight; and August 1813 letters concern the boatman Anthony. The letters in general concern the slaves’ treatment with respect to diet, clothing, provisions, and work duties.

639 Round family papers, 1828–1876. 128 items. Mss1R7607a.

Personal and business papers of family members in New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Manassas, Va., including Methodist minister William Round. A. H. Schoonmaker addresses Round in July 1860 concerning antislavery sentiments in the Methodist Episcopal church and the duties of ministers (section 2). Susan H. Benham, a missionary in Monrovia, Liberia, writes two lengthy letters, 1846–1847, to Sarah Ann Round of Montrose, Pa., in part concerning African American immigrants to the colony (section 3).

640 Rousseau, B. C., account book, 1855–1857. 116 pp. Mss5:3R7628:1. Microfilm reel C578.

This account book was kept for a Fairfax County general store. Several accounts with slaves are indicated by name of the slave and the plantation with which he is associated. Of particular interest are accounts of James King of Loudoun County (page 101) and Jane Lewis for a servant’s pay (on a supplemental leaf attached to page 5).

641 Rowe, William H. (b. 1818?), account book, 1853. 26 pp. Mss5:3R7944:1. Photocopy.

Kept as administrator of the estate of Wade Ellis Stubblefield of Gloucester County and includes an appraisal of slaves belonging to the estate and records of the hiring out of selected slaves.

642 Ruffin, Edmund (1794–1865), papers, 1818–1865. 826 items.**Mss1R8385a. Microfilm reels C40 and C366-C369.**

Primarily the correspondence, diaries, and other writings of the famous agricultural reformer, journalist, and states' rights advocate of Petersburg and Prince George County. Because of the nature of Ruffin's career and political activism, much of this collection holds potential for researchers in African American history. Of particular note are an 1843 diary kept as agricultural surveyor for the state of South Carolina, including notes on the feeding of African American children (item a1), printed as *Agriculture, Geology, and Society in Antebellum South Carolina: The Private Diary of Edmund Ruffin, 1843*, edited by William M. Mathew (1992); Ruffin's "Incidents of My Life" covering the period of 1845–1855, concerning agricultural operations, slavery, and speeches (a3), printed as *Incidents of My Life: Edmund Ruffin's Autobiographical Essays*, edited by David F. Allmendinger, Jr. (1990); and essays and speeches on such topics as domestic slavery (1853), opposition to African colonization (1859), the political economy of slavery (1860), and southern rights and secession politics (section 4).

The collection also includes Ruffin's correspondence in 1859 (60 items) concerning his *African Colonization Unveiled* (section 18) and a group of letters written to Ruffin in 1860–1861 (35 items) concerning agriculture, slavery, and secession (section 20).

643 Rutherford, Samuel Jordan (1806–1880), papers, 1833–1872. 36 items.**Mss1R9337a.**

Contain materials concerning the leasing and repair of houses in Richmond and Henrico County; mercantile operations in Richmond, and farming in Amelia County. Include an 1863 affidavit of George Perkins concerning the gift of a slave, Ned, from Rutherford, for whom Perkins promises to care for the rest of his natural life (section 6).

644 Rutherford family papers, 1811–1946. 200 items. Mss1R9337b.**Microfilm reel B36.**

Primarily consists of the papers of John Coles Rutherford, attorney of Rock Castle, Goochland County, and member of the Virginia House of Delegates. Rutherford's commonplace book, 1844–1849, includes a negative essay on the free black population in Virginia, ca. 1847, containing comments on character, habits, and living conditions (b14). A second commonplace book, 1852–1856, carries this theme further with a handwritten copy of Rutherford's 1853 speech in the House of Delegates concerning the "Removal from the Commonwealth of the Free Colored Population" (b17).

Robert S. Saunders's 1854 diary, kept in a copy of the *Plantation and Farm Instruction, Regulation, Records, Inventory and Account Book* (Richmond, 1852), not only covers agricultural operations at Rock Castle on behalf of Rutherford but also includes lists of slaves during the years 1854–1863 (b18). Rutherford's diary, 1859–1861, includes copies of his speeches in Goochland County and the Virginia House of Delegates concerning secession and notes on a speech of James Henry Hammond of South Carolina concerning slavery (b21).

Section 14 contains extensive, undated notes, ca. 1861, concerning secession and slavery. An undated draft set of rules prepared for Andrew K. Smith concerns the management of slaves at Rock Castle (section 17), while notes concerning the plantation include lists of children of slaves Rachel and Fanny, with birthdates (section 20).