

**Selected Items from the Coker
Family Papers (1829 - 1914)
SCU.SCL.M.0001
From The Lide-Coker-Stout Collection**

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Manuscripts Division, South Caroliniana Library
Attn: Henry Fulmer
910 Sumter St.
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC 29208, Midlands, 29208
(803) 777-5183
sclref@mailbox.sc.edu

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Summary Information

Repository	Manuscripts Division, South Caroliniana Library
Creator	Coker family.
Creator	Coker, Anna Maria.
Creator	Coker, Caleb, 1802-1869.
Creator	Coker, Hannah Lide, b. 1812.
Creator	Lide family.
Creator	Lide, Thomas P., Jr.
Title	Coker Family Papers
Date	1829-1914
Extent	1.0 Cubic feet Includes 2 oversize folders.
Language	English

Scope and Contents note

A collection of six hundred forty-five manuscripts provides information on this Darlington County family which has made outstanding contributions to the social and economic history of S. C. The entire collection is family correspondence. Hannah Ann Frances Lide and Caleb Coker, Jr., married 14 Oct. 1830, established a home at Society Hill where Caleb operated a general store. Prior to her marriage Hannah attended school in Charleston but only a few letters fall in this period. Letters of Caleb writ-ten from Charleston and New York_ inform Hannah of his business activities, market prices, styles in clothes and household furnishings. During the Nullification controversy he writes, 22 Jan. 1833, of his trip to Charleston "by the side of the Honble Jno. L. Wilson whose company . . . I found very agree-able," relates excitement caused by "an express from King [Andrew] Jackson . . . which was . . . his Royal Message to the Senate & house of Representatives of the United States laying before them the proceedings of the Rebellious Colony of South Carolina, recommending . . . ways & means by which . . . that monster Nullification may be prevented," comments on visitors in town— "more than half of them are determined Nullifiers . . . very distinguished men" attending "the great State Rights & Free Mee ing... which was the most overwhelming assemblage of people I ever saw," and "few goods in market & them mostly at high prices." From Philadelphia he writes, 21 July 1836, of crowded conditions "with Southern & Western Merch[an]ts . . . It appears . . . that the whole South & West have turned fools— or they would import goods, to their Southern Towns & not be so dependent on the North for their supplies." In late summer 1846 Hannah made a northern trip visiting Washington, Baltimore, New York, and Niagra Falls during which she kept an interesting journal. Some correspondence is exchanged with Hannah's parents who migrated to Alabama in 1835. After 1847 school letters from the Coker children at Limestone Springs Female Academy, Mrs. Dupree's School in Charleston, Arsenal Hill Academy, and the S. C. College relate personal activities and school conditions. Although James, William, and Charles— sons of Hannah and Caleb— served in the Confederate States Army, the collection contains no letters from them for the war years, and the few letters for the Reconstruction period deal only with family news. From 1880 to Hannah's death in 1900 the letters are from her grandchildren attending various colleges in S. C., N. C., and Va., relating school activities and following graduation, early business ventures. Later letters were directed to "Aunt Mary." Letters from James discussing the Baptist Church in Hartsville and the Welch Neck High School suggest his leadership in the community. Love and admiration of Hannah by her family is best expressed by James' wife in a letter, 18 Feb. 1900— "Mother I wish at the close of my life I could feel like I had gathered Manna every day as you have."

Hannah and Caleb's daughter Frances married in 1871 John Stout of Ala., brother-in-law of James Coker. Following service in the Civil War John Stout joined the Baptist Church and enrolled at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Greenville, graduating in 1870. A volume, 1868-69, "Autographs of The Students of the Sou. Bap. Theo. Seminary," contains signatures of classmates who became leaders in the Baptist denomination. The correspondence of "Fannie" and John prior to their marriage discuss his school problems and activities, their religious views and Fannie's church work. They began life together in Newberry where John was pastor of the Baptist Church for four years. After the Baptist State Convention in Aug. 1871, James Coker relates the good reports he heard of them. In 1874 John and Fannie returned to Society Hill to serve the Welsh Neck Baptist Church until his death at Dallas, Texas, 1892, while

attending a Southern Baptist Convention. Letters of condolence following John Stout's death indicate the esteem for him held by the laity and clergy.

Pursuing a desire expressed during his college days for foreign mission work, Stout and Theodore P. Bell applied, 1881, to the Foreign Mission Board to go to China. However, on examination, the Board rejected their applications because they could not subscribe to the "verbal theory of inspiration." Letters concerning this action from Henry A. Tupper, Theodore P. Boll, Roswell H. Graves, Eldred J. Forrester, William C. Lindsay, Crawford H. Toy, George B. Eager and other Baptist leaders indicate a difference of opinions on Baptist organization and doctrines. William Carter Lindsay (1840-1913) pastor of the First Baptist Church of Columbia, from 1877 to his retirement in 1911, maintained a close relationship with his college roommate, John Stout. The Lindsay-Stout correspondence is the most significant unit in the collection and is valuable for a study of S. C. Baptists as well as the development of the Columbia church. Removal of the Seminary from Greenville, S. C., to Louisville, Ky., 1877, provoked this comment from Lindsay : "I'd rather the Asiatic Cholera should rage from the sea's bed to Caesar's head !I cant . . . help feeling that the institution is cutting loose from Southern Sympathy. Lt will be the Seminary of the North West, & the Atlantic & Gulf States will have another in a few years."

In answering the call of the Columbia church he refused to be "put on trial before them Since leaving the Seminary I consider myself as standing before the denomination 'approved'," and gives his reasons for accepting— "It is our center . location of the State paper [Baptist Courier], with a theological seminary, & a select library of 30000 volumes in the Capital, & a ragged & completely disorganized church!" Opinions on the Baptist Courier, historical figures and events, theological questions, denominational doctrine and organization, evolution, education for ministers, current events— international as well as local— reveal Lindsay as a well-informed leader.

File Plan note

Abbreviations / Legend:

ADS = autographed document signed

ALS = autographed letter signed

ALS(T) = typed copy of autographed letter signed

DS = document signed

LS = letter signed

MP = printed manuscript

MS = manuscript

n.d. = undated

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Manuscripts Division, South Caroliniana Library

Controlled Access Headings

Geographic Name(s)

- Alabama -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865.
- Columbia (S.C.) -- Description and travel.
- Darlington (S.C.) -- Social life and customs.
- South Carolina -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives, Confederate.
- West, U.S. -- Description and travel.

Subject(s)

- Confederate States of America. Army -- Military life.
- Education -- South Carolina -- Charleston.
- Fountain, Sarah Jane Lide, b. c. 1798 -- Correspondence.
- Lide, David Robert, 1805-1874 -- Correspondence.
- Lide, Eli Hugh, 1796-1854 -- Correspondence.
- Lide, Maria Frances, 1819-1901 -- Correspondence.
- Lide, Mary Elizabeth, b. c. 1807 -- Correspondence.
- Reconstruction (U.S. history, 1865-1877) -- Alabama.
- Rumph, Frances Jane Lide -- Correspondence.

1820s

Collection Inventory

1820s

ALS, 12 Sept. 1828, Fayetteville, Mary W[estfield] McLean, to Hannah A. Lide, Springville, Darlington Dist.

Description:

Family letter with comment: "If indeed it can be as pleasant among the muddy swamps & ricefields of South Carolina as among these sandhills which if we can get bread to eat from them will not kill us up with fevers," reporting on the Doctor's improved health after their return home, with comment of "cousin Sarah Fountains ill health."

ALS, 17 Mar. 1829, Hannah Lide, to William Potter, Cheraw.

Description:

Letter replying "to your honourable motives... through the hands of my Father.... I can only say that I am not prepared to receive visits... you propose. Considering my youth and unfinished education, had I not seen you enjoying the confidence of Mr & Mrs Morgan, I could not believe you to be sincere."

ALS, 31 Dec. 1829, James Lide, to Hannah A. Lide, Charleston.

Description:

Letter advising her to take advantage of the opportunities "of improving your mind in spiritual and literary knowledge," with remembrances to his friends.

1820s

1830s

ALS, 14 Jan. 1830, Springville, D[avid] R. Lide, to Hannah A. Lide, Charleston.

Description:

Letter regarding his return home - places and people on the route, announcing his wedding plans and inviting her to be present, Dr. McLean moved to Cheraw, commenting "Bro. Bratten? Baptized 8 persons... all of whom were Negroes and had a full House that day.... some talk of getting Mr. Ludlow at Darlington....".

ALS, 20 July 1830, Charleston, Susan [Brown?], to Hannah Lide, Springville.

Description:

Friendly letter commenting on religious activities - Mr. [Basil?] Manly's Bible class "is very improving, and throws great light on the Scriptures," "between 70 or 80 persons" joined the church, "her Sabbath School of 6 Girls," inviting Hannah to visit them next winter.

ALS, 18 July 1831, Society Hill, "H. A. L. C.," [Hannah] to Caleb Coker, N. Y.

Description:

Letter reporting on affairs at home and lamenting his long absence.

ALS, 20 July 1831, New York, Caleb Coker, Jr., to Mrs. Hannah A. Coker, Society Hill.

Description:

1820s

Letter regarding his business, fashions of the day, answering a complaint of his clerk that "I have not treated him as a gentleman.... I hope hereafter to keep clear of such clerks."

ALS, 23 July 1831, Society Hill, J. E[li?] Gregg, to Caleb Coker, N. Y.

Description:

Letter regarding crop prospects, discussing certain financial arrangements, improvement in T. H. Edwards condition.

ALS, 22 Jan. 1833, Charleston, C. Coker, Jr., to Mrs. Hannah A. Coker, Society Hill.

Description:

Letter relating his trip "by the side of the Honble Jno. L. Wilson whose company... I found very agreeable," excitement over "an express from king Jackson.... which was... his Royal Message to the Senate & house of Representatives of the United States laying before them the proceedings of the Rebellious Colony of South Carolina, recommending... ways & means by which... that monster Nullification may be pre-vented," many persons from the country at the hotel, "more than half of them are determined Nullifiers, and some very distinguished men," attending "the great State Rights & Free Meeting... which was the most overwhelming assemblage of people I ever saw," find "few goods in market & them mostly at high prices".

ALS, 6 Aug. 1833, New York, C. Coker, Jr., to Mrs. H. A. Coker, Care of Mr. E. H. Lide, Darlington.

Description:

Letter describing their hotel accommodations, prices of various articles, waiting to purchase "your bill of Furniture - am almost ashamed to commence till Mr. Lacoste leaves as he buys articles so very different from what I can afford," giving articles and prices.

1820s

ALS, 25 July [1835], Salem, N. C., H. A. L. Coker, to Caleb Coker, "To the care of Messrs. Coit Co., N. Y."

Description:

Letter relating her trip to Salem and attending church services - "visited the Potter's garden," urging him to hurry to finish his business in order to spend more time at the Springs.

ALS, 24 Mar. 1836, Chesnut Grove, [Ala.], Jane Lide, to Mrs. Hannah A. L. Coker, Society Hill.

Description:

Letter mentioning the trip to Ala., describing their situation and news of family and friends.

ALS, 21 July 1836, Philadelphia, C. Coker, to Mrs. H. A. Coker, Society Hill.

Description:

Letter describing crowded conditions on steam boats and rail-roads, expecting to find N. Y. crowded "with Southern & West-ern Merchts., in fact it appears to me that the whole South & West have turned fools - or they would import goods, to their Southern Towns & not be so dependent on the North for their supplies....".

ALS, 31 July [18]36, N. Y., Caleb Coker, to Mrs. Hannah A. Coker, Society Hill.

Description:

Letter regarding his anxiety to finish his business and get home, attending church - "I keep a good look at the church and in the streets for New fashions but I find very few that dress different from our folks

1840s

- saw only one of the New fashion tight sleeve dresses - the same bonnets are worn yet with scarcely an exception."

ALS, 11 Jan. 1837, Center Ridge, Ala., Jane Lide, to Hannah A. L. Coker, Society Hill.

Description:

Letter describing their house and situation, expecting "to be constituted a church.... the meeting will be held in the presbyterian Church as we have no house yet," re-ported on family and friends, Maria and school situation, "I feel willing to bear with privations if we can have the Gospel Preach'd....".

ALS, 17 Apr. 1838, Charleston, Eleanor Ramsay, to Mrs. Caleb Coker.

Description:

Letter reporting on her sister Maria's indisposition and her standing at school, approving of Mrs. C's method of rearing her children, sending remembrances to former pupils in Society Hill.

ALS, 1 May 1838, Charleston, C. Coker, to Wife.

Description:

Letter reporting his plans to return home, difficulty in purchasing goods since the fire, clothes for the girls.

1840s

ALS, 3 June 1844, Jane Lide, to David R. Lide, Society Hill.

1840s

Description:

Letter regarding news of the family - Eli and Joseph's trip to Red River.

ALS, 2 Sept. 1845, Charleston, R. R. Lide, to Mrs. H. A. Coker, Society Hill.

Description:

Facetious letter regarding marriage.

ALS, 8 Aug. 1846, Baltimore, H. L. Coker, to Jane, Society Hill.

Description:

Letter relating their trip to Washington - visiting the capitol and seeing "Mr. Calhoun & the great Dickson H. Lewis of Ala. & really he is great, that is very plainly to be seen & he has a great chair also. I saw him get up & walk, he is a curiosity.", inquiring re the family at home.

MS, [Aug. & Sept. 1846], vol. unbd.

Description:

H. L. Coker's journal of her trip to Washington, Baltimore, N. Y. and on to Niagara Falls.

ALS, 30 Jan. 1847 [1848], Limestone Springs, Anna [Coker], to Mrs. H. L. Coker, Society Hill.

Description:

1840s

Letter relating "Sister's" accident in falling from a horse on a trip with Mr. Curtis to the iron works, expecting the new music teacher, requesting permission to take guitar lessons, school activities, remembrances from all the "girls from home".

ALS, 3 Mar. 1847, Limestone Springs, Jane, to Mother.

Description:

Letter describing the furniture in their room, relating her week-end activities, dresses needed for the May party, jewelry worn by the girls, requesting certain articles, expecting to take drawing lessons.

ALS, 3 May 1847, Limestone Springs, Jane, to Father.

Description:

Letter describing the May party - "the dullest party that I ever attended," - the food, decorations and activities, inviting her family to attend the examinations.

ALS, 7 Jan. 1848, Limestone, Jane, to Mother.

Description:

Letter relating the return trip, changes in the accommodations - long candles to last a week instead of short ones every night, soon to get gas lamps which will burn 2 and 1/2 hrs., heaters in all the rooms downstairs "and there will soon be one up stairs with pipes all along in the passages to heat the bed rooms.", improved food, class arrangements, commenting on her music and drawing - "Mr. Dovilliers says I must not draw any more Mono-chromatic pieces now... must... learn how to sketch well."

ALS, 3 Feb. 1848, Limestone, Jane, to Mother.

1840s

Description:

Letter relating her trip to the iron works and fall from the horse - "They are well worth seeing, Dr. Curtis says they are the most extensive ,..in the South....", completely satisfied with the improved conditions in the school.

ALS, 14 Sept. 1848, Limestone Springs, Anna, to Mother.

Description:

Letter describing a barbecue for the "Palmetto Boys".

ALS, 4 Dec. 1848, Charleston, Janie, to Mother, Mrs. H. A. L. Coker, Society Hill.

Description:

Letter relating her trip to Charleston - a day spent in Columbia - visiting the State House, the College, "Mr. Russells celebrated garden," and various people; arrival in Charleston and disappointment in the depot, describing her room and daily schedule, taking "oil painting, and am quite delighted with it.... Mrs. Bounetheau says that it is hard to learn and requires a great deal of patience and attention," remembrances to the servants and family.

ALS, 28 Dec. 1848, Charleston, Janie, to Mother.

Description:

Letter directing her to send her letters "to Mrs. DuPre's care," relating her holiday activities - saw "Winner's celebrated painting of Christ healing the daughter of Jairus... very beautiful... exquisitely beautiful.... Christ comes nearer to my idea of him", de-scribing detail of the picture, attending church and noise of fire crackers and guns on Christmas eve, attachment for Dr. Furman, attending a lecture delivered by an Indian Chief at the Temperance Hall - a Methodist preacher, a trip to King St. "where we go to see & be seen," meeting "Mr. Hendrick, the pastor of the First Baptist church.... entrusted

1840s

to his care by Mr. R. Furman," Hendrick's anxiety over their attending the Baptist church as "he did not want us to turn Episcopalians," describing certain clothes, shocked at the cost of washing - "Two dollars for four weeks,".

ALS, 17 Jan. 1849, Limestone Springs, Annie, to Mother.

Description:

Letter commenting on her situation, roommates, classes and teachers, rumor of Sophie Patterson to be married - "as they say it is to Mr. Dovilliers!!!!!!".

ALS, 2 Feb. 1849, Charleston, Jane to Mother.

Description:

Letter relating her activities, her courage in going to the dentist alone with a vivid description of the trip.

ALS, 15 Feb. 1849, Columbia, Carrie Henry, to Mrs. Coker.

Description:

Friendly letter commenting on Mrs. Hassell's School and receiving many valentines.

ALS, 26 Feb. 1849, Limestone, Annie, to Mother.

Description:

Letter describing school activities celebrating Washington's birthday.

1850s

ALS, 14 Mar. 1849, Charleston, Caleb Coker, to H. A. L. Coker.

Description:

Letter regarding his visit with Jane, purchasing flowers for her, price of japonicas, directions for meeting him on his return.

MP, 6 June 1849.

Scope and Contents note

Printed leaflet describing the public examination of Limestone Female High School, listing subjects and achievements, mentioning teachers - "Mons. Dovilliers will immediately resume his chair as Teacher in French and Drawing.", and stating the opinion that "this Institution is now firmly established.", printed over name of W. R. Farley, Chairman.

1850s

ALS, 7 Mar. 1850, Charleston, C. Coker, to Mrs. C.

Description:

Letter regarding his trip from Camden to Charleston - had "to wait a little at Branch-ville for the Hamburg Cars.", the boys enjoying the city, delay in the Pee Dee's arrival, directions to have work done at home, dull cotton market.

ALS, 29 Aug. 1850, Clifton House, Niagara Falls, Jane, to father.

Description:

1850s

Letter relating their trip from Saratoga, description or rather impression of the Falls, plans for remainder of trip.

ALS, 17 Sept. 1850, N. Y., Furman [Wilson], to Caleb Coker, Society Hill.

Description:

Letter describing crowded condition in N. Y., merchants from S. purchasing their goods, attending a [Jenny Lind] concert and her benevolence in contributing her share of the concert to charities, expressing his opinion on some of the expensive and gaudy monuments which "mark the last resting place of poor frail humanity....".

LS, 26 Oct. 1850, Carloville, [Ala.], James Lide, to his grand-son, William C. Coker.

Description:

Letter regarding the family, advising him regarding school, schools in his vicinity).

ALS, 19 Jan. 1853, Camp Marion, Caleb Coker, to James, Arsenal Academy, Columbia.

Description:

Letter informing him of a box being brought by friends.

ALS, 22 Jan. 1853, Arsenal Academy, James L. Coker, to William C. Coker, Society Hill.

Description:

1850s

Letter giving his impressions of the school - dislike to get up so early, receiving word of the box from home - "Lige... promised to bring it for me... [he] is general superintendent here, keeps the books &c though a. negro."

ALS, 15 Jan. 1856, Citadel, Charleston, James [Coker], to his sister, Mrs. Jane L. Wilson, Society Hill.

Description:

Letter noting that every thing is very quiet, "Our studies are all interesting....", receiving his commission as 2nd Lt. - "I would resign my office if it were not that it has the appearance of shrinking from a little duty and responsibility.... no gain to me, nor is it any source of pleasure... I am compelled to do, what I would rather not ...obliged to report the men when on duty... am thrown more into contact with our professors.", remembrances to the family.

ALS, 4 May 1856, Columbia, C[aleb] Coker, to Wife.

Description:

Letter relating his trip to the Convention, people assembled for the convention "Mr. [F. W.?] Pickens & Col [James L.] Orr, the most noted of those attending," a lecture by "the renowned Genl Carey," hearing Dr. [James H.] Thornwell preach at the Presbyterian Church, seeing Dr.... Curtis, planning to go to Charleston.

ALS, 4 June 1856, Society Hill, Janie L. W., to mother, Mrs. H. L. Coker, Carlowville, Ala.

Description:

Letter reporting on the family, friends and community in her absence.

ALS, 12 Mar. [18]56, Barhamville, "Mag," to "Fannie".

1860s

Description:

Letter commenting on her activities at school [S. C. Female Collegiate Institute].

ALS, 26 July 1856, Darlington, Wm. F. Nigels, to Caleb Coker, Society Hill.

Description:

Letter stating terms and conditions under which he will teach music in Society Hill.

1860s

ALS, 13 Apr. 1861, [Mother], to Charlie.

Description:

Letter reporting family news, James expecting to go in Col. Blanding's regiment, farm activities, Sue expecting him to take her to Ala.

ALS, 12 May 1861, Mother, to Fannie.

Description:

Letter expressing anxiety over her poor physical condition, suggesting she come home if too ill to study [Limestone Springs], relating the men who have gone into service, speeches of Col. Blanding and James to be published, deploring the sad events connected with war.

ALS, 16 Jan. 1862, Mother, to Charlie, S. C. College, Columbia.

Description:

1870s

Letter hoping he is settled with a good roommate and over his loneliness, news of family - Fannie occupied with putting "all the books, pamphlets, papers &c. in order... no small job,".

ALS, 25 Feb. 1866, Baltimore, Margaret Donaldson, to Mrs. H. L. Coker.

Description:

Letter expressing her pleasure to hear from her - "All you S. Carolina people were so on our minds from the time Sherman left Savannah until the end, & to learn that any whom we knew had escaped unharmed was a great relief.", gay activities to raise funds "for the benefit of the South,".

1870s

ALS, 1 June 1871, H. L. Coker, to Mary L. Coker, Care of Maj. D. R. Lide, Marion, Ala.

Description:

Letter regarding her trip to Ala., reporting family and community news especially re Fannie and John [Stout] getting settled in Newberry.

1880s

ALS, 10 Apr. 1883, Janie L. Wilson, to Fannie [Stout].

Description:

Letter requesting aid in building a parsonage for their preacher in order to be able to keep a pastor at the Antioch Church, describing the type of house to be built and listing land and materials donated for the purpose.

1890s

ALS, 2 Aug. 1887, San Francisco, Cal., Nellie E. Hartwell, to Mary Coker, Society Hill.

Description:

Letter discussing her efforts to raise funds to purchase an organ for the church, thanking them for the contribution - "I have raised \$16.50 so far; \$15.00 from So. Ca. and \$1.50 out here....," and relating work in establishing churches for the Chinese, referring to Mr. Stout's trip 119. to Europe. [Envelope printed: "B. Hartwell, Supt. Baptist Chinese Missions."]

1890s

ALS, 19 Jan. 1899, Hartsville, [James] L. Coker, to his mother, Mrs. H. L. Coker, Society Hill.

Description:

Letter informing her of their plans to visit Mrs. Wilkins Norwood in Wilmington, commenting on Mr. Gay's painting - "I am curious to see how our creek looks on his canvass. He has no use for the water falling over the dam; it is too regular and businesslike.", expressing his surprise "that Mr. Dowell and Mr. Satterwhite braved the sleet to come to our trustees meeting.... We had a quorum." [Written on letterhead paper of the Carolina Fiber Co., Manufacturers of Manilla Papers, J. L. Coker, President, G. A. Norwood, vice-President, and J. L. Coker, Jr., Treasurer.]

ALS, 9 May 1899, Emma, to Grandmother, Mrs. H. L. Coker.

Description:

Letter giving a detailed description of a trip to Charleston - first train ride, attending a concert and theatre, boat ride to Isle of Palms, climbing the steeple at St. Michael's, decorations all over the city - "I think I enjoyed riding on the electric cars and the boat best".

1900s

ALS, 3 July 1899, Hartsville, D. R. Coker, to Grandmother, Mrs. H. L. Coker.

Description:

Letter announcing the birth of a daughter, expressing a desire to name the child for her - "You have no Coker grand-daughter bearing your name. I would like to do so with your consent.", suggesting she speak with his Father re doing too much work - "He... ought to do less work, less thinking, less directing."

ALS, 3 Dec. 1899, Baltimore, Will C. Coker, to Grandmother, Mrs. Hannah Lide Coker, Society Hill.

Description:

Letter relating his studying in botany [at Johns Hopkins?] - only two students, his work on the cypress tree, field trips made with two visiting professors from Pa., relating the types of people at his boarding house - various students and others - "If this specialization goes on much further, we will have to get an interpreter to understand each other."

1900s

ALS, 14 Jan. 1900, Winthrop College, Edith Coker, to Mrs. H. L. Coker, Society Hill.

Description:

Letter describing Christmas spent at Winthrop.

ALS, 25 Feb. 1900, Hartsville, James L. Coker, to Mrs. H. L. Coker.

Description:

1900s

Letter relating the church services for the day, discussing the teachers at the school [Welsh Neck Baptist High School] and plans "to sell the girls dormitory to be used as a hotel, and will have to build.... one more convenient and suitablenearer the school building. If the school can go on to prosper as it has done we will not mind the work and trouble of it."

ALS, 18 Feb. 1900, Hartsville, Sue [Mrs. J. L.], to Mrs. H. L. Coker, Society Hill.

Scope and Contents note

Letter regarding family news, Will's invitation from Dr. Brooks to go to Jamaica next summer on a biological tour - making "Botany his special interest," her alarm over his going to a tropical country, severe cold weather of recent years changing the planting time from 14 Feb. to March, commenting on Mr. Perry's preaching and remarking - "Mother I wish at the close of my life I could feel like I had gathered Manna every day, as you have."

ALS, 5 Feb. 1905, Louisville, Ky., Eliza S. Broadus, to Miss Mary [Coker].

Scope and Contents note

Letter discussing recent changes in the Women's Missionary work, requesting her opinions on certain aspects of the changes, remembrances to Mrs. [John] Stout, attitude of leaders in the Convention to the Women's work.

LS, 12 Sept. 1908, Raleigh, N. C., Livingston Johnson, to Miss M. L. Coker.

Scope and Contents note

Letter answering her request for information on the Rev. Daniel White - his great grandfather, and a former pastor of the Society Hill Baptist Church - relating the circumstances of his coming to America and the difficulties encountered in N. C. from the Presbyterians in his attempts to preach Baptist beliefs and establish churches.