

Annual Program, 24 April 2010

PRESIDENTS THE UNIVERSITY SOUTH CAROLINIANA SOCIETY

1937–1943	M.L. Bonham
1944–1953	J. Heyward Gibbes
1954	Samuel L. Prince
1954–1960	Caroline McKissick Belser
1960–1963	James H. Hammond
1963–1966	Robert H. Wienefeld
1966–1969	Edwin H. Cooper
1969–1972	Claude H. Neuffer
1972–1974	Henry Savage, Jr.
1974–1978	William D. Workman, Jr.
1978–1981	Daniel W. Hollis
1981–1984	Mary H. Taylor
1984–1987	Walter B. Edgar
1987–1990	Flynn T. Harrell
1990–1993	Walton J. McLeod III
1993–1996	Jane C. Davis
1996–1999	Harvey S. Teal
1999–2000	Harry M. Lightsey, Jr.
2001	Ronald E. Bridwell
2002–2005	John B. McLeod
2005–2008	Steve Griffith
2008–	Robert K. Ackerman

73rd ANNUAL MEETING

ADDRESS BY DR. DREW GILPIN FAUST

It is both an honor and a pleasure for me to return to the Caroliniana. The materials in this library have been critical to every book I have written; the interactions with library staff have taught me more than I can say and have been indispensable to my growth as a historian.

Today I want to speak to you about my most recent book and about Civil War death more generally. It is a subject that fills the Caroliniana's collections, just as it suffused the lives of so many nineteenth-century Americans. As one Carolina citizen observed in 1862, "death reigned with universal sway."

Yet even decades after war's end, the state and its residents had not come to terms with the meaning and impact of the loss. In 1913, A.S. Salley, Secretary of the Historical Commission of South Carolina, published three volumes listing South Carolina Troops in Confederate Service. Nearly a half century after the war, the state still hoped to develop a comprehensive roster of those who had served and those who had died. Salley's brief entries, which included name, war record, and ultimate fate, stood in for larger stories—sometimes of courage and triumph, but far too often of suffering and death.

Salley told of Abrams, R.A., enrolled at Clinton on April 14, 1861, who died at Chimborazo Hospital in Richmond, Virginia, on June 12, 1862, a casualty of the Peninsula Campaign. Elijah Easters, who was conscripted at Columbia by Colonel Preston on July 20, 1862, died from the effects of a gunshot wound on October 13, 1864. These men are just two of thousands of Civil War dead listed in these three volumes. Historian Walter Edgar has estimated that 31–35% of military-age white men in South Carolina did not return from the war.

This year's annual report of gifts to the Caroliniana, distributed to all of us who are members, demonstrates the centrality of death in Civil War lives in the state. If my book were not completed, I would need to come back and do further research in these extraordinary new acquisitions.

Thomas John Moore of Spartanburg writes to his sister describing the death and burial of their brother Andrew on the battlefield of First

Manassas: "I could not procure a coffin, but wrapped him up in two blankets and marked his grave, so that he could be found hereafter in case we wish to remove his remains."

William Sidney Mullins of the 8th South Carolina Infantry Regiment records feeling stunned by at the carnage of First Manassas and writes of wounded men begging passers-by to kill them. The challenge of burying the dead was almost overwhelming, and soldiers struggling to cope could sometimes exhibit striking inhumanity. Mullins describes a burying party discussing whether to bury a man alive since he clearly would not survive: "Says a sergeant set down a minute & he will be dead & we wont have to come back!"

These are but two of many examples in the annual report that illustrate the realities of death in the Civil War. There were new ways of dying—away from homes and families. There were new ways of burying the dead without coffins, without observances, without names. There were new concerns about personal identity as well as new challenges to the meaning of the sacredness of human life. After death the body was in danger of becoming just an object that needed to be removed from a field of devastation.

The idea to examine death in the Civil War, the idea that evolved into *This Republic of Suffering* grew out of my earlier work on the Civil War and, in particular, from an earlier book I wrote on the slave-holding women of the Confederacy. As I read their diaries and letters, I began to realize that at the heart of their experience of the war was death. For these women, the most fundamental wartime reality was the unrelenting fear of death, the loss of loved ones and the impact of those losses on their families, communities, and society.

As I was trained as a historian, works I read about the war overwhelmingly concentrated on big public questions—issues such as the pursuit of military victory, or the struggle over Southern independence, or the coming of Emancipation. But, those were not the topics that mattered most to the women I was coming to know through my research. Those were not the topics that loomed largest in their rendering of their lives during the war. As I listened to their voices, I began to think about what they were telling me and what their perceptions ought to mean for historians. The writings of Confederate women led me to focus on

something I knew, but something I had not thought deeply about. The war claimed 620,000 soldiers' lives. This is a number often used by historians—almost casually—to report the war's toll.

There are a number of ways of thinking about this number. It is more deaths than the total of all other U.S. wars from the American Revolution through the Korean War. It is a rate of death—if you look at it in terms of the incidence of death in comparison to the size of the population—that is six times the rate of American losses in World War II. Or, another way to look at it is to consider what it would mean in proportion if we thought about that many deaths in the United States today. It was a rate of death of about 2%; today that would mean about 6 million dead. That number made me realize we needed to rethink the kind of impact that level of loss would have had on both individuals and the society in which they lived. And 620,000 is an underestimate of the war's carnage. Military deaths were only part of the story of the Civil War. There were uncounted and undocumented civilian deaths from epidemic disease, guerilla conflict, food shortages, and from what we today might call "collateral damage."

I came to believe that death—its proximity, its threat, its actuality—must have become the most widely shared experience of the Civil War. For Americans North and South of the Civil War Era the texture of the experience was the presence of death. I wanted to know how the nation's inhabitants coped with such loss, and I wanted to ask that question on every level—from the logistical, to the psychological, to the spiritual and to the political.

What did they do with all those bodies? How do humans adapt to loss? How do people understand their own humanity in face of such destruction? As James Harvey Hammet, in another recent South Caroliniana acquisition, asked his sister Venetia in a letter from the front on Christmas Eve of 1864: "Why are you & I here while many that are better than we are by nature, & perhaps far better by everyday practice, consigned to the cold and silent tomb?" On the spiritual level, the poet Sidney Lanier summed it up so well when he asked, "How does God have the heart to allow it?" And on a political level, how does such sacrifice on its behalf shape the identity and the responsibilities of the nation-state?

Civil War Americans often wrote about what they called "the work of death," by which they meant "the duties of soldiers to fight and kill and die."

But also, with those words, they intended to invoke battle's consequences—its suffering, devastation, and slaughter. Work of death and the notion of work, incorporated understandings of both effort and impact and it reminds us that death in war does not just happen. Death requires action and agency.

This book is about the work that death required of Civil War Americans. They had to learn to die. They had to learn to kill. They had to learn to bury the dead and cope with the rent that the loss of so many individuals introduced into the social fabric. They had to mourn; they had to explain to themselves the meaning of the devastation and to remember those that they had lost. This work involved Americans individually as they dealt with their own bereavements, and it also collectively involved them as they coped with the meaning of the dead for the nation.

At the beginning of the war neither government—Confederate nor Union—had any mechanism for notifying families about the fate of their loved ones. There was no letter which said, "Your loved one was killed or wounded." You simply did not know, unless someone standing nearby happened to take the responsibility to write. The obligation that the state felt toward those citizens was sharply limited and in dramatic contrast to what we today expect of our nation in its relationship to those who serve it. There were no regular burial details. There were no grave registration units. There were no dog tags or other formal identification procedures.

Burial of the fallen was often an act of improvisation. A battle's victor inherited the responsibility for the bodies left upon the field, and interring the dead was not always the first priority. A week after Antietam a Union surgeon reported that the dead were "almost wholly unburied and the stench arising from it such as to breed a pestilence." The armies often resorted to mass burials, especially of enemy corpses. Coffins were rare except for officers. Soldiers were often horrified at burying their beloved comrades like animals, or as one observer put it, "dead chickens."

Slowly during the course of the war efforts emerged to resist the inhumanity the scale and intensity of the conflict had imposed. Soldiers like Spartanburg's Thomas John Moore led efforts to identify comrades, to mark their graves, to record their burial places, and to bury them with some identifying marks—perhaps a bottle with a note inside—so their bodies might eventually be reclaimed. A soldier might record, for example,

that a comrade was interred under an apple tree 100 yards east of the railroad tracks, or offer other detail that might enable the dead soldier's grave to be found. Families with means often arranged to have bodies shipped home, and embalming entered funeral practice at this time.

Soldiers sought to escape the fate of dying unknown by developing their own identification systems—carrying books or Bibles containing their names and addresses into battle, keeping an envelope addressed to them on their person, or purchasing the metal ID tags that enterprising merchants began to manufacture in the course of the war. T.J. Weatherly, a South Carolina physician who attended Confederate troops in Virginia, made his own contributions to naming the dead, even as he cared for the living. He kept a diary—now in the Caroliniana—with a series of notes: “Columbus Stephenson, Bethany Church, Iredell County, NoCa, to be written to about the death &c of Lt. Thomas W. Stephens[on].” Weatherly took on the responsibility of notifying families of the dead soldiers who had been in his care.

In spite of such efforts, almost half of the dead of the Civil War were never identified. The fates of half of those estimated 620,000 lost were never known to their families, who remained in the “dread void of uncertainty.” And such information as was available might well have proved to be wrong. Men reported dead walked in the door; others said to be safe later were found to have been killed. Wives, mothers, children wondered for the rest of their lives about a parent, husband, or son. One South Carolina officer, William Drayton Rutherford, sought to alleviate this anxiety by sending a telegram to his wife after each battle reporting simply: “I am well.”

Jane Mitchell received a letter after Gettysburg from a soldier who described burying a corpse with her son's name pinned to it. But she never saw the body and remained unconvinced it was her son. “I would like to find that grave,” she wrote. “It was years before I gave up the hope that he would some day appear. I got it into my head that he had been taken prisoner and carried off a long distance but that he would make his way back one day—this I knew was very silly of me but the hope was there nevertheless.” The absence of identifiable bodies left Mitchell and hundreds of thousands of women like her with abiding uncertainty and fantastical hopes, illusions that for them made the world endurable.

As we think about civilians and the work of mourning it is important to remember how many of the bereaved did not have sure knowledge of the fate of their loved ones. We often today talk about “closure,” but any such closure was elusive for tens of thousands of bereaved Civil War Americans. It was too easy to deny death or at least to cling to hope. As a South Carolinian mother, Esther Palmer, wrote about her son James—killed at Second Bull Run, “I sometimes think he is not dead, it might have been a mistake.”

Historians are interested in change, and we usually find it occurring over decades or even centuries. But one of the reasons war is so interesting as a historical subject is that it accelerates change. Change not just in national boundaries or in political regimes, but even in fundamental values and assumptions—aspects of human experience that otherwise would not be so susceptible to rapid shifts or alteration.

We can see in the Civil War period changes in many assumptions about death and very dramatic shifts in the official policies toward the dead. There appeared a new sense of national obligation to these citizens who had died in its service. Sacrifice and the state became inextricably intertwined. Citizen-soldiers snatched from the midst of life generated obligations for a nation defining its purposes and polity through military struggle. A war about union, citizenship, freedom, and human dignity required that the government attend to the needs of those who had died in its behalf. Execution of these newly recognized responsibilities would prove an important vehicle for the expansion of federal power that characterized the transformed postwar nation. The establishment of national cemeteries and the emergence of the new Civil War pension system to care for the dead and their survivors yielded programs of a scale and reach unimaginable before the war. Death created the modern American Union—not just by ensuring national survival but by shaping enduring national structures and commitments.

At war's end, the new sense of national obligation to the dead led the North to inaugurate an enormous reburial program. Union soldiers, still in uniform after Appomattox, traveled across the South in the years between 1865 and 1871 searching for every single Union soldier who had died in the course of the War. Each should be guaranteed an honored grave. This purpose required a commitment—and a bureaucracy—that was

unprecedented. Over a period of six years, 303,000 Union soldiers were located and reburied in 74 new national cemeteries. This represented both an act of homage and respect to a newly understood identity of the citizen soldier, and a level of organization and federal power that would come to characterize the nation that had emerged from the war.

This massive reburial program, however, included only Union soldiers—to the bitter resentment of white Southerners. White southern women called upon their fellow citizens to appropriately honor the Confederate dead in spite of official federal neglect. Dozens of voluntary associations sprung up to gather bodies from the countryside around Richmond, Atlanta and on battlefields across the South.

Like the federal program, the reburial effort of the Confederate dead took on remarkable scale. In Virginia, 30,000 dead Confederates were buried in Petersburg's Blanford cemetery. The prewar population of Petersburg had only been 18,266. A veritable new city of the dead had been created. In 1871, at Magnolia Cemetery in Charleston an elaborate ceremony of orations, hymns, and prayers marked the reinterment of 74 dead Confederate soldiers returned from Gettysburg. Thousands of other men who had died in Pennsylvania were restored by women's associations to graves in other southern cities.

The cemeteries created to honor the Civil War dead were unlike any Americans had seen, not churchyards with clusters of family tombstones, nor garden cemeteries like those that began to become popular in the 1830s. Instead, the war dead were buried in ordered rows, like soldiers in formation. These cemeteries invoke not the past but the future—the endless rows of graves across the First and Second World War battlefields of France. The Civil War gave nineteenth-century Americans a destabilizing glimpse into capacities for inhumanity and for mass slaughter that became all too common in the century that followed. Death would never be the same again.

We are all, in some sense, Civil War survivors because we have all inherited its legacy of death and sacrifice, as well as the nation-state it built and the notions of citizenship it established. We have all had to confront its challenge to what William Dean Howells called “the sacredness of life.”

I would like to close by reading the last two paragraphs of the book:

We still live in the world of death the Civil War created. We take for granted the obligation of the state to account for the lives it claims in its service. The absence of next-of-kin notification, of graves registration procedures, of official provision for decent burial all seem to us unimaginable, even barbaric. The Civil War ended this neglect and established policies that led to today's commitment to identify and return every soldier killed in the line of duty.

But even as the Civil War brought new humanity—new attentiveness to “sentiment”—in the management of death, so too it introduced a level of carnage that foreshadowed the wars of the century to come. Even as individuals and their fates assumed new significance, so those individuals threatened to disappear into the bureaucracy and mass slaughter of modern warfare. We still struggle to understand how to preserve our humanity and our selves within such a world. We still seek to use our deaths to create meaning where we are not sure any exists. The Civil War generation glimpsed the fear that still defines us—the sense that death is the only end. We still work to live with the riddle that they—the Civil War dead and their survivors alike—had to solve so long ago.

**REPORT OF GIFTS TO THE LIBRARY BY MEMBERS OF
THE SOCIETY DURING THE PAST YEAR**

ROBERT BARNWELL RHETT PAPERS,
1752–1780, 1816–1953 and undated

Robert Barnwell Rhett was born Robert Barnwell Smith in Beaufort in 1800. He died in New Orleans in 1876 on the sixty-second anniversary of the composition of Francis Scott Key's poem "The Star-Spangled Banner." Throughout his life, in and out of public service, his radical politics caused him to be perceived as either a pariah or a hero in South Carolina and the nation (both American and Confederate). Perhaps more than any other individual, Rhett bore responsibility for the secession of his native state in 1860 and for the four and a half years of destructive war that followed.

This collection of Rhett papers consists of 1,889 manuscripts and includes family, business, and political correspondence. The bulk of the collection spans the period between 1840 and 1870. The largest single unit of correspondence (110 letters) is that between Rhett and his eldest son, Robert Barnwell Rhett, Jr. There is also correspondence between Rhett, Sr., and his other children as well as correspondence between the children and their mother, Elizabeth Burnet.

The earliest documents in the collection date from 1752 to 1780. Letters to Sabina "Binkey" Burnet, widow of Dr. Andrew Burnet, whose property was located on Black Mingo, concern the sale of slaves and her management of the property. A letter (2 January 1768) of Hugh Swinton comments on prices for male and female slaves and advises her against sending turpentine to Charleston—"the town is glutted with it & no likely hoods of its selling in any reasonable time." On 27 November 1772, Swinton informs her of the rejection of his offer of £500 for two "girls"—"they would not take less than 600." "Boys about 18," he noted, "is as dear as fellows £430," and advises—"If you can do without until next week, they certainly will be much cheaper." Two letters from Georgetown resident James Gordon inquire about the quantity of turpentine Mrs. Burnet had and the price that she was asking (15 and 31 January 1779). In a letter of 21 July 1779, Gordon anticipates a favorable market and price for turpentine "the next Winter if you have Boxed Trees fit to Work you cannot do better with your hands than to put them on it if they are not engaged in a good set Crop." John Baxter reacts to the hardships caused

by the military conflict in South Carolina when he refers to “this doubtfull war, [which] hangs heavey upon my mind. Both parties seem to be employed, by a superior hand, in chastising each other; and it is certain that nothing but virtue & piety can recommend us to the protection of Heaven” (14 March 1780). Another letter (30 July 178?) of Baxter notes the return of her brother John and observes that “our perfidious, cruel Enemies are so enclosed by the brave Americans, that they cannot come out to hurt us, & unless they soon get a reinforcement they must return, or probably mix their bodies with the dust.” In closing, Baxter harshly condemns King George.

In 1837 Robert Barnwell Smith joined his brothers in changing the family surname to Rhett. The public careers of Rhett and his brothers may have been the principal motivation in adopting the Rhett surname, and in the case of Robert Barnwell it may have sparked his interest in family genealogy. Over the summer of 1845, Rhett traveled to England as the representative of merchants and importers who were disputing rice duties charged by the British government. While in London he engaged in correspondence with several individuals regarding the Rhett crest. Inquiries into the Rhett and Smith genealogies were apparently a concern of Rhett’s brother, James Smith Rhett, who received information on the New England branch of the Smith family from William Smith Craft.

Robert Barnwell Rhett, Jr., shared his father’s interest in the Rhett, Smith, and Moore families, and during the Civil War he engaged in an extensive correspondence with Summerville resident Mrs. E[lizabeth] A[nne] Poyas, John B. Irving, Benjamin M. Palmer, F.A. Porcher, J. Rhett Motte, and others. Mrs. Poyas informed Rhett in a letter of 18 September 1864 of the rapidly declining health of her only brother, Capt. E.B. Scott, and the imprisonment of her wounded grandson Charlie Foster—“It was a hard day to him when he had to quit the South Carolina College lay aside his beloved studies, and enter the service three years ago, at the age of eighteen.” Another grandson, Henry Foster, enlisted at the age of sixteen and had been wounded three times. A nephew, Isaac Ball Gibbs, twenty years of age, had been reported missing—“His mother believes him killed on the battle field and his body uncared for.” Mrs. Poyas was grateful for Rhett’s “splendid gift of paper” and assured him—“The first proof of my gratitude shall be manifested soon by all sorts of information scribbled

upon the pure and spotless pages.” Judging by the number of pages in her subsequent letters, she more than fulfilled her promise.

Rhett, Jr., continued his interest in family genealogy after 1865. Altogether there are approximately 171 pieces of correspondence, genealogical charts, copies of records, and other information on the Rhett, Smith, Moore, Burnet, Keating, Simons, Gibbs, Bellinger, Elliott, Grimke, Blake, and Bee families.

The Rhett parents and children were prolific correspondents although there were occasional parental complaints about the infrequency of letters from the Rhett sons at Harvard and South Carolina College. There is also correspondence between the Rhett sons and their friends. Robert Barnwell Rhett and Elizabeth Burnet (1809–1852), daughter of Andrew William Burnet and Elizabeth Washington Burnet, were married 21 February 1827. By 1840 Elizabeth had given birth to seven children, six of whom survived to adulthood. Rhett, Jr., received a letter from his father, 14 December 1843, in which he declared—“God bless you my Dear Son, and keep you as you have always been a great source of comfort and happiness to your Mother & myself.” Three of the Rhett sons, Robert, Jr. (1828–1901), Alfred Moore (1829–1889), and Edmund Smith (1833–1871) attended Harvard. Rhett, Jr., graduated in 1849 and was tapped for Phi Beta Kappa; Alfred graduated in 1851; and Edmund, also a member of Phi Beta Kappa, graduated in 1854. Another son, Andrew Burnet (1831–1879), graduated from South Carolina College in 1852 and the Medical College of South Carolina in 1859. The education of mind and body was clearly important to mother and father. While in London, 30 July 1845, Rhett expressed pleasure at receiving a letter from Robert. Commenting on his son's studies, Rhett observed—“God has given you an excellent understanding and between good minds, in the long run, the difference will always be according to the energy and force of Character.” As he did with all of his sons, Rhett emphasized the importance of mental and physical exercise—“By taking proper exercise, you will strengthen both Body and Mind, and will be prepared for your first war in life—College. This is only preparatory to the great Race in life which must be run in Manhood.”

Robert Barnwell Rhett, Jr., encountered academic difficulties in 1846. While he was at Ashepoo, a letter from his father told of his having

received a letter from Harvard president Edward Everett, addressed his son's academic standing and recent poor performance, and advised—"The honors of Cambridge are gone; but you can go back and...vindicate your title(?) to your former position" (23 January 1847). Rhett, Jr., in reply, thanked his father for "the high terms in which you spoke of us to Mr. Everett" and affirmed his intention to devote more time to reading and composition (10 March 1847).

Although Rhett was vitally concerned with the academic performance of his sons, he also was attentive to other areas of their lives. He requested Rhett, Jr., not to have any further contact with one of his contemporaries, William Robinson Taber, and explained his unfavorable opinion of Taber's character (15 April 1847). He implored his son to exercise prudence in spending money, citing his brother Alfred, who had spent excessively on clothing and had exhausted his allowance for the year. Rhett's concern may have been prompted by his dreary expectations for his rice crop—"The River is salt beyond the knowledge of any one. We have a most dismal prospect for any crop at all" (2 May 1847). Financial difficulties were never far from the father's mind. He planned to send Alfred to Cambridge in August 1847 "to be preparing for his entrance into college," with Rhett, Jr., as tutor. "As education is all I may be able to give any of you," he commented, "I wish it to be thorough in each of you" (10 June 1847).

Anticipating his younger brother's arrival at Cambridge, Rhett, Jr., specified food and other items that Alfred should bring—"the Sporting magazines, some buckshot (not much tho') at the least two good hams, some of the long fens of roosters of different colours to make flies for fishing & one or two turkey-tail feathers, & if you can persuade mother father's Nullification speech & letter to the state" (18 July 1847).

In addition to the correspondence of parents and children, there is correspondence between the Rhett sons and their friends. William R. Taber advised Rhett, Jr., of his preparations for entering South Carolina College, which he considered to be "in a prospering condition" under the leadership of William Campbell Preston and, "notwithstanding his formerly abused morals, I am willing...to entrust *my morals and education* to his direction as a Christian" (21 April 1846). Thomas Smith Rhett, a student at West Point, informed Barney, as Rhett, Jr., was sometimes addressed, of

an injury sustained while playing “football” which “will be the death of me yet to me it is so exciting a game that I cant look on without joining in it even at the risk of limping all my life on a cork leg” (11 September 1847). From his station at Fort Monroe, Virginia, in October 1848, Thomas commented—“if a man wants to do nothing the army is the place you can do nothing at all from morn to night” (21 October 1848).

South Carolina College student Robert Barnwell Fuller thought that the college compared unfavorably with Cambridge—“In fact without Thornwell, this college would be a *blank*.” Fuller was no more pleased with Columbia which he considered “a damned mean place” (2 November 1848). Fuller later transferred to and graduated from Harvard. He advised Barney in February 1849 he could not help contrasting the discipline of the two schools and cited a recent episode on the South Carolina College campus when a fire was set around 10:00 p.m. and a disturbance ensued. If the same behavior occurred at Cambridge, he suggested, “[this] would have ended the college careers of nine or ten,” while “here [it] was passed over by a sort of lecture from Mr. Thornwell in the college chapel” (17 February 1849). Fuller was in Beaufort in August 1849 and noted the arrival in town of “Bill Elliott,” “with all the conceit of a green Yankefied Southerner who expects to strike astonishment in his old associates by his vast alterations and improvements. He sports the most rowdy-looking straw hat that ever mortal wore and excites universal amazement by his walk which everybody in this unfortunate town takes for the latest style of walk from Paris” (26 August [1849]). Fuller was amused when he told of two recent dancing parties in Beaufort which prompted the Rev. Mr. Walker to preach “a long sermon to the young...wherein he advised all party-going individuals to pray before going out every night, to begin the evening with ‘Lord dismiss us’—to pray before leaving the house, and say grace before eating the ice cream.” According to Fuller, “every man woman and child here who can handle a knife is engaged carving oranges to preserve” (13 September 1849).

Beginning around 1850, the correspondence of the Rhett's and their friends reflected heightened political concerns. Army officer Thomas Rhett, stationed at Fort McHenry, Maryland, offered his opinion of Henry Clay's compromise bill—“it seems to be that it is about time to dissolve the union when people of sense have been led to suppose for one moment

that we would dream of consenting to grant the Northern rascals every thing they wish and get in return the promise that slavery shall not be prohibited in the Territories and that too if I remember right merely an implied compromise" (5 February 1850). Harvard classmate Julius Henry Walker Stuart commented on the succession to John C. Calhoun's Senate seat and the Nashville Convention—"How unfortunate for the South not to be united at such a crisis" (15 April, 10 June 1850). A letter (8 September 1850) to Rhett, Jr., from classmate Stanford Chaillé thanked him for a copy of his father's speech which he "recd with feelings of indignation for the North and South alternately. Indignation for the rascally impositions of these Yankees, and indignation for the tame submission of the South ever boasting of its bravery and its horror of submission to injustice." Edmund Smith Rhett, a student in South Carolina College, related to his brother Rhett, Jr., news of the "fuss... about a Southern Rights Association, in accordance with the invitation of the University of Virginia." He reported that it was opposed by the faculty "who said that it would increase political differences and contentions in the College" and approved by the students, including himself, who determined to organize (8 February 1851). Rhett, Sr., received a letter (3 March 1852) from Robert W. Barnwell concerning a plantation offered for sale, commenting on Rhett's verbal altercation with [Jeremiah] Clemens and [Lewis] Cass, deploring the South's representation by such men as [Henry S.] Foote and Clemens, and doubting that [James] Buchanan would receive the nomination for President—"Buchanan has placed himself upon ground too decidedly favorable to the South to give him any chance of a nomination. The next best thing for us would be the nomination of old [Sam] Houston & his defeat."

Robert Barnwell Rhett, Jr., married Josephine Horton (1830–1860), of Huntsville, Alabama, on 9 October 1851. In the spring of 1852, he was considering the purchase of a plantation in South Carolina where he could establish his family. His father advised that he accept Robert W. Barnwell's offer of a plantation on the Ashepoo River even though "I think Warren's Plantation a better purchase at 8,800\$—with a greater indulgence." Rhett offered to advise his son on how he might want to proceed (12 March 1852). Rhett, Jr., informed his father while visiting with his wife in Huntsville that there seemed to be more interest in the

presidential election in Alabama than in South Carolina and also urged his father to begin work on “a sketch of your life and services”—“Do then write it for me and let the truth and the whole truth in regard to yourself be expressed” (15 August 1852).

Rhett, Jr., spent several months during the summer of 1854 in New York undergoing medical treatment. Josephine was in Huntsville and was apparently concerned about cholera. He encouraged her “to be prudent in your diet” and not to be overly concerned about alarmists who “frighten one another without cause”—“this is especially the case in smaller places such as Huntsville [where] it seldom...attacks the upper classes who are in good condition and prudent, but assails the low drunken and dirty first and those who eat imprudently of fruits and vegetables and other indigestible stuff” (23 June 1854). Two weeks later, on 6 July, he told of his treatment and activities and again emphasized the importance of diet—“People in this country ruin their looks and their health by what they eat no less than by the way they eat, and yet both are matters of great importance.” He boasted that he weighed 109 pounds, the same weight as when he entered Harvard in 1845. He had heard almost nothing of a cholera outbreak but did report that “last week it killed a good many of the Irish and low people in the filthy back streets” (12 July 1854).

During the 1850s the Rhett family were intimately associated with the *Charleston Mercury*, the principal organ for airing their views. A document signed 27 January 1857 formalized “Articles of Agreement for a Co-partnership” between John Heart and Rhett, Jr., for “editing and publishing in the City of Charleston...the newspaper known as the *Charleston Mercury*.” The election to the United States Senate of James H. Hammond in 1857 caused Heart to argue that “The setting aside of your father...by the States Rights party, gives a new phase to our position as the conductors of the acknowledged organ of that party.” But Heart who also viewed the *Mercury* as a means “to derive a living for myself and family” was so concerned about the indebtedness of the newspaper that he proposed a course of action for addressing the paper’s financial condition—“I think it a matter for consideration whether you or I have sufficient inducement to continue our present career of drudgery in sustaining principles which the party do not feel a sufficient interest to induce them to make a moderate exertion for their support” (5 December

1857). A week later Heart was more specific in spelling out the paper's financial situation (12 December 1857). By the spring of 1858, Rhett, Jr., approached Heart with a proposal to acquire his interest (20 March 1858), and the following month a document outlined the procedure for the appointment of arbitrators (8 April 1858). On 9 April 1858 Rhett, Jr., informed his wife of the prospect of his restoring the *Mercury* to profitability—"If I overcome the prejudices against me in the city, the *Mercury* would be a fortune if judiciously managed." Rhett, Jr., and his wife agreed that Edmund Rhett should not be actively involved in the paper's operation—"He's good for nothing and is too lazy to work but under the excitement of some special occasions" (9 April 1858). By an agreement signed 27 May 1858, Heart conveyed his interest in the *Charleston Mercury* to Robert Barnwell Rhett, Jr.

Throughout the four years of war the *Charleston Mercury* was a voice of opposition to the Confederate government and its president Jefferson Davis. The paper also encountered controversy on the local level. Col. G.B. Cuthbert took issue with an article in the *Mercury* entitled "The Palmetto Guard and the Correspondent of the Charleston Mercury." Cuthbert asserted—"The piece to which I refer, in my opinion and in that of others, is characterized by a harshness of tone which I have thought proper not to allow to pass unnoticed. I write therefore...to request that you would either disavow any intention of discourtesy towards my company...or acknowledge such intention with an apology for the same" (7 March 1862). The Rhetts eagerly received communications that were critical of the government. From Richmond, Alexander Gatz reported that enemy ironclads were approaching Richmond and that authorities had failed to prepare adequately in advance—"Norfolk Portsmouth Yorktown Wmsburg—all in quiet possession of the Yankees thousands of negroes rendered useless to their owners—and the city of Richmond now to be taken whenever it suits the designs of Genl. McClellan" (14 May 1862).

In 1862 Robert Barnwell Rhett's son Alfred killed Col. W. Ransom Calhoun in a duel. Correspondence in February 1863 between Irvine K. Furman and Col. O.M. Dantzler concerns their differing opinions of their involvement in the affair. Alfred Rhett later commanded Fort Sumter. Rhett, Jr., informed his brother, 20 August 1863, of a conversation with General Beauregard who "expects Sumter to hold out from *one week*

longer to fifteen days”—“It is also generally expected that the fort will be blown up completely, when it is abandoned.” The next day a “Council of officers” met at Fort Sumter and summarized their discussion with reference to four propositions concerning the structure.

The *Mercury* was again experiencing financial hardships in 1863 which caused Rhett, Jr., to propose selling the paper to Alonzo J. White. They apparently failed to reach an agreement.

In January 1865 Robert Barnwell Rhett was in Aiken and advised Rhett, Jr., of the advance of the Federal army, arrangements being made to harvest crops for the benefit of family and slaves, and negotiations being underway to rent a plantation in Edgefield District (11 January 1865). Rhett queried William Porcher Miles “as to the prospect of holding Augusta,” to which Miles responded from Richmond—“The opinion is that it is as safe as any point perhaps in the Confederacy. It is not thought that it is in danger at present or likely to be” (22 March 1865).

By April 1865 Rhett had moved family and slaves to Alabama from where he advised Rhett, Jr., against resuming publication of the *Mercury* “for at least a month” and inquired about “the losses and situation of all the members of the family” (10 April 1865). By the fall of 1865 Rhett was apparently contemplating writing a history of the Confederacy. A letter (2 October 1865) from Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard commended the resumption of the *Charleston Mercury* “to help in re-establishing the truths of History. It will be difficult, even for many of our own people, to believe that so glorious a cause as the one we fought for should have been sacrificed by the prejudices & want of judgment & foresight of *one* man [Jefferson Davis]! Yet such was the fact, according to my most deliberate opinion.”

The Rhettss sought assistance from the Federal government to transport their labor force from Alabama to South Carolina—“They are negroes accustomed to the culture of tide-swamp rice lands and not to the culture of cotton, and are anxious to get back.” Rhett, Jr.’s letter to Gen. O.O. Howard also affirmed the laborers’ willingness to contract with Rhett for another year. By January 1866 Rhett was making plans to go to Alabama and to return the laborers to South Carolina. He informed his son—“It only remains now for you to shew me the ways & means of living in Charleston and we go down” (9 January, 2 May 1866).

Financial hardship again plagued the *Charleston Mercury* in 1866, and in 1867 the Rhetts were negotiating with parties in New York seeking funds to continue the newspaper. They were ultimately unsuccessful. A letter (26 August 1868) from James Crombie, New York, to Rhett, Jr., expressed regret that “the leading men of the South did not cheerfully accept the inevitable results of the war and change their ideas & policy to meet the changes in condition & the progressive tendencies of the age.” A broadside issued in November 1868 offered “A Farewell to the Subscribers of the Charleston Mercury.”

For a number of years Robert Barnwell Rhett suffered from a cancerous growth on his nose which terribly disfigured him and also affected his general health in the years after the war. While in New Orleans with his daughter and son-in-law, he enclosed in a letter (24 January 1869) “a Photograph of my face from which you can judge, better than by words, the cure affected on my nose. The skin which now covers it, appears healthy, and disposed in no way to ulceration.” Despite his physical condition, in 1869 and 1870, Rhett was working on his history. He sent Rhett, Jr., titles of books that he needed (7 July 1869). In March 1870 he was preparing for *Blackwood’s Magazine* an essay on government which was the first chapter of “*The History*” (23 March 1870). Rhett was clearly frustrated by the difficulty in obtaining sources that he needed when he declared to his son—“Now, how am I in this wilderness, to obtain a knowledge of the facts” (18 April 1870). Responding to his son’s criticism of his handwriting, Rhett suggested that he copy his text or hire someone to do it. He concluded—“As to myself, I have done my part, with all my might and means; and what future generations may think of me, if indeed I am worthy of any thought, is to me of not the slightest consideration. I was not regarded in life, when I tried to save them; and in death, let them if they please, forget or slander me. I will be where neither malignity nor folly will reach me” (30 April 1870). Later that year (29 September 1870), Rhett declared, “I do not intend to publish any thing but the matters I sent to you,

with *one* exception....*my Letter*...shewing my labours in the formation of the Confederate States Constitution.” Six years after Rhett’s death in 1876, Alfred Roman corresponded with Rhett, Jr., concerning the latter’s manuscript which was intended to be the final chapter in the two-volume memoir by Roman and General Beauregard. Roman enclosed Rhett’s manuscript and requested that he check on a point raised in a recent article in the *Times-Democrat* (New Orleans) entitled “Stephens Idea” (8 November 1882). *The Military Operations of General Beauregard in the War Between the States, 1861 to 1865* was published in 1884. **Acquired through the University South Caroliniana Society Endowment.**

BLEASE & GRIFFITH RECORDS,
1895–1970

The records of Blease & Griffith consist of approximately forty linear feet, primarily correspondence including letters received and carbon copies of letters sent, of a Newberry law firm that, in various combinations, existed for more than sixty years and included several members of the Blease and Griffith families. Eugene Satterwhite Blease (1877–1963), the cornerstone of the firm, was an active member of the South Carolina Bar from the year of his admission, 1898, until his death, with the exception of the eight years he spent as a justice on the South Carolina Supreme Court. Blease also practiced law with his brothers, Coleman Livingston Blease and Harry H. Blease, during the early years of his career. In 1924 he formed a partnership with Steve Campbell Griffith (1898–1972) that continued, with the exception of the years Blease served on the state Supreme Court, until Griffith was elected a circuit court judge in 1945. Blease then invited C. Emile Saint-Amand (1907–1992), an attorney practicing in Gaffney and the grandson of Blease’s sister Cornelia and her husband, Julius Eugene Saint-Amand, to join him as a law partner. This arrangement continued until 1953 when Saint-Amand returned to Gaffney. Steve Campbell Griffith, Jr. (b. 1933) and Eugene Cannon Griffith (1936–1990), both sons of Blease’s long-time law partner, joined the firm immediately after graduating from the University of South Carolina Law School. Steve was a member from 1959 until 1965 and Eugene joined in 1962. Also associated with the law firm was E. Maxcy Stone (1918–1978)

who was a member of the partnership of Blease, Griffith, and Stone in the early 1960s.

This collection also includes an important group of papers that belonged to Coleman L. Blease. After Coleman died in 1942, Eugene Blease gathered some of his brother's books and papers and preserved them with his own files. Coleman Blease filled diaries with brief, often one-word, comments about his daily activities. Some of these volumes survive, including ones for 1895, 1901, 1902, and 1904. Volumes for 1905–1919 are missing, but the ones for 1920 through 1938 are all present. Scattered letters, documents, and speeches document Cole Blease's campaign for reelection as governor in 1912. The collection also includes scrapbooks of newspaper clippings that chronicle Cole Blease's numerous political campaigns, including his successful runs for governor in 1910 and United States Senator in 1924.

In the 1920s and 1930s, the Blease family of Newberry County claimed a distinction unique in American politics: one member, Coleman Livingston Blease, served in the United States Senate (1925–1931); his half-brother, Eugene Satterwhite Blease, was an associate justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court (1926–1931) and was elevated to the position of Chief Justice (1931–1934); and another half-brother, Cannon Gary Blease, was sheriff of Newberry County (1912–1936). David Duncan Wallace, in his *History of South Carolina* (New York, 1934), asserted, "this is the only instance in South Carolina, or any other State in the United States where three brothers filled...at the same time the high offices of United States Senator, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and high sheriff." More important, perhaps, was the considerable influence that the brothers wielded in South Carolina politics during the first half of the twentieth century.

The Bleases were sons of Henry Horatio Blease (1832–1892) and, in the case of Coleman Livingston, Henry's first wife, Mary Ann Livingston. The mother of Eugene and Cannon was Elizabeth Satterwhite, Henry's second wife. A total of thirteen children were born of both marriages. Of the sons, three became lawyers: Coleman Livingston, Henry Horatio, and Eugene Satterwhite. Coleman was educated in the local schools of Newberry, attended Newberry College through the end of his junior year (1886), briefly attended the University of South Carolina, and eventually

was awarded a bachelor of laws degree by Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., in 1889. Admitted to the South Carolina bar on 30 May 1889, he practiced law with his brother Henry Horatio (Harry) in Newberry during the 1890s. Coleman L. Blease, one of the state's most controversial politicians, served as a member of the state House of Representatives (1890–1891, 1892–1893, 1899–1900) and Senate (1905–1906, 1907–1908), and was elected governor in 1910 and reelected in 1912. He also served one term in the United States Senate (1925–1931). Henry Horatio Blease (1865–1921) was schooled in Newberry, attended The Citadel and Newberry College, and gained admission to the Bar in 1886, a year before earning a law degree from Georgetown University. Harry and Coleman practiced in Newberry until 1893 when Harry moved to Anderson. Harry later relocated to Staunton, Virginia, and continued to practice there until about 1917 when he returned to Newberry and joined Eugene in a partnership, Blease & Blease. Eugene Blease, although not as politically prominent as his brother Coleman, was also involved in public service. He was elected to the House of Representatives from Saluda County and served during 1901–1902. Later he was elected to the state Senate and served for a portion of the 1905–1906 session, resigning after the end of the second session (9 January–17 February 1906).

The other family associated with the firm, the Griffiths, were, like the Bleases, natives of South Carolina and members of a family prominent in law and politics in Saluda (Old Edgefield) County. Steve Campbell Griffith was born 13 October 1898 in Saluda County, the son of Richard Coleman Griffith (1850–1939) and Mary Alcum Campbell Griffith (1854–1937). The Griffiths were parents of twelve children. Three of their sons, Jefferson Davis (1889–1973), Steve Campbell, and Joseph (1903–1943), were attorneys. Like the Bleases, the Griffith sons were involved in state politics. Jefferson Davis, after his graduation from Wofford College in 1910, attended the University of South Carolina School of Law, earned a degree in 1915, and then settled in Saluda where he practiced law. He served in the South Carolina Senate for two terms, 1917–1918, and 1919–1920, and was later solicitor of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit (1937–1953). Steve Campbell attended the public schools in Saluda County, the University of South Carolina, where he was a member of the Students' Army Training Corps from 1 October until 14 December 1918,

and Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., where he earned an LL.B. in 1922 and an LL.M. in 1923. He returned to South Carolina, was admitted to the Bar, and in 1924 joined Eugene S. Blease as a partner in his Newberry law practice. For two years they worked together, but after Blease was elected to the state Supreme Court, Griffith practiced alone. When Blease resigned from the court in 1934, the two men resumed their partnership and worked together until 1945. Steve was also elected to the General Assembly from Newberry County in a special election in 1943 and qualified on 11 January 1944. He won reelection in November 1944, but served for only a brief period of the January–May 1945 session as a result of his election, on 11 April 1945, as Judge of the Eighth Judicial Circuit of South Carolina. He resigned his House seat on 4 May 1945 and held the judgeship until he retired in 1967. The youngest Griffith son, Joseph, attended the public schools in Saluda County and continued his education at Zoar Academy and the University of South Carolina (1923–1927). He was admitted to the Bar on 16 June 1927 and then joined his brother Jefferson Davis in his law practice at Saluda. He represented Saluda County in the House of Representatives (1931–1932) and in the state Senate (1933–1934, 1935–1936). The Griffith brothers' nephew, William Jennings Bryan Dorn (1916–2005), the son of their sister Pearl Griffith and her husband, Thomas Elbert Dorn, although not an attorney, spent much of his life involved in public service. He was elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives in 1938 and served one term (1939–1940) before a successful run for a state Senate seat from Greenwood County in 1940. Although legally too young to serve in that body, he was nonetheless elected and subsequently seated by the Senate on 14 January 1941, after the rejection of a protest of his eligibility. After service in the United States Army Air Corps during World War II (June 1942–October 1945), Dorn returned to Greenwood and was elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1946 from the Third Congressional District. With the exception of one term, 1949–1950, the voters of his district reelected him to Congress in every election until he retired in 1974. Correspondence from these members of the Blease and Griffith families, as well as numerous other relatives, can be found in this collection.

Unfortunately, the papers from Eugene Blease's early life were either lost or destroyed. A few scattered letters remain from 1911 and 1912 but most of these are routine letters to or from clients; however, beginning with 1922, the files of the law firm appear to be substantially complete. Eugene Blease apparently destroyed some of his papers in his later life because he commented in several letters to friends that he had purged his files, but there is no evidence to suggest that he did this in a systematic way, or that he read all his files and pulled out selected material. The paucity of pre-1922 material probably means that he simply threw away the earlier files.

Because letters from the first forty years of his life do not exist in this collection, that period of Eugene Blease's life is difficult to reconstruct. Both Yates Snowden in his *History of South Carolina* (1920) and David Duncan Wallace in *The History of South Carolina* (1934) supply brief, and sometimes unreliable, sketches of Blease's life. A more recent work, Thomas H. Pope's *The History of Newberry County, South Carolina; Volume Two: 1860–1990*, provides the best available biographical information about Eugene Blease. Pope, an attorney, knew Eugene Blease very well, both professionally and as a neighbor, and was able to assess accurately his ability as an attorney: "He was the recognized leader of the Newberry Bar for thirty years. A safe and wise counselor, adept at analyzing a problem and finding its solution, he was a great lawyer....Tenacious, industrious, and possessed of a truly phenomenal memory of names and cases, he was a foe worthy of his steel."

From the three sources named, it is possible to construct an outline of Eugene Blease's formative years. He was born just after the end of Reconstruction in South Carolina, the son of a man who served as a local magistrate and was, according to the 1880 census, a "hotel keeper." Blease's grandfather, Thomas Wainwright Blease, from an English family, originally lived in Edgefield, but settled in Newberry before the Civil War and apparently prospered. Perhaps it was their father's association with the law as a magistrate that influenced three of the Blease sons to pursue careers as lawyers. Eugene attended the Newberry public schools and the Newberry Academy before completing his education at Newberry College where he graduated in 1895. After two years as a teacher, he was elected superintendent of education for Saluda County. While teaching school, he

read law and was admitted to the Bar on 16 December 1898. He also met and fell in love with Saluda Belle Herbert, the daughter of James W. and Emma Smith Herbert, members of a prosperous farm family originally from the Mendenhall section of Newberry County. Ludie, as she was called, was born 8 May 1875. The couple married in 1897 and in May 1898, a daughter, also named Saluda Belle, was born. Maude E. Herbert, one of Ludie's sisters, had married a respected business man, Joe Ben Coleman of Saluda, and had several children before she died in 1903. Sometime after his wife's death, Joe Ben Coleman and his sister-in-law, Saluda Blease, became intimate. She confessed her infidelity to her husband when confronted at her father's house where she had been living after leaving the family home. After hearing his wife's admission the afternoon of 7 September 1905, Eugene walked downtown, found Joe Ben Coleman inside his store, and demanded that Coleman leave town immediately. According to witnesses, Blease threatened to kill Coleman but was restrained briefly, then broke away and, in a fit of rage, shot his brother-in-law on the street. Coleman died within a few hours and Blease was arrested and jailed.

Because of the Blease brothers' prominence in state politics (both were sitting state senators) and because of the sensational circumstances surrounding the incident, news of the shooting spread quickly, with newspapers across the state and region reporting the details of the incident. Even *The Atlanta Constitution* carried the story on 9 September and noted, "Blease is a brother of State Senator Cole J [sic] Blease, of Newberry county, who some time ago announced that he would run for governor on the dispensary platform." The *Newberry Observer* printed a statement prepared by Blease two days after the shooting: "The death of Mr. Joe Ben Coleman on yesterday was caused on account of the discovery by me of intimate relations existing between Mr. Coleman and Mrs. Blease." The paper's editor, after recounting Blease's association with Newberry, observed, "he is a man of peaceable disposition and pleasant address—not the kind of man to engage in deeds of violence."

The coroner held a formal inquest in the court house on Saturday, 16 September, but the Saluda newspaper refused to print the details of the testimony because "some testimony was what some people would consider sensational, but as it involves the peace and future of highly

respected people and the character of a woman[,] we honestly feel that it has no place in a family paper.” The editor did note, “Mr. Blease has made the bond required, \$3,000, and was liberated on Monday afternoon.” Blease was represented at the bond hearing before associate justice of the Supreme Court, E.B. Gary, by one of his attorneys, James H. Tillman, who himself had been charged with, but found not guilty of, the murder of N.G. Gonzales in 1903.

Blease was tried in Saluda County in April 1906 for murder. Aply represented by attorneys J. William Thurmond, N.G. Evans, C.J. Ramage, Eugene W. Able, his law partner, B.W. Crouch, and Daniel & Daniel, Blease testified in his own defense after the solicitor outlined the state’s case against him. In front of his mother, sister, brothers Cannon and Colie, and his seven-year-old daughter, Blease recounted his version of the events that had precipitated the shooting. He emphasized his friendship with the slain man “and the appalling weight of shame and dishonor the information of his wife’s infidelity brought him.” Upon leaving the stand, Blease “swooned” and had to be carried to the jury room where he waited for the verdict. The lawyers for the prosecution and defense spent five hours before the jury, composed of twelve married men, before the panel retired to determine a verdict. Headlines in the 13 April edition of the *Newberry Observer* proclaimed the result: “Eugene Blease Acquitted—The Jury of His County Justified Him in Taking the Life of the Man That Ruined His Home.” Clearly, his fellow citizens found Blease blameless, due to the circumstances, and welcomed him back into the community. Less than a month after his acquittal, he was elected president of the Democratic Convention of Saluda County, and also selected as the delegate to the state convention. Even so, there were consequences to his actions. He resigned his seat in the State Senate before his trial; he moved from Saluda back to Newberry a year after his acquittal; and he divorced his wife. When Blease returned to Newberry, he brought his young daughter with him and they lived with his mother, Elizabeth, who undoubtedly assumed a major role in rearing her granddaughter. Blease’s wife, in the meantime, lived with her parents. After the death of her father, who held the office of mayor of Saluda when he died in 1910, and of her mother in 1911, she lived with her sister, Pearl Padget, and brother-in-law, James B. Padget. When Saluda died on 29

August 1923, the *Columbia State* recorded in her obituary: "Mrs. Blease was a charter member of St. Paul's Methodist church, being a woman of many fine traits of character and devoted to the work of her church." She was buried in the Travis Park cemetery in Saluda.

When Eugene Blease decided to rebuild his life and career in his home town, among the people who had know him his entire life, he made a wise decision. He enjoyed the support of his family and friends and was able to rehabilitate his reputation. He joined, in April 1907, with Henry Herbert Evans (1852-1925), an established attorney and office holder, in a partnership that lasted for several years. Blease also served as town attorney, and in that capacity co-authored, with J. Claude Dominick, *Ordinances of the Town of Newberry, South Carolina: Revised and Codified in the Year 1910 under the Direction of the Town Council* (Newberry, S.C., 1910). When Eugene's half-brother Harry H. Blease returned to Newberry from Virginia, the men formed a partnership that lasted until Eugene moved, in 1917, to Houston, Texas, where he practiced law for a brief period. After he returned to Newberry, he was elected the town's mayor in December 1919 and served one term. Eugene's past had either been forgotten by the voters of Newberry or his crime of passion, committed in defense of his family while a young man, was deemed justifiable and did not affect his ability to hold public office. He was also the brother of Governor Coleman Blease whose political style had attracted a large following of passionate supporters. Governor Blease's charisma benefitted the less flamboyant younger brother: many of Eugene's potential law clients asserted their allegiance to "Coley" or "Colie," as his followers frequently referred to him, in their letters asking Eugene for help in legal matters.

It was also during the 1910s that Eugene remarried. Although divorce was not legal in South Carolina before 1949, he evidently secured a divorce from Saluda in another state, perhaps soon after he was acquitted in the Coleman murder case. Eugene married Urbana Neel of Newberry County sometime before 1918. Banna was the daughter of Thomas M. Neel, a farmer who lived in Floyd Township, Newberry County, and his wife, Emma C. Neel. Several members of the Neel family are represented by correspondence in the collection.

Another change in Blease's home life occurred when his daughter, Saluda, married John Ryon [Rion] Workman (1892–1968) of Laurens County, probably in 1915. On 9 September 1916, a son, Eugene Blease Workman, named in honor of Saluda's father, was born to the young couple. The baby lived less than two years and died 17 June 1918 in Newberry where he was buried in the family plot at Rosemont Cemetery. Another son, Jack Blease Workman, born 17 December 1919, was Blease's only grandchild. After the death of Saluda Workman in 1926, Eugene and Banna took Jack into their home.

The death of Harry H. Blease, Eugene's half-brother and law partner, on 18 March 1921 caused Eugene to reorganize his law practice. He associated with his former law partner in Saluda, Eugene W. Able, and with Jeff D. Griffith and operated as "Able, Blease & Griffith, Attorneys and Counsellors, Saluda, S.C.," which enabled Blease to once again have a presence in Saluda County. Blease continued to practice alone in Newberry and kept busy with minor lawsuits and the other routine tasks of a small-town lawyer: checking land titles and executing deeds, writing wills and attending to estate matters, and seeking to collect money from people who had borrowed money and signed promissory notes. Blease did attempt to eliminate one kind of business that was not profitable. On 10 December 1921, he responded to a request by the Bureau of Credits in Richmond, Virginia, "since the death of my brother I have about quit handling collection business." He recommended that the company contact another Newberry attorney, Neal W. Workman. After her husband's death, Harry's widow, Marie Blease, moved to Washington, D.C., to allow her son to pursue a law degree. She relied on Eugene to look after her Newberry property and to settle Harry's estate.

Even though he was always busy with his law practice, Eugene found public service irresistible. In a letter of 17 December 1921 to Eugene Able, Blease, after mentioning some routine legal matter, informed his associate that he would "turn over the office of mayor on Tuesday night and begin to get ready to go to the Legislature. After Legislature adjourns I will be just a lawyer, thank goodness!" Eugene had decided to run for an open seat in the state House of Representatives created by the death of George S. Mower on 25 July 1921. He ran against, and defeated, his former law partner, H.H. Evans, in the contest. His duties in the House began on 10

January 1922 and continued until the middle of March. He spent each week in Columbia, attending the legislative sessions, and returned to Newberry on Saturday to look after his business responsibilities. In a letter to fellow legislator W.R. Bradford of Fort Mill, written 22 May 1922, Eugene noted, "I am still undecided as to running for the House. I really would prefer not to run on account of my business. Yet, I have the honest desire to try to serve if my friends think I can be of service." Eugene did decide to run for another term, perhaps because he thought his election would enable him to be of help to his brother Cole who was once again campaigning for the governorship. In a 9 September 1922 letter to a friend reluctant to support Colie, Eugene explained his own political objectives and also asked for support for his brother. "I have been elected to the Legislature," he explained, "and I hope to be able to do something down there for our people and especially I want to be able to do something about cutting down taxes....They have gone up since my brother went out of the Governor's office more than three times what they were." Eugene argued that Colie, as governor, "cannot reduce taxes by himself, but if one-third of the Legislature...will help him he can reduce them." Colie did not attract enough voters to win the primary election and, as Eugene wrote to Marie Blease in Washington, "Colie's defeat, of course, was a disappointment." "Under all the circumstances he made a magnificent race," Eugene averred, and "he would have been elected had the women voters on his side enrolled and voted."

Eugene's political fortunes in 1922 were more favorable than his brother's. He reported to his cousin E.B. Blease, in a letter of 4 September 1922: "I got a handsome vote for the Legislature, receiving four out of five votes out of the county and carried forty-six out of forty-nine boxes." The 1923 legislative session, however, proved to be a difficult one, because, as Blease explained to fellow-attorney Jim Cothran of Greenville, in a 27 March 1923 letter, "the trouble was that so many of us knew so little about taxation." Blease also lamented the fact "that some newspapers, for reasons which I think are obvious, try to place me before the people as an obstructionist." In reality, Blease claimed, "I only insisted that important legislation should not be passed without the members having at least twelve hours to look at the proposals." His response to Mrs. W.L. Daniel of Greenwood, who had asked him to support legislation that would fund the

construction of a women's dormitory at the University of South Carolina, demonstrated that Blease opposed any legislation that required a tax increase. While promising to "vote as I think will be for the best interest of the state and the women," he remarked "that right at this time we ought to be careful about putting taxes on our people for any kind of new buildings anywhere." In a letter to a Sumter friend, Miss Mamie E. Gunter, written 3 March 1923, Blease explained his vote in opposition to the "Woman's Building." "I had made up my mind not to vote for any appropriations at this session of the Legislature for any new buildings," he remarked, "unless the same was absolutely necessary to take care of crazy people or convicts." The bill passed, in Blease's opinion, because of the effective lobbying of women supporters who were "putting flowers in the button holes of the members." Blease voted against the bill, but did not speak against it in the House. Even so, "my good friends, Mrs. Cathcart, et al, would hardly speak to me yesterday, but I am not going to get mad with them." Although Blease felt that he was slighting his law practice while in Columbia each year during the January–March session, he clearly enjoyed the experience. As he related to another member of the House, Eugene W. Dabbs, Jr., of Mayesville, in a letter written 13 December 1923, "I am looking forward with much pleasure to the coming session." Even "with all our little differences there, it is a great thing to know and come in contact with the members of the General Assembly."

Blease attempted to alleviate the impact that his absence from Newberry had on his law practice by bringing in another attorney to help with the workload. He invited Steve C. Griffith, the younger brother of his Saluda associate, Jeff D. Griffith, and a recent graduate of Georgetown University, to join him. On 5 February 1924, Blease wrote Steve's father, Richard C. Griffith, whom he addressed as "Uncle Dick," telling him, "I am mighty glad Steve has come to work with me." He explained: "When I feel that I am giving him a chance, I cannot help but recall how, when I was a boy, you used to do all you could for me. I want to tell you, too, that he is going to make good. He has already shown that he has got the making of a good lawyer in him."

Two months later, Steve wrote his brother Jeff about a law case and reported, "Mr. Blease has not had much chance to catch up with his work since coming from the Legislature." Perhaps it was his inability, even with

Steve Griffith's help, to keep up with his expanding law practice that convinced Blease not to seek another term in the legislature in 1924. He was also very much involved in Cole's campaign for a seat in the United States Senate that year. Just before the primary election in September, Eugene wrote letters to many of his friends asking for their votes. He wrote a Saluda friend, on 5 September 1924: "There is no doubt that [Cole's] campaign this year is worthy of the best traditions of South Carolina, and I feel that the manhood which had enabled him to overcome the bitterness and prejudices of the past, coupled with his unusual ability, will make him a great Senator."

Cole Blease won his race against James F. Byrnes and began his six-year term in Washington in January 1925. Eugene quickly discovered that his decision not to seek a seat in the legislature opened up other opportunities. Acting Chief Justice of the State Supreme Court R.C. Watts invited Eugene, in a letter of 4 September 1924, to serve as special judge for the fall session of the Court of Common Pleas in either Lexington or Edgefield. Eugene agreed and chose the October term in Edgefield County, a responsibility that he anticipated "with some fear and trembling," he wrote his Edgefield friend Samuel McGowan Simkins. "You know Edgefield was my father's birthplace," he continued, "to me it has always been a sacred spot." Eugene apparently enjoyed his brief tenure as a judge and the interaction with other attorneys, most of whom were his friends and associates.

With Senator Cole Blease firmly established in Washington, some of the friends of the Bleases in South Carolina thought it time to have another Blease in the governor's office. In a letter of 25 June 1925, written in response to such a suggestion from Dr. George W. Rouse of Charleston, Eugene professed: "I am not crazy about being a candidate for Governor." He acknowledged that many people had urged him to consider the possibility and he admitted "that if I ever expect to offer that 1926 might be the time." His uncertainty, he explained, was because he was "very much in love with my profession and I hesitate about getting out of it for two or four years and perhaps longer."

Eugene confided to the Rev. Sam Danner, in a 6 August 1925 letter, that if he decided to run for office, he "would have a good chance to win." He agreed with Danner's assertion that he "would get the greater part of

the support of those who have been helping my brother in his races,” but before Eugene could decide about the race for governor, an attractive alternative presented itself. Associate Justice John Hardin Marion of the South Carolina Supreme Court announced, in late summer, that he intended to retire from the bench, effective 1 January 1926. Immediately thereafter, many of Eugene’s friends urged him to consider that position. In a 3 September 1925 letter, Cole reported a conversation he had had with Congressman Butler Hare a few days before. Hare “thinks you can easily be elected Governor but that your chances for the Supreme Court are equally as good..., and he believes that that position will suit you better...,” Cole recounted. When Eugene replied to his brother on 12 September, he frankly explained his feelings about seeking another public office. He knew that office holding was detrimental to the success of his business. “I started to get behind in my law business when I was mayor and the time spent in the Legislature and in campaigns afterward got me father behind,” he admitted. He also noted that the summer of 1925 was the busiest he had ever experienced and he had not been able to “catch up with all old work and get ready for the new work of the fall.” Mounting a campaign for either office would make it even more difficult to stay current with the demands of his law office. Eugene also acknowledged that he had “no great ambition” for the governorship, partly because he would not wish to do “anything which might be injurious to your political welfare of the future.” On the other hand, Eugene believed that “it might be difficult for me to be elected Associate Justice” since he was not personally acquainted with many of the new members of the legislature.

By the end of October, Eugene had decided to actively campaign for the vacancy on the Supreme Court. He enlisted the aid of his brothers in a carefully coordinated letter-writing effort that was intended to reach, on multiple levels, the members of the state legislature who would elect the new associate justice in January 1926. From Washington, Senator Blease sent letters to seventy-four senators and representatives asking for a promise to vote for Eugene in the upcoming contest. He passed along the replies he received to Eugene. On 25 November, Eugene wrote B.R. Tillman, the son of the former governor and United States Senator, thanking him for his “interest in trying to get me promoted to the Supreme

Court.” “I did not know Colie had written you,” he related, “but I did feel all the time that you would help me.” Cole used the fight to elect his brother to the court as an opportunity to settle old scores of his own. He wrote a Greenville confidant, Riley J. Rowley, on 13 November, “I did not expect much from Greenville as you know how bitter that crowd has been....We have licked them, and we can do it again.” He also threatened to retaliate “if Greenville does not give... [Eugene] any votes and McKissick runs for Governor...” “I will give him Hell,” Cole continued, “because I expect to make some speeches all over the State next summer, not political speeches, but you know those Sunday School and every day school and picnic talks, Old Soldier’s reunion, etc., and a fellow can quietly do more harm or good there than he can in the straight political fights.” Cannon G. Blease, in his capacity as sheriff of Newberry County, wrote letters, dated 2 November 1925, to almost one hundred people, including all the county sheriffs in the state, asking them to speak to their “Senator and Representatives as soon as you can” in support of his brother’s candidacy. Steve C. Griffith, Eugene’s law partner, also did his part by sending letters, dated 5 November, to seventy-six people scattered around the state. By the middle of November, the Blease camp counted “almost enough written pledges...to put [Eugene] across on the first ballot,” Cole informed a correspondent on 13 November. Even so, the Bleases continued their efforts to garner as many pledges of support as possible before the actual election. Eugene enlisted Lexington attorney and friend George Bell Timmerman to contact uncommitted members of the General Assembly in behalf of his candidacy. Eugene, in a letter of 7 November, suggested that Timmerman should “work on any...members of the General Assembly...you think you have influence with.” J. William Thurmond and a host of other Blease supporters also wrote letters on their own initiative to members of the legislature who were undecided or wavering in their support. The organized campaign that Eugene Blease and his brothers waged was far superior to the efforts by the other candidate for the position, Isaac Hamilton Hunt, a member of the House from Newberry. When the election was held before a joint session of the General Assembly on 14 January 1926, Blease more than doubled the vote for his opponent, 103 to 47. Blease’s term would expire on 1 July 1932, the date

for the end of Judge Marion's term. State Senator John Gates Stabler (1871–1940) from St. Matthews was elected a week later to fill a second vacant seat on the Supreme Court.

Among the dozens of letters and telegrams of congratulations that Eugene received in the days following his election to the court, one from a fellow lawyer in Laurens, R.E. Babb of Simpson, Cooper & Babb, summed up the sentiments that many other friends had expressed, that Eugene Blease possessed the qualities and experience necessary for the bench: "Your intimate touch with the affairs of State gives you that broad outlook that every Judge should have. Your knowledge of the law gives to you that sense of justice which will enable you to render just and righteous decisions. Your contact with the individual citizens of the State gives you that sympathetic knowledge of their problems which will afford you that poise whereby you will render justice in mercy and with a full realization of its effect on individual conduct and responsibility."

The new associate justices joined the other members of the Supreme Court to begin the work for the year on 1 February. Chief Justice Eugene B. Gary organized the work of the court, and after hearing the cases before the Court one week of each month for nine months (summer months excepted) in Columbia, the justices returned to their homes to write their opinions. The six justices lived at different towns. Chief Justice Gary was a resident of Abbeville; Justice R.C. Watts lived in Laurens; Justice Thomas P. Cothran lived in Greenville; and the other newly elected justice, John G. Stabler, resided in St. Matthews. Blease wrote his first opinion in a child custody case and informed Chief Justice Gary on 26 February: "I have made this my first opinion for the reason, as I frankly confess to you, that I am especially desirous that I may say hereafter that in my first opinion I had the concurrence of the able Chief Justice of this State." Once a justice wrote an opinion in a case assigned to him, he would then forward that to the next justice on the list. That justice, if he concurred, would send the decision to the next justice who would follow the same procedure. If, however, a justice dissented, he would return the opinion to the judge who wrote it with the reasons for his dissent. A justice could also concur with the dissenting opinion of another justice. Since the justices involved in this process lived in various parts of the state, the time required to render a final verdict was often lengthy and the court always

worked with a significant backlog of cases. Because they were not able to discuss the issues involved in the cases they considered in person, their deliberations were conducted through correspondence with each other. Often, a judge would explain to another, in great detail, the reasoning behind his decision in a particular case. Lawyers all, the justices would, on occasion, argue too aggressively for a particular view of a case. R.O. Purdy, an attorney from Sumter who had previously served as a circuit court judge, was called into service and commissioned by the governor in March to sit with the court in place of the chief justice who was unable to attend because of illness. Purdy explained to Justice Blease why he disagreed with Blease's position, but then attempted to assure Blease that he had not acted with malice. "I never attempt to find fault however, with the others who differ with me," he observed, "and [when] expressing a difference, I try not to be dogmatic or to so express myself as to wound the feelings of the others to the slightest degree."

Justice Blease's first year on the bench was a very busy one. He explained to Marie Blease, in a letter of 16 November, "the work of the Supreme Court is much harder than I really thought it would be, although I was well aware that it was a difficult position." At the same time, he was "trying to get my old law business off of hand," he lamented, but he hoped to "catch up sometimes next year." Just before Thanksgiving, Eugene's only child, his daughter Saluda, died after an asthma attack at her home in Tampa, Florida. In a letter written 2 December 1926, the grieving father related the details of his daughter's death to his brother Harry's widow, Marie Blease, whose son Marion had died earlier in the year. Saluda, her husband, Rion Workman, and their son, Jack, had moved to Tampa a few years before in search of a climate that would lessen the impact of her illness. She had returned to Newberry for a seven-week visit during the previous summer, and when she left, Judge Blease thought "she seemed so much improved." Back in Tampa, however, the asthma attacks returned and she had to call her doctor the night of her death. He left after giving her a shot of morphine, she went to sleep, and her husband discovered that she had died early in the morning of 23 November. The body was returned to Newberry where the funeral was held on Thanksgiving Day, and she was buried in the family plot, close by her young son who had died in 1918. She was, according to her father, "more

beautiful in death than in life, although I always thought her particularly beautiful.” Rion had returned to his job in Tampa, Eugene informed Marie, but Jack stayed in Newberry where he had already started to school. The Bleases had built a new house earlier in the year and had plenty of room for their seven-year-old grandson.

Only a short time after his daughter’s death, Justice Blease learned of the death of Chief Justice Gary on 10 December 1926. In response to a letter from a friend who had suggested that Blease should be elevated to the vacant position, he wrote: “I will not be a candidate for the position of Chief Justice....” Instead, he supported Associate Justice Watts, a close personal friend, a judge for many years, and a man who, in Blease’s view, “has always stood for the rights of the people.” Associate Justice Watts was elected to that position in January 1927 and continued in office until April 1930, after which date he was no longer able to attend his court duties. To fill the seat of associate justice vacated by Chief Justice Watts, the General Assembly elected Jesse F. Carter of Bamberg in January 1927. Blease quickly established an effective working relationship with all of his Supreme Court colleagues. In praising fellow justice Thomas P. Cothran for writing a “great opinion” in *Ryan v. Bank* that “is so clear and simple to me now that I wonder why I did not think of some of the good principles of law which you have made use of,” he quoted Edgar Brown, who said, “the Supreme Court...could always find good reasons for deciding a case any way the court thought it should be decided.” He concluded his letter of 27 October 1927 to Judge Cothran with these words, “you helped very much to relieve my conscience in this case, and I thank you.” In another case, however, Blease was not as complimentary to Judge Cothran. In a case involving a railroad company, the justices had revised their written opinions several times. “I am frank to say,” Blease informed Cothran in a letter of 7 October 1927, “that I am getting somewhat tired of these writing contests....I think both of us have convinced the bench and bar that we can be at least *verbose*.” Justice Blease was convinced that the justices, because of the necessity of sending their written opinions around to each other, did a lot of unnecessary work. He explained his concern in a letter to Judge Cothran written 2 September 1927: “More and more, I think that our system of

handling cases is bad.” Blease, citing the case of *Simon v. Kirkpatrick*, suggested to Judge Cothran, “if you and I could have looked into this case together, I am sure I could have saved you, as well as myself, much time.” And time was important to the justices who had, in the summer of 1927, a backlog of two hundred cases waiting to be decided. Blease was, as he wrote Justice Stabler on 13 August 1927, “always far behind.” “I have yet 9 opinions of my own to fix up,” Blease explained, and “I have 10 opinions out in the hands of Judges Cothran and Carter, and I may have to do more work on those....” In fact Blease decided not to take any “real” vacation that summer “with the hope that I can go back to the Court in October with a clear deck.” Blease also suffered with physical ailments during the summer of 1927 that caused him considerable discomfort. In a letter to John E. Stanfield of 13 July 1927, Blease declined an invitation to speak at a barbecue in Aiken because of problems with his teeth and mouth. He had had all of his teeth extracted, save one, earlier in the spring and was using ill-fitted temporary plates. “It would be a difficult task for me to undertake to make a speech,” he explained; “sometimes, I can hardly understand myself....”

As a member of the judiciary, Blease could not practice law or even give advice to former clients, friends, or relatives on legal matters because, in theory, as he often explained when declining such requests, he could be called on to judge issues arising from cases he had been involved with. When he received letters requesting representation or advice, he politely declined. When friends asked for a recommendation for a job or help in securing a position, Blease would often oblige; however, he generally refrained from active efforts to help with political appointments. In those few instances when he did get involved, he typically passed along suggestions to his brother and asked Cole to use his influence. On 10 February 1928, Eugene wrote Cole that their mutual friend, state Senator Herbert H. Gross, had solicited their help with an appointment to a vacant position on the state tax commission. Of all the candidates vying for the appointment, “Gross and [Robert E.] McCaslan supported me for the Supreme Court while [Daniel L.] McLaurin opposed me,” Eugene informed his brother. “Senator Gross has usually been with you,” he continued, “but as he expresses it himself[,] he strayed off in your last contest, for which he seems to be regretful.” Eugene then asked for a letter from his brother

with his thoughts relative to the appointment of Senator Gross “that I can show the Governor confidentially...” “I, of course, will take care of it, as I expect you to care for what I am now writing you.” In another situation involving an appointment to a federal judgeship, Justice Blease was more open in his support. On 27 April 1929, Blease sent a letter of endorsement in support of J. Lyles Glenn’s appointment as United States District Judge for South Carolina to United States Senator John J. Blaine, a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Even though he had originally supported Fred H. Dominick for the position, he now wanted to see Mr. Glenn, President Herbert Hoover’s nominee for the judgeship, confirmed by Congress. “Solicitor Glenn is a lawyer of splendid ability; he is active and energetic in the practice of his profession,” Blease wrote.

The news of Chief Justice Watts’ death on 13 October 1930 at his home in Laurens was not a surprise to the other justices. His health had steadily declined since the spring and he had been unable to participate in the court’s deliberations since April. His place on the court had been filled, temporarily, by Acting Associate Justice Clinton T. Graydon of Columbia who was present at the May term and later, in the fall, by Acting Associate Justice M.L. Smith of Camden. Perhaps Judge Blease had already considered the possibility of succeeding Chief Justice Watts. Clearly, many of his friends and supporters had such an idea and moved quickly after Judge Watts’ death to push Judge Blease’s candidacy. On 16 October, James Swinton Whaley, member of the House of Representatives from Charleston County, wrote to say that Blease was “my first choice for it, if you want...[to be Chief Justice].” “A number of the members of the General Assembly and of the Bar have been complimentary enough to insist that I permit myself to be placed in nomination for Chief Justice,” Blease replied two days later. Blease also promised to make a decision “within the next few days...” He assured Whaley that “my main desire...is to best serve my State.” Before the month was out, Eugene had decided to seek the position and all the Bleases were hard at work on the campaign. From Washington, Senator Blease sent letters to members of the General Assembly, touting his brother’s hard work on the bench and success in reducing the backlog of cases. “When he went on the court, it took nearly

two years to get a case heard,” he asserted. “Now, the ordinary appeal may be heard in six months.” Sheriff Blease wrote Ransome J. Williams, House member from Marion County, on 30 October, “we have been getting pretty good news as to the race of my brother...for Chief Justice.” “The indications right now are that we have more than 100 votes in sight, which is more than enough to elect,” he affirmed. Steve Griffith also actively campaigned for his friend and former law partner. He sent out letters to members of the legislature with a copy of an editorial from the *Newberry Herald and News* of 28 October that had addressed the tradition of elevating the senior associate justice to chief justice when that office became vacant. Some people, including Judge Cothran, Blease’s strongest competitor for the vacancy, argued that the senior associate justice should head the court upon the death of the Chief Justice; however, as the writer of the editorial pointed out, Judge Cothran, as a member of the House of Representatives from Greenville, had voted for the elevation of Judge Ira B. Jones over the senior member of the court, Judge Gary, in January 1909. Thomas M. Boulware, an attorney from Barnwell, responded to Griffith’s letter and the arguments set forth in the editorial with the comment, “I was having considerable trouble with the supposed rule of seniority.” When the General Assembly voted to elect the Chief Justice in January 1931, apparently very few of the legislators considered the seniority tradition; Judge Blease defeated his senior fellow justice by a vote of 134 to 32. The subsequent election to fill the associate justice position Blease had vacated, however, brought out nine candidates and required sixty-four ballots before Milledge L. Bonham of Anderson was selected in February on the sixty-fourth ballot. Judge Bonham, who had served as judge of the Tenth Circuit since 1924, qualified for his office on 17 February and immediately started to work. When Chief Justice Blease received a copy of Bonham’s first opinion on 3 March, he responded in a letter the next day by gently reminding the new justice of the proper form for an opinion. Bonham’s first effort, Blease wrote, was “in much better shape than the first one I sent out as an Associate Justice.” “Judge Cothran sent mine back for many changes,” he recalled.

As the new Chief Justice, Blease found himself in a situation that could have proven difficult. Judge Thomas Cothran, his defeated opponent for chief justice, was still on the court and the two men had to work together in

order for the court to run smoothly. There had been some friction between the two in 1929 over their inability to agree on a case, *Bank v. McNair*, that the two of them had spent much time considering. Blease wrote Cothran on 23 March 1929: "I like to agree with you because I know you are a man of great ability, but it is impossible to agree with you in a case when you change your view so often." Cothran, apparently offended by his colleague's criticism, responded with a sharp letter on 25 March. Blease, not ready to drop the issue, let Cothran know, in his letter of 28 March, "I have a hard time, however, getting along with one who insists on never letting me have my way." "The truth of the matter is that you and I are right smart alike when it comes to stubbornness," Blease asserted, "but you are just a little more so, at least, that is my opinion of you." Cothran's opinions also brought criticism from other members of the court. In a 23 January letter to Judge Blease, Cothran insisted he did not write his opinions with "a stubborn disposition to disagree but for the purpose of expressing my honest convictions in the hope that it will bring about at least a discussion of the disputed points." That discussion, however, rarely happened. Cothran exempted Blease "from the charge of indifference" directed at the other justices. "There is nothing in the conduct of the official work that has caused me more discomfort than to have been regarded as a chronic dissenter," Cothran lamented. By 1932 Judge Cothran's health began to fail, and he was unable to participate in the work of the court for much of the year. When he returned to work, Judge Blease remarked in a letter of 16 January 1933 to Judge Carter, "Judge Cothran, while attending the Court a little each day...was in a bad shape....I am afraid the poor old gentleman is done, so far as any worldly work is concerned." Cothran died 11 April 1934, but in the last year of his life, he was never able to work, and his brother, Greenville attorney W. Coulter Cothran, often sat with the court as acting associate justice.

Justice Blease had other pressing concerns to deal with in addition to supervising the court's work and reading and writing opinions. South Carolina's economy had been hard hit by the economic depression that had settled upon the nation. Bank failures and decreasing tax revenue for local and state governments took a toll on the financial resources available to individuals as well as the state. Judge and Mrs. Blease lost more than \$1,000.00 deposited in the Newberry branch of the Peoples State Bank

when that bank failed in January 1932. Blease also had difficulty collecting either interest or principal from the dozens of people who had borrowed money from him or Mrs. Blease. In April 1932, the General Assembly, cut the salaries of all judges by fifteen percent, from \$7,500 to \$6,375.

Judge Blease was unanimously reelected for another ten-year term as Chief Justice by the General Assembly in January 1934; however, for reasons that are difficult to uncover, he decided to announce his retirement from the bench less than three months later. Even though the resignation letter he sent to Governor Ibra C. Blackwood was dated 28 March 1934, Blease decided that he would actually step down on 8 October. As he explained to the governor, he announced his decision in March "to give the General Assembly the opportunity to elect my successor at the present session." The actual day of retirement, 8 October, would coincide with the first day of the court's fall session. It was also his expectation that all cases heard by the justices through the June term could be determined during the summer recess. Blease specifically cited, in his letter to Governor Blackwood, the state of his health as the reason for his retirement. The "immense amount of reading" required put an unbearable strain on his eyes, and he was not, he wrote in a letter of 17 September 1934 to Senator J.M. Wise of Chester, able financially "to have employed a competent young lawyer to do much reading for me, making necessary notes as to evidence and other matters, so as to reduce some of the laborious details" and allow him to continue in office. "I knew that if I continued much longer, there would be a complete breakdown," he continued. In the final analysis, his greatest concern was, he confessed, "I did not wish to fail." "To have concluded with failure, what I am vain enough to think was a fairly successful career, would have been embarrassing to me," he admitted.

Blease was flooded with letters in March and April as the news of his decision spread across the state and nation, and again in October, after he officially stepped down. Many of the early letters begged the Judge to reconsider his decision; others suggested that he think about entering the race for governor. In responding to the scores of well-wishers and also to his fellow attorneys and colleagues on the bench, Blease was invariably gracious and kind. Even to historian David Duncan Wallace who expressed his "sincere sorrow," in a letter of 29 March, upon learning "that

your health is such as to compel your resignation," before touting his own robust health, Blease was gentle. "It seems strange that such a strong looking man, in the prime of life, and almost three years younger than myself, should be so unfortunate," Wallace opined. Wallace noted his own wonderful endurance under hard work that had enabled him to complete his "almost six years' task on the history of the State...." Blease, in his reply of 7 April, thanked Wallace for his "good letter" and expressed the hope, "you will hold up in your health." "Let me suggest that you must not do as I have done," he cautioned, "try to do too much." When Edgar A. Brown wrote Blease from Barnwell on 12 October, he lamented Blease's departure as a "great loss to the Judiciary of South Carolina." But he also touched on a future that Blease also wished for: "It is my sincere hope that you will find the return to private practice most remunerative; that the work won't be so hard and the income will be about ten times that which you have been receiving on the Bench." Salaries for the Supreme Court Justices had continued to decline, even though the judges had quietly lobbied members of the General Assembly during the 1934 session for consideration of their situation. When the appropriations bill was finalized in late April, each justice was slated to receive \$3,600 per year, with only a slight increase of \$90 in the expense allowance for each one. At a time when Blease was having great difficulty collecting interest on the money he had loaned, it is likely that financial considerations played a major role in his plans for the future.

Although Judge Blease wanted to clear his desk of all work related to the court before he stepped down in October, he still found time, in late summer, to help with his brother Cole's campaign for governor. On 3 September 1934, he wrote James Brant of Allendale, thanking him for supporting Cole in the first primary and asking him to help "get his friends to be sure to turn out on election day." A few days later Blease wrote his fellow jurist Milledge L. Bonham: "since the first primary, I have been here assisting my brother some in his campaign." In explaining why his brother lost the election, Blease informed a relative, Brainard Cheney of Nashville, Tennessee, in a letter of 15 September 1934, "this race was the most peculiar and mixed up that we have ever had in South Carolina." The winner, Olin D. Johnston, a former "Bleasite," managed to win over many of the textile workers who had formerly supported Blease. "On the other

hand," Blease related, "people in the towns and cities, who had never supported my brother came to his aid, thinking he was more conservative than Johnston." To complicate matters, many textile workers were involved in strikes that year, and those people tended to support Johnston, while "most of the others were backing Blease," Eugene observed. "There were all kinds of issues," he concluded: "Bleasism and anti-Bleasism, highway department, prohibition, strikes, \$3.00 automobile license tag, instead of \$5.50 for a Ford, and God knows what else."

Judge Blease retired from the Supreme Court as planned on 8 October 1934. Up to the last minute, however, some of his friends urged him to rescind his letter of resignation and remain on the bench. He informed his friend Neville Bennett of Bennettsville, in a letter of 4 October, that he had concluded that even if the legislature provided additional clerical help, "it is best for me, personally, and for the best interests of the State and the Court that I retire." He would, however, continue "to serve as an Acting Associate Justice for a little while to get rid of a few cases that have been heard and are yet pending for final determination." Blease confirmed the correctness of his decision to leave the court in a letter to D. Gordon Baker, a Florence legislator and aspirant for a seat on the court, dated 28 September, and also advocated changes in the procedures of the court that he believed would produce a more efficient system. "The Justices should live in Columbia, have proper working quarters, and work together more than they do at present," he asserted. "This dream of mine, however, will not likely come to pass soon," he lamented. Judge Stabler, as the senior associate justice, became acting chief justice after 8 October and was unanimously elected to the position on 14 March 1935. Two new justices were also elected to fill the positions vacated by Blease and Stabler. David Gordon Baker (1884–1958), Florence attorney and member of the House of Representatives, was elected on 27 March, and Edward Ladson Fishburne (1883–1964), a member of the House from Colleton County, was elected 29 March 1935. With the new justices in place, Eugene was no longer needed to fill in as acting associate justice.

Eugene Blease quickly returned to his private law practice in Newberry, reestablished his partnership with Steve C. Griffith on 1 November, and on 19 November 1934 wrote a letter to Justice Bonham, explaining his situation. "It appears that I am going to get more law business than I can

well handle," he observed; "The trouble is going to be to get money out of it." "It seems I have established the reputation of being a friend to the man who has no money," he joked, "and broke people seem to need lawyers more than any other class." His law practice proved more profitable than his time as Chief Justice. He almost doubled his salary by the end of 1935 and he continued to prosper in 1936. Cole wrote Cannon Blease on 21 April 1936: "I think Eugene is getting much stronger. He is doing a whole lot more work than he ever did on the Supreme Court...taking care of the Broad River Power Company and the Highway Department and a very large number of private cases." There were, according to Cole, "thousands of people [who] approach me and beg to get Eugene to run for the Senate" in the 1936 contest. In fact, as Eugene confided to a supporter a year before, "many people have thought that I quit the office of Chief Justice in order to become a candidate for United States Senator." He denied that motive and confided to W.P. Beard of Abbeville, in a letter of 15 June 1935, "between the two offices, I prefer that of Chief Justice, for I love the law and like the work of the Supreme Court."

The nature of Judge Blease's law practice gradually changed over time. In the 1930s and 1940s, he was called on for advice and assistance with issues he had not previously handled. With the changes brought about by New Deal programs, especially with the implementation of Social Security, Judge Blease received many requests for information about benefits that might be available to those in need. Typical of such letters was one from an old family friend, Mamie Crooks, of Newberry. Miss Crooks, in a 16 March 1937 letter to Blease, explained her circumstances. She was a seventy-year-old retired teacher who, during her forty years of service in the public schools of the state, "was ever thoughtful of the future, and laid by a goodly sum for my declining years..." She lost her investments during the depression and in bank closings, she related, and now depended on a sister, still working for Southern Railway, who "has been practically supporting the family since 1929." Blease, in his reply of 19 March, confessed that he had "no great amount of information as to the social security legislation enacted by Congress." He would, he promised, "endeavor to get more information and read the laws..., and will [then] communicate with you." After the United States entered World War II in

December 1941, Judge Blease was frequently called on for advice about military service. He wrote his grandson, on 16 February 1942: "This draft business is giving me a little more work to do. At least, it is taking up considerable time to talk to people who do not wish their boys to go." Judge Blease confessed to Jack who was already in service, "there is nothing I can do to keep any of them from going; in fact, I do not try very hard." In a letter to Marie Blease, written 29 November 1944, he explained, "our law business has been very heavy this year." He noted, "in addition to the regular business, we have had to take up much time with people who...wish allotment money, insurance; some wish to get better places for their boys, and some wish to get them out of service." The crush of business plus the additional work required by Blease's presence "on almost every committee relating to our war efforts," placed a severe burden on Mrs. Maude Ross, the firm's stenographer, "whom Harry [Blease] started off in the law work," the judge observed.

Blease's transition from Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to Newberry attorney had been made easier because of the role that Steve C. Griffith had played in the life of the Blease family while Eugene sat on the court. Even though they had severed their formal partnership when Blease was elected to the Supreme Court, Steve remained a close friend, not only to Eugene and his wife Banna, but also to the entire extended Blease family. He was friends with Cannon Blease, addressed as "Buck" in his correspondence, Cannon's wife, Minnie Lee Adams Blease, and their daughter, Colie, who married Richard L. Baker. After Steve married Bertie Lee Hambright on 4 February 1931, they planned to move into a house that Cannon and Minnie had under construction in Newberry. In a letter, dated 18 April 1931, to Cannon who was in Hot Springs, Arkansas, where he regularly traveled to take advantage of the springs, Steve reported on the progress of the house. "Practically all of our furniture has come and we are going to start moving in right away and hope to get adjusted during next week," he wrote. The Griffiths named their second son, born 1 February 1936, Eugene Cannon, to honor the Blease brothers.

As part of the Blease's inner circle, Steve was well known to the Blease's political friends. He was also connected to other political circles through his brothers, Jeff and Joe, through their law practices and service in the General Assembly. Even though Steve was not a legislator in the

1930s, he did play a significant role in advocating legislation as a lobbyist for railroad interests. As early as the session of 1933, the General Assembly considered and passed legislation regulating trucking. On 6 January 1934, Steve wrote to D. Gordon Baker, member of the House from Florence County, about "the regulatory truck bill on the calendar." Griffith enclosed four proposed amendments and asked Baker "to open the discussion on the Bill and explain the amendments" when the issue came to the floor. He argued, "if the trucks are going to engage in freight hauling, they ought to be subject to the same regulation as all other carriers." Railroads, of course, were heavily regulated and the companies that operated them did not wish for trucks to gain an advantage over them. Griffith also wrote a similar letter to Sol Blatt, member of the House from Barnwell County. On 19 February, he wrote Senator Edgar A. Brown, from Barnwell County, about two truck bills that were on the Senate's calendar. "I will appreciate your looking after these bills and objecting to their consideration," Griffith requested. Griffith was effective in his efforts and by the end of 1934, he announced to Sol Blatt, in a letter dated 28 December, the "Railroad Association had confirmed my employment to represent them in truck legislation before the General Assembly." On 29 January 1935, Griffith registered, by letter to the Secretary of State, as required by a new Lobbying Act, as a lobbyist for two groups interested in the regulation of the trucking industry. Griffith served as legislative counsel for both a Committee of Railroads, composed of all the major lines operating in the state, and for several labor groups, including the Order of Railway Conductors, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen. Griffith's employers were pleased with his work during the session. On 24 June, James F. Wright, the general solicitor for the Seaboard Air Line Railway, wrote Sol Blatt: "I have a letter from Mr. Steve C. Griffith telling me of the great aid you rendered in preventing the passage of the Stukes Truck Bill...." S.R. Prince, general counsel for the Southern Railway System, sent a similar letter to Sol Blatt on 25 June. Representative Blatt responded to Mr. Wright's letter by praising Steve Griffith. "Mr. Griffith certainly has made the railroads a most valuable man in connection with legislation affecting trucks," Blatt wrote on 28 June, "and I hope he will be back at the next session of the Legislature." Perhaps

it was Griffith's effective service to the railroad interest that brought about his appointment in October 1935 as assistant division counsel for the Southern Railway System for Newberry, Lexington and Saluda counties. He replaced Dr. George B. Cromer, who had died 25 September 1935. Mr. Griffith would handle all lawsuits involving the Southern Railway in his division at a salary of \$135 per month. By March 1936, Eugene Blease had also been appointed as assistant division counsel with the same privileges and responsibilities enjoyed by Steve Griffith. Although the work performed by the attorneys for the railroad required only occasional attention, the firm did create a separate file for the correspondence associated with that segment of their business. Griffith retained his position with the railroad until he was elected to the bench in 1944, while Judge Blease remained as assistant division counsel until the early 1950s.

Even though Judge Blease no longer carried the burden of the constant work of the Supreme Court, he still had to put in long hours to keep up with his law business. That left him with limited time for recreation and family responsibilities. For recreation, Blease turned to fishing as his principal outlet. With Lake Murray close by, Blease took advantage of spring and summer afternoons to slip away from his office and spend time with his grandson Jack Blease Workman and Mrs. Blease's nephew, Herbert E. Griffin. Both boys lived with the Bleases; Jack had been with his grandparents since his mother's death in 1926, and Herbert came to live with them in 1930, a few years after the death of his father. Blease also enjoyed a fishing trip to Murrell's Inlet in August 1936. Steve Griffith related to Judge W.C. Cothran of Greenville, in a letter of 1 August, that Judge Blease was away on "his first vacation" and also "his first real fishing trip, and we contemplate enjoying marvelous tales upon his return." After Judge Blease returned from his trip, he gave Judge Cothran a first-hand report, in a letter of 7 August. Even though he had had "a very good time," with fishing he enjoyed "no great big luck." His grandson, Jack, however, "Had a big time catching about a 70 pound hammer head shark and a 30 pound stingaree."

Judge Blease maintained a deep interest in and close contact with his family, including his brothers Cole and Cannon and his sisters Leila and Bertha. Leila (b. 1862) married Thomas Griffin Williams (1857–1927) about 1883 and lived in Newberry all her life. Bertha (1879–1940) married

John Clifton Coney, her second husband, about 1929. Coney served in the House of Representatives from Dorchester County from 1917 until he resigned on 10 March 1922, the day after he was elected to the South Carolina Public Utilities and Railroad Commission for the First Congressional District. Coney then moved his wife and son to Columbia. His wife died in 1927 and a year or two later he married Bertha Blease, who worked as a typist for the Railroad Commission, later the Public Service Commission. Cannon Blease, sheriff of Newberry County from 1913 until 1937, when he decided to retire from office because of poor health, was especially close to his older brother. Cannon's illness elicited many letters of concern from across the state, including one addressed to "My dear Gene" and written by Edgar A. Brown on 5 November 1935. "When Cannon is better," Brown stated, "I want you to tell him that I have thought of him a thousand times during his illness....I am devoted to Cannon and I hope he is better by this time." In March 1936, Cannon and his wife Minnie traveled to Hot Springs, Arkansas, so Cannon could have the benefit of the springs. He returned a few weeks later, somewhat better, but by the end of the year, just before Cannon's term as sheriff ended, Eugene, in a letter to Marie Blease, related, "Cannon is not doing at all well...." His health continued to decline, even though he spent weeks during 1937 and 1938 resting and taking the waters at Hot Springs. Judge Blease visited him there in May and reported, in a letter written 26 May 1938 to his grandson Jack, "we left Uncle Cannon, apparently, feeling much better." Cannon's recovery, however, did not continue and he died in Newberry on 20 August 1938, aged fifty-four. Just over two years later, Judge Blease lost another younger sibling when his sister, Bertha Coney, died in Columbia on 17 September 1940, aged sixty. In response to a letter of condolence from his old friend and former colleague on the Supreme Court, Chief Justice Milledge L. Bonham, Judge Blease wrote on 23 September 1940, "always in her life, even when we both have grown old, she was still my baby sister...[and] you correctly judged our affection for each other."

Cole Blease, Judge Blease's only surviving brother, also experienced a period a decline in the late 1930s, in politics, in health and in his personal life. After failing to win reelection to the United States Senate in 1932, he

ran, unsuccessfully, for governor in 1934 and 1938. After his wife of more than forty years, Lillie Summers Blease, died in January 1934, Blease continued to live in Columbia where he practiced law and lived alone. By 1936, however, he had met a young woman, Carolina Floyd Knotts, who lived and worked in Columbia. She and Cole Blease married on 17 January 1937, but apparently, almost immediately, their relationship devolved into a state of constant marital warfare. By May 1937 Cole began writing down his daily confrontations with Carolina, perhaps to share with his brother Eugene. Cole's entry for 21 May 1937 characterized his wife as "the meanest, stubbornness, hard headed heifer that I have ever known, and when in a drunken jealous rage dangerous." He did explain her attractions, however: "She shows up very well when in company, and is a very good show woman there but is a hussy with me." That Cole felt deserted by some members of his family after his wife's death is clear from a statement he signed 26 April 1937, perhaps as an explanation for his ill-advised marriage. "Remember," he wrote, "that for *three* years after Miss Lillie S. Blease departed this life, it was Blease Ellison and Alex Russell at the House and Miss Mildred Howell, at the office, who took care of me, and helped me make a living by attending to my business....There were some nearer & dearer to me who *Did not*, nor did they offer to." Blease's lamentations about his wife continued, sporadically, through 1939. By the end of that year, they were living apart, although they never divorced. Cole's friends were obviously aware of his situation and, early in 1940, took steps to help with his finances by securing a place on the state's Unemployment Compensation Commission. Judge Blease sent out letters in January to some of his politically influential friends requesting that they "speak to the members of your Legislative Delegation in...[Cole's] behalf." He added, in a letter of 20 January 1940 to former state Senator Proctor A. Bonham, of Greenville, "having been in public life so long, it is but natural that he would like to continue in that life....[and] I think it will help him much in his declining years if he can get a place on this Commission." With Speaker of the House Solomon Blatt quietly supporting his candidacy, Cole's election was certain. Blatt wrote Judge Blease on 1 March 1940, "I have again carefully checked the House and I am sure that our candidate is out in front." Blatt was correct; Cole won the

election handily. Judge Blease described the contest to Marie Blease in a letter written 5 April 1940. When the election was held on 20 March, Cole beat nine other candidates by receiving “more than two-thirds of the votes cast.” As a member of the three-person commission Cole would receive a salary of \$3,600 per year. Eugene “was very glad, of course, for him to get elected [because] it means a good living for him for four years.” Cole, however, did not live to complete his four-year term. He died 19 January 1942, in his seventy-fourth year, after several brief hospitalizations during the fall of 1941, from the effects of a cancer that had been discovered during an emergency operation a few days before his death. In a letter to his friend Joseph R. Bryson, member of the United States House of Representatives in Washington, written on 28 March 1942, Judge Blease summed up his feelings about his brother Cole: “My brother’s passing in many ways was a great shock. I knew he was not in good health, but I did not dream until about two days before he left us that he was so near the end of his life. I shall miss him much. In my younger days, he was not only an older brother but, in many ways, a father to me. He was always ready to help; in fact, he seemed always to enjoy being of some assistance to his friends and relatives. With all his faults, he had a great big heart, and at all times he loved South Carolina and her people.”

After his brother’s death, Judge Blease qualified as executor and spent considerable time over the next two years settling claims against the estate. Blease, on 10 December 1942, wrote his late brother’s dentist, Dr. E.G. Bumgardner, who had submitted an unpaid bill, “frankly, my brother left a small estate, and many bills have been filed against it.” Blease also asserted, “I am especially anxious to have all of his obligations paid in full.”

Judge Blease had other relatives, in addition to his siblings, that he looked after. His grandson, Jack Blease Workman, was like a son to the Judge and had lived with the Bleases since 1926. Mrs. Blease’s great-nephew, Herbert Edwin Griffin (1920–2004), the son of Herbert E. and Margaret Neel Griffin, moved in with his aunt and uncle in 1930. His father, a pharmacist, had died in 1926 at age thirty-two of tuberculosis; his mother was unable to care for him. The boys grew up together, attended the public schools of Newberry, and when the time came for them to continue their educations, Jack enrolled at The Citadel in the fall of 1937 and Herbert went to the Carlisle Academy in Bamberg. Judge Blease

wrote frequent letters, filled with advice and encouragement, to both boys while they were away. To Herbert, he wrote on 3 November 1937, "Aunt Banna and I want you to be comfortable at Carlisle. We want you to have all the necessities. We do not want you, however, to be a spendthrift." A few weeks later, on 13 December, Blease praised Herbert for his grades: "I got your last report, and I congratulate you. Of course, it is not anything like a perfect report, but it is much better than you used to get in the Newberry schools." "Aunt Banna and I are interested in you," he concluded, "and want you to get on in life." To Jack, he wrote on 16 March 1938, "your report came in to-day....Of course, it is nothing to brag upon, but I am glad to know that you at least seem to be making passing marks." Jack remained at The Citadel through the spring semester 1939. Judge Blease, after receiving another grade report in April 1939, wrote Jack: "There is nothing I can say that will do any good. More and more I am reaching the conclusion that you are dissatisfied there; that you do not care anything about books." A month later, in a letter to his grandson of 17 May 1939, Blease informed Jack that "it is time for you to realize that you must face life and make your own way. When you get home, I shall expect you to let me know what you have determined upon." Jack was back in Newberry in the fall of 1939, according to Judge Blease in a letter of 5 December to Herbert Griffin, "whiling away much of his good time pretending to go to Newberry College." He was involved with the local National Guard unit, Battery I, 263rd Coast Artillery Regiment, and recently earned a promotion to the rank of sergeant, Blease informed Herbert and, "he is still in love with Caroline [McCrackin], and writes her every day." Herbert had moved to Columbia and Judge Blease confirmed his well wishes for his future. "If you apply yourself and live an honest and upright life, you can go forward in the world," he advised.

By 1941, with war in Europe a reality, many of the Newberry's young men had enlisted in the military. Jack Blease Workman, after he left The Citadel, worked in the undertaking business for a short time, and then in the fall of 1940, enrolled in Draughon's Business College, where he learned to type and take shorthand dictation. In May 1941, Judge Blease suggested that Jack take a job in Washington and also continue his business education while there. Blease contacted his friend and United States Congressman Butler B. Hare and asked for his help in finding

young Jack a temporary job. Because “of the likelihood of ...[Jack] being called into army service,” Blease explained in a letter to Congressman Hare of 26 May 1941, “there are some difficulties in his securing a proper business connection.” Jack was in Washington in early June, ready to go to work, part-time, as an elevator operator. Judge Blease wrote Congressman Hare again on 31 May, requesting that he help Jack “a little to get started...[but] I do not wish you to go to any great trouble.” The judge also remarked that he did “not think ...[Jack] is so crazy about the trip and the job” because “he is desperately in love with a very good looking girl in Newberry, and he does not like to leave her.” Judge Blease had no objection to the girl, he wrote, but he was “interested in getting him prepared not only for marriage, but other important things in life...especially getting him trained to work.” Jack spent the summer and fall of 1941 working and going to school in Washington. During that fall, he applied for acceptance into the Army Air Corps, without much hope of success, he wrote his grandfather on 16 September, “on account of my eyes.”

The 7 December 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor propelled the United States into a world war. Judge Blease wrote Governor J. Emile Harley on 13 December “that if, during the present emergency, there is any service, however humble it may be, you feel I may render our Country, our State, or any assistance that I may give you personally in any way, you have but to command me.” A few days later, Blease asked Congressman Hare to convey a message to Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox. “I wish him to know,” Blease wrote on 18 December, “how many of our people (including myself) appreciate his statement as to the attack on Pearl Harbor.” Blease believed that “his statement brought hope and confidence to many hearts.” “We are going to win the war!,” Blease professed. “Men of the type of Secretary Knox, you, my grandson Jack, and others are going to see to that,” he affirmed. Jack had joined the Army Air Corps before Pearl Harbor and was in training at Maxwell Field, Alabama, as an aviation cadet at year’s end. He continued his training in 1942 at bases in Florida, at Shaw Field in Sumter, and at Biggs Field in El Paso, Texas, where he was stationed when Judge Blease wrote a Christmas letter to Marie Blease on 16 December. Jack, a second lieutenant in the Army Air Corps,

had married his long-time girlfriend, Caroline McCrackin, on 26 September 1942.

During the summer of 1941, Judge Blease briefly flirted with the idea of entering the arena of politics again. The opportunity arose after Senator James F. Byrnes resigned from office on 8 July 1941 in order to accept appointment to the United States Supreme Court. On 21 June 1941, even before the vacancy had occurred, Blease wrote Congressman Butler Hare about the rumors that he was interested in the senate seat. Judge Blease mentioned that many of his friends had suggested that he consider offering for the seat. The congressman replied in a lengthy personal letter of 23 June that essentially stated that his decision was not yet made and it would depend "upon the action of the Governor" in making the appointment. If it was certain that the governor's appointee would not seek the unexpired term or the full six-year term, then Hare would consider the opportunity; however, he informed Blease, he "would rather be classed among the leaders in the House than among the followers in the Senate." Neither Hare nor Blease received the appointment from Governor Burnet R. Maybank. Instead, the governor selected, on 17 July, Alva M. Lumpkin, a sitting South Carolina Federal Judge, to the Senate seat. Lumpkin served only a few days before his death on 1 August. Again, some of Blease's friends urged the governor to appoint the former Chief Justice, but this time Governor Maybank took the seat himself in an election in November of that year. Blease appreciated his friends' confidence in him, he wrote T.B. Greneker on 7 August, but he had "had very little, if any, ambition to be United States Senator," and besides, he knew "that there was practically no chance for my appointment under the political circumstances existing in our State." After Governor Maybank resigned from the governorship, J. Emile Harley, the lieutenant governor, assumed the office on 4 November 1941, but died a few months later, on 27 February 1942. Richard M. Jefferies as president of the state Senate, became governor after Harley's death, and was inaugurated 2 March 1942. Dick Jefferies appointed his friend Judge Blease to represent Newberry County as a state committeeman of United Service Organizations, an office Blease accepted on 26 March 1942. Perhaps Blease felt that with the support of his multitude of friends, many of them

influential politicians, a race for the United States Senate against an incumbent senator in office for only a few months, would offer him a good chance at success. His friend Clint T. Graydon encouraged him to make the race in a letter written 23 May 1942. Graydon had just learned, from reports in the morning newspapers, of Blease's interest in the Senate, and he promised Eugene that, if he ran, he would "whole heartedly support you to the end and do everything in the world I could for you." Judge Blease paid his \$1,000 entrance fee on 1 June and campaigned throughout the summer for the primary election held on 24 August. Blease lost by about 6,000 votes in the statewide contest. Maybank had waged an effective campaign, spending heavily on radio advertising, with \$2,145.58 of the total of \$6,000 he expended on the campaign going for airtime. Blease reported spending \$3,702.20 on his campaign, but only \$825.62 for radio spots. In a letter to a Georgetown supporter, Dr. J.T. Assey, Jr., written 26 February 1943, six months after his defeat, Blease pointed out the factors that led to his loss: he entered the race "at the last minute, ...had no political organization, and refused to accept contributions to my campaign." One of the reasons he entered the contest was to "tell the people of South Carolina...that money was playing too large a part in our elections." Another factor, Blease felt, was "so many...people seemed to think my election would not be for the best interest of the lower part of the State." Perhaps a more telling factor was that Blease's brothers, Cole and Cannon, were both dead and the Bleases' political influence had dissipated if not entirely disappeared.

The reality of war struck Judge and Mrs. Blease on 7 June 1943 when they received word that Lieutenant Jack Blease Workman, their grandson, and the pilot of a B-17 bomber, was missing in action. Young Workman had flown from Mobile, Alabama, to New England, in April and then across the Atlantic to England where he became part of the 8th Air Force. From England, the pilots of the B-17s launched raids on German military targets and it was on one of those sorties, on 29 May, that Jack's plane was shot down over France. On 24 June, the Bleases and Jack's wife, Caroline, who had returned to Newberry after her husband's deployment, learned that Jack was a German prisoner of war. Judge Blease recounted the events surrounding Jack's capture, insofar as he knew them, in a letter to

Sergeant Harvey C. Brandenburg, written on 27 August 1943. By that time, Caroline had received several letters from her husband. "Jack's letters," Judge Blease wrote, "indicate that he has been decently treated, and is getting along all right...." It was not until Jack returned home in June 1945 that Judge Blease learned the details of his grandson's experiences. In a letter to Sergeant Harvey Brandenburg, written 2 July 1945, Judge Blease commented, "it is right exciting to hear him tell of his experiences." For the first time, his family learned that Jack's "ribs were injured some when he had to bail out from his plane...." And, the judge noted, "he gained about thirty-five pounds after he was liberated from the prison at Moosburg by General Patton's army.

After his defeat in the United States Senate contest in 1942, Judge Blease focused his political interests in a more general way, rather than on another political contest. To his friend Billy Byers in Rock Hill, Judge Blease wrote, on 12 July, 1943, "I have really made no plans politically for next year." Instead, he was "interested in trying to have Washington cleaned up." He continued: "I am more interested in the great cause of restoring American government to the people, and taking it out of the hands of bureaucrats and the selfish groups that are controlling our politics, than I am in any office which I might obtain." His purpose in working for the return of control of the government to the people was revealed in his next comment. "I think one of the greatest enemies of the South to-day is Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt...[who] is injuring not only our white people, who she seems in many ways to detest, but she is doing harm to the colored people, to whom she seems to be so much devoted," he observed. Racial politics was an increasingly important theme in South Carolina in 1944. Blease was one of the leaders in a movement within South Carolina, and throughout the South, that sought to maintain segregation of the races in politics and in education. Largely in response to the efforts of the National Democratic Party to support the rights of all citizens, and partly as a result of local opposition to New Deal legislation and to President Roosevelt's policies, a significant number of South Carolinians worked during the spring of 1944 to preserve the tradition of white control of the state Democratic Party. When the state party held its biennial convention in Columbia on 17 May 1944, Eugene Blease was

prepared to do battle with the “regulars,” or “regular office holders,” as he called the elected officials who controlled the state party, in a letter to Sam Wolfe, friend and Gaffney attorney, written 31 May. In a strongly contested race for state chairman of the Democratic Party, Blease was defeated by Winchester Smith from Williston, the candidate of the “regulars.” Blease, however, was able to persuade the convention to adopt a resolution he introduced that synthesized the issues that he believed to be of singular importance. The first statement adopted was “that this Party shall continue, as it is now, a party of and for white Democrats only, and that no Negro shall be admitted to membership in our party.” The resolution then specifically mentioned several agenda items that, it was rumored, would be considered by the National Democratic Convention scheduled for Chicago in August. For example, the convention could decide to support the abolition of the poll tax in state elections; support Federal laws “that will interfere with our laws and customs as to the segregation and separation of the races; support the proposal “that whites and negroes may be allowed admission to the same schools”; and “in certain quarters, there is a suggestion that a negro should be nominated for the Vice-Presidency, and even the Presidency, by the National Democratic Party.” Finally, Blease’s resolution would be forwarded to officials of the National Democratic Party, all members of Congress from South Carolina, South Carolina delegates to the Chicago convention, and all candidates seeking the presidency or vice-presidency of the United States. The actual platform adopted by the State Democratic Convention incorporated many of Blease’s ideas, but not the provocative language he used. The platform decried the “concentration of powers in the executive branch,” insisted that “the term of President should be limited by Constitutional Amendment to two terms of four years each,” and demanded “a cessation of the expansion of federal powers with its consequent shrinkage of States’ rights, whether such be by court interpretation, legislative grant or plain encroachment.”

Judge Blease attended the National Democratic Party Convention in Chicago as a member of the South Carolina delegation; however, he was not pleased with the work of the group. In a letter to Tom W. Booth of Conway, written 24 August, just after the convention ended, Blease remarked, “I saw enough at that Convention in Chicago to convince me

that unless the real, old time white Democrats of the South look out, the Democratic Party is going to be soon under the absolute control of the communists and Negroes.” Because Judge Blease feared that the National Democratic Party would no longer support and protect Southern institutions and traditions, he was very interested in the options offered by a third party. In fact, he was in frequent contact with J.K. Breedin of Columbia, who was chairman of an organization known as the Southern Democratic Party. Breedin, sensitive to Blease’s position within the state Democratic Party, requested that the judge “speak over the radio” in a letter of 21 September, but added, “if you would prefer not to be publicly identified with us [,] it would be perfectly agreeable to have you introduced as an independent....” Breedin had also written Blease on 6 July with the observation, “in some manner we must try to arouse the white people to register” to vote in the November election. Blease replied the next day in a three-page letter that read like a legal brief. He suggested that county boards of election open the registration books for three successive days each month before a scheduled general election, as required by the state constitution. Already, in Newberry County, the board had held meetings in various places in the county for the purpose of registering voters, but “we thought it wise not to publish this notice in the newspapers, but simply to have it posted in the communities covered by the statute.” Even though newspapers had been quiet for fear “that the Negroes would become more interested in registering,” there had been, according to Blease, “about twelve Negroes registered last Monday, some of them women.”

The outcome of the election in South Carolina was not surprising. President Roosevelt received 90,601 votes while Thomas E. Dewey, his Republican challenger, attracted 4,554 voters. In a letter to Tom L. Burton of New York, written 14 November 1944, Judge Blease analyzed the results in South Carolina and identified a third political group, one that had supported “a ticket of electors...who...would vote for some one whom they considered a real, old time Democrat....” Their choice was Senator [Harry Flood] Byrd, of Virginia. That group of independent electors received 7,799 votes, or 7.54% of the total. Although President Roosevelt was reelected by a large majority, Blease predicted “that the opposition put

forth by the white Democrats, who were opposed to the election of Mr. Roosevelt, will result in great good to our State politically in the future.”

With the end of the election cycle in November 1944, Judge Blease turned his full attention to his law business. Steve Griffith's service in the General Assembly during the sessions of 1944 and 1945 meant that Judge Blease had to shoulder a greater share of the work-load during those periods. And Griffith's election to a circuit judgeship in April 1945 and subsequent retirement from the partnership, caused Blease to complain, in a letter to E.E. Sligh, written 25 August 1945, "I am just about worked to death." "Mr. Griffith was a wonderful help to me," Blease remarked, but now "I am just overworked." Judge Blease had convinced Emile Saint-Amand to move from Gaffney, where he practiced law, to form a partnership with the judge, effective on 1 July. Emile was the grandson of Blease's sister Corrie, and that relationship was important, as Blease explained in a letter written on 4 June to Emile's father, C.E. Saint-Amand. "Somehow or other, I just felt it was my duty to the people of Newberry County to have some one with Blease blood in him...to carry on here in the law business," Blease wrote. In a letter to Marie Blease of 12 December 1945, Judge Blease expressed his pleasure at having his great nephew with him. "Emile is helping me a great deal...[and] he and I are getting along well," he remarked; "he is a good lawyer and a good worker." Emile had served one term in the House of Representatives from 1935 to 1936 as a member from Cherokee County, but was not otherwise involved with politics. Both he and Judge Blease focused exclusively on their clients and law business in 1945 and 1946. In a letter written 11 May 1946 to William P. Baskin of Bishopville, an aspirant for the state chairmanship of the Democratic Party, Judge Blease confessed that because he had been so busy he had taken "very little interest in County political matters up to the time of the County Convention." Even though he had presided over the convention, he "declined to be elected a delegate to the State Convention...." In addition to his usual business, Blease also was involved "with the sale of two very large cotton mills in our County," he informed G. Badger Baker, of Florence, in a letter of 21 September 1946. In fact, he continued to represent corporate interests, including Southern Railway

and cotton mills into the 1950s. After J.P. Stevens & Company acquired the Aragon Baldwin Mill in Whitmire, Blease became friends with Robert T. Stevens and continued his association with the company as well. Judge Blease wrote Stevens on 28 January 1949, requesting that his annual retainer be increased. For all the years he had worked for Aragon Baldwin and its successor, J.P. Stevens, he had received \$500 per year. Other firms, "have paid greater retainers to their attorneys," he argued. He also explained his financial situation and his plans for the future: "I am more than seventy years of age. I find it necessary to continue the practice of my profession, so that I may have an income, in addition to the little income I receive from my investments. I want to keep on practicing law as long as I am able to do so, but I do wish to limit my practice. I wish to keep enough regular clients around home, who will give me sufficient retainers and other fees...to keep me going in a reasonable manner." Bob Stevens replied on 7 February with the happy news that the finance committee had agreed with his suggestion and increased his retainer to \$1,500 per year, effective from the first of the year.

Judge Blease never lost his interest in politics and politicians, but as he grew older, he was realistic enough to know that his chances for elected office were very slim. Nonetheless, he kept his options open. In a letter to J.K. Breedin, written 15 August 1947, when Blease was seventy, he mentioned that even though he had given little thought to running for a United States Senate seat in 1948, many of his friends had urged him to do so. "I see no harm in keeping things open, not so much for my own benefit," he related, "but for the benefit of some one in whom I may be interested." One such person, he suggested, was Bryan Dorn, "a very bright young man...[with] much political courage." The son of a close friend, "an old time country school teacher in Saluda County...", Blease also noted that "Young Dorn is a nephew of my former law partner, now Circuit Judge Griffith." Dorn, Blease stressed, "is full of energy and one of the best campaigners that I have known in recent years...and would make an interesting race against anyone." Dorn did run against Burnet R. Maybank for Maybank's senate seat in the primary election in August 1948, and lost. Dorn, just after his defeat, sent Blease a letter, dated 28 August 1948, to which he added a P.S. "I understand Maybank will support

Truman," he informed the judge; "you ought to run against him in the General Election on a States Right ticket." The judge, however, preferred to work behind the scenes in an effort to maintain the traditional "white primary" election in the face of judicial decisions from Federal Judge J. Waties Waring that ruled such restrictions unconstitutional. When Blease wrote to Charleston attorney and friend Thomas P. Stoney on 1 December 1948, he made the observation that "South Carolina should be able to pass some legislation that will keep Judge Waring...from declaring what shall and shall not be principles of a political party..." He also informed Stoney, "lately, with Robert Figg, I looked into some of the New York decisions, which sustained legislation in that State, giving a political party the right to remove from its membership persons who disagreed with the party's principles." To other friends, Blease was more direct. He wrote G.W. Speer of Gaffney on 27 December 1948, "I have always appreciated your personal friendship and your stand, so much like my own, as to maintaining what you and I know as 'white supremacy.'" Blease's only public role in the presidential race of 1948 was his service as one of South Carolina's presidential electors. J. Strom Thurmond, the governor of the state and candidate of the Dixiecrat Party, wrote Judge Blease, on 17 December 1948, a letter of appreciation for the telegram the electors had sent "in which you expressed pleasure in casting your votes for me for President of the United States." Thurmond regretted his election loss, but insisted, "we showed the political leaders of this nation that the Southern States can and will be independent when a principle is involved." "We also showed them," he boasted, "that the South will not be a political doormat for any party."

Judge Blease's focus on work and his law practice did not allow him to spend much time with other interests or activities. He usually declined invitations to barbeques, political events, and social occasions, typically citing his poor state of health or pressing business responsibilities. He would, however, make every effort to visit ailing friends and pay his respects at the funerals of relatives and neighbors. He also continued his long-standing practice of sending telegrams or letters of condolence to the families of deceased colleagues, friends and relatives. His letter of 9 February 1952 to Mrs. C.B. Searson of Hampton was typical of his thoughtfulness. "When I read this morning of the passing of your beloved

husband, I was reminded of my very pleasant associations with him thirty years ago, when we served together in the House of Representatives,” Blease wrote. “I was glad to feel that I had his friendship, just as I knew he had mine,” he concluded. Not only did the judge send out letters of sympathy, he also congratulated his friends when he learned of promotions in their jobs, or in the case of politicians, their election or reelection to office. His diligence in remembering his friends added to his workload and often kept him at his office on Wednesday afternoons, the traditional time when businesses in small-town South Carolina closed, and on Saturdays. One correspondent that Judge Blease always delighted in writing, however, was his great-granddaughter, Carol Blease Workman, born to Jack Blease and Caroline McCrackin Workman in 1947 in Florida where Jack was stationed with the Air Force. Blease wrote her frequent letters, talked with her on the phone, and delighted in her family’s infrequent visits to Newberry. He described her in a letter to his Charleston friend Tom Stoney in a letter of 10 August 1950: “[Carol is] about the sweetest little girl in the world. I have about six photographs of her on my desk, and have several at home. I expect I spend too much time looking at her pictures and talking about her.” Judge Blease did not get to spend much time with Carol or with her parents, only brief visits in the summer or at holidays, because Jack continued his military career and was stationed at various bases around the country. From Georgia to Pennsylvania to Ohio, the family moved from time to time as Jack advanced with promotions from lieutenant to captain to major. When Jack was transferred to the Far East in the spring of 1952 where he served for fifteen months during the Korean conflict, his wife and daughter returned to Newberry. Judge Blease, in a letter to Jack, written 25 August 1952, reflected upon the conditions of his life in his “declining years.” After enumerating his infirmities, neuralgic headaches and poor eyesight, he affirmed that he was “trying to be patient and am doing the best I can, endeavoring to get the best out of life that may come to a man of my years.” He was, he insisted, thankful for his “many comforts and much enjoyment...” “I have friends who take an interest in me and my work,” he remarked; “Emile does the best he can, as my law partner; Mother Ban takes care of me in the home; [and] Maude takes care of my office wonderfully well.”

Judge Blease did find the strength to conduct one more political campaign during the summer of 1952. He was not a candidate for office, but his law partner, Emile Saint-Amand, was in a race for the office of solicitor. He lost, even though Judge Blease and Mrs. Ross had devoted two months, "even worked into the night and on several Sundays all day," sending out campaign materials and writing letters, as the Judge recounted to Jack in his 25 August 1952 letter. Judge Blease concluded, "he has begun to realize that he is no great politician and that it will be best for him just to stick to law and other business." Another election in the fall of 1952, however, produced a more pleasing result for Judge Blease. Long disillusioned with the national Democratic Party, Blease had flirted with alternative parties in 1944 and 1948, and in 1952 supported the candidate of the Republican Party, General Dwight D. Eisenhower. Tom Waring, the editor of *The News and Courier* in Charleston encouraged Judge Blease, in a letter of 1 October 1952, to "hold a press conference at Eisenhower headquarters, stating reasons for not supporting the regular Democratic ticket, [because] it would do a lot of good for the Eisenhower cause in our state." Blease replied on 3 October, "I am supporting Eisenhower...and would be glad if he could carry South Carolina." Blease had attended the Eisenhower rally in Columbia a few days earlier where, he informed Waring, "I had a conference with a couple of good strong Eisenhower men, regarding a matter connected with our former States' Rights Party." The judge did ask Waring not to mention his "position in any paper." After Eisenhower's election, Blease wrote Jack, on 13 November, and expressed his pleasure with the General's election. Judge Blease had openly campaigned for Eisenhower and "went to Columbia and made a speech in the General's favor, which was broadcast over some fifteen stations...." He was, he remarked, "glad that General Eisenhower carried Newberry County, even if the State went to his opponent." A Republican administration, however, presented a problem for Judge Blease. Since the election of Roosevelt to the presidency in 1932, the Democratic Party had been in control of federal patronage and Judge Blease had often used his influence in favor of friends seeking appointment to positions within the federal system. Now he was uncertain about the proper channels to follow when his friend, George E. Halfacre, a clerk in the Newberry post office, wanted a promotion to a vacant position as a rural carrier. Blease wrote

H.G. Willingham, a Columbia acquaintance, on 24 July 1953, with a request. "While I supported General Eisenhower..., I am not in close touch with any members of any political party who may have a voice in the filling of the position Mr. Halfacre wishes, [but] I have noted that Mrs. Willingham is a member of the National Republican Committee...and may be able to help my friend," Blease explained; "If you will...speak to her in this gentleman's behalf, I shall thank you ever so much." On one more occasion, in 1954, some of Judge Blease's friends encouraged him to seek an elected office. Blease's old nemesis, Senator Burnet R. Maybank, died suddenly after winning his party's primary in August. Blease received a number of letters urging him to enter the race, including one from W.B. Searson, of Hollywood, South Carolina, a strong supporter during Blease's 1942 race for the United States Senate. Blease responded, on 10 September, with his reasons for refusing to consider getting involved. He feared the contest would have been "too arduous for me at my age and present physical condition," and most significantly, he "knew I had no chance...to obtain the appointment to the vacancy." Finally, Judge Blease "was assured in my own mind that our Governor [James F. Byrnes], with whom I so much agree now as to political positions, would have remembered differences of the past." Edgar A. Brown, a man whose political thinking Blease was "unable to agree with," was appointed to the vacancy, and the judge confided in his friend Searson, "it is my intention to cast a write in vote for former Governor Thurmond."

Judge Blease practiced law without a partner from 1 July 1953, when he and Emile Saint-Amand dissolved their partnership and Emile returned to Gaffney to practice, until 1959, when Steve C. Griffith, Jr., joined with Blease to form a second Blease & Griffith partnership. In the interim, Judge Blease continued to handle the simple legal needs for his friends in Newberry. He wrote Jack on 17 September 1956, "it seems that Maude [Ross] and I just keep busy nearly all the time—generally doing much work for friends and others who do not seem to have much money. Nevertheless, we find some pleasure in helping people out." Mrs. Ross, Blease's secretary since the 1920s, was a tremendous help to the Judge. Not only did she take dictation and write all of his letters, but she also served as chauffeur for out-of-town trips, handled many of the details of

the law business, and kept the office running smoothly. Judge Blease, as he informed his friend of many years, Clint T. Graydon, in a letter of 21 November 1957, stayed "pretty close to my home these days" and tried "as best I can to be contented with life." He also related to Clint that "for fifteen years, I have been going, from time to time, through Colie's old papers and records." "It has been a big job," he remarked; "I spent two hours yesterday afternoon amongst these old papers." Judge Blease, had a long-standing interest in history, especially as it related to his family and to Newberry and Saluda counties. He also acquired many books about South Carolina, and often supported historical organizations. It was a pleasure, he remarked in a letter, of 22 May 1956, to B. Allston Moore, the president of the South Carolina Historical Society, "for me to accept the invitation to become a member...." Blease also belonged to the Edgefield County Historical Society, and in a letter to Miss Hortense Woodson, the Society's vice president, written 1 August 1961, he reminded her, "we love Edgefield and her people." Judge Blease, because of his knowledge of local events and people, often received requests from researches seeking information about local families or individuals. When history professor Robert H. George, of Brown University in Rhode Island, wrote the judge about Lambert Jefferson Jones, a resident of Newberry who had graduated from Brown in the class of 1836, Blease was able to respond, in a letter of 25 October 1962, "I had the pleasure of knowing Major Jones when I was a boy...." He also supplied the professor with an additional tidbit: "I have always been told that Chief Justice O'Neall was the guardian of Major Lambert J. Jones, whose father Elijah died when his son was a very small boy."

In April 1959, Judge Blease was pleased to send out announcements informing his fellow attorneys and friends of the formation of Blease & Griffith. To an attorney friend in New York, Sidney Golding, Blease also wrote a letter on 16 April 1959 providing additional information about "young Mr. Griffith." He was the son of Circuit Judge Steve C. Griffith, "who practically started off his life as a lawyer with me about thirty-five years ago," and "the young man is now occupying the same office his father occupied until he was elected to his Judgeship." Steve, Jr., Blease informed Mr. Golding, "is a graduate of our famous Clemson College and also of the Law Department of our State University." The judge then

added, "while he is no kin to Mrs. Blease and me, he stands almost in the relationship of a grandson." Typical of the many letters of congratulations on the new law firm was one from Greenwood attorney William L. Daniel. He wrote, on 8 April 1959, "it goes without saying, that none but a promising young lawyer could have hoped for a partnership with one so able, experienced and distinguished as is Judge Blease. How happy, that the ripe and experienced jurist and the ambitious young lawyer can thus collaborate in a mutually helpful way, as they work for the common good in our proud old State." Steve's cousin, Bryan Dorn, United States Congressman from the Third District, also sent his best wishes in a letter of 10 April 1959. "We predict for you a most successful career there in Newberry." In a letter of 11 September, Dorn enclosed a copy of a letter he had written to a friend in Newberry and commented, "from now on you will receive copies of practically all of my correspondence to Newberry County." Steve Griffith assumed responsibility for much of the routine work that the firm handled, thus freeing Judge Blease to devote more of his time and energy to the needs of his family and friends.

Mrs. Blease often required the judge's help because of her frequent illnesses. She was in the hospital in the spring of 1961, and after she returned home much of her care fell to her husband. In a letter to Jack, written 13 May 1961, Blease noted that although someone stayed with Banna during the day while he was at work, "I look after her as much as I can in the night." He admitted, however, that he was "suffering much pain on account of my arthritis, rheumatism, lack of circulation or something else...[and] I can hardly walk to-day." The judge was able to visit his sister, Leila, who was celebrating her ninety-ninth birthday, that morning. "She was in a fine humor and looking forward to a full day of great pleasure." Leila died in her one hundred first year, on 18 February 1963, and Maude Ross, in a letter to her grandson, J. Pinckney Williams, of Raleigh, North Carolina, described her last days. She and Judge Blease had visited Leila just before her death and found her with a clear mind, "full of wit," and still able to tease the Judge, "to whom she referred as her 'little brother.'" Mrs. Ross also observed that "Judge has recently passed his eighty-sixth birthday, and he still has a wonderful mind, although his body is quite frail. I have been his secretary for forty-three years, and among my other duties now, I act as his chauffeur."

Judge Blease continued to practice law as long as he was physically able to get to his office. "I do not know what I would do if it were not for Maude's wonderful assistance and the help the Griffith boys are giving me," he wrote Caroline Workman, his granddaughter-in-law on 21 October 1963. With both Steve and Eugene Griffith in the firm, the everyday business of Blease & Griffith could continue, even though Judge Blease was unable to work because of his health issues. Judge Blease spent a week in Charleston in late July and early August at the South Carolina Medical College hospital for a thorough examination. Maude Ross reported the results in a letter to Jack and Caroline Workman on 5 August. The doctors, she wrote, discovered that the "Judge's heart is greatly enlarged, which causes pressure on a muscle to the vocal cords, which is the reason he can hardly talk." Even with his health issues, the judge kept busy at the office during 1963. In his spare moments, he spent his time "going through old papers trying to get rid of things I did not think we would ever need," he wrote to Herbert E. Griffin on 1 June 1963. The process apparently involved culling receipts, invoices, and other financial records, rather than disposing of the office files of the law firm. Two years earlier, when Judge Blease signed his carefully crafted will on 10 May 1961, he made certain that the letters and papers he had produced during a legal career that had spanned sixty-five years would be preserved. In item 7 of the document, he stated his desire to "give and bequeath to Steve C. Griffith, Jr., and Eugene C. Griffith, all letter files and containers located in my office and in the storage room connected with my garage, at my home place, in Newberry, S.C., with the request that the legatees named herein shall, at such time as is convenient to them [,] pass on any paper, memoranda or record contained therein to such persons who, in their opinion, should be given the same."

After Blease's death on 27 December 1963, in his eighty-seventh year, his papers were preserved within the files of the law firm that he had established in the 1920s with the elder Griffith. The younger Griffiths carried out Blease's wishes and kept the files until 2008, when Steve C. Griffith, Jr., the surviving brother, donated all the papers of the Blease & Griffith law firm to the South Caroliniana Library.

Judge C.C. Wyche, of the United States District Court, Spartanburg, South Carolina, and a long-time friend of Judge Blease, summed up the opinion of the judges's admirers when he wrote Steve C. Griffith, Sr., on 18 August 1964: "Chief Justice Blease, in my opinion, was one of the greatest of all the Chief Justices of the South Carolina Supreme Court. His opinions were all clear, logical and convincing." **Gift of Mr. Steve Griffith.**

ANDERSON FAMILY PAPERS,
1857–1865

This unit of seventy manuscripts primarily documents the Civil War activities of various members of the Anderson family of Spartanburg County. The collection centers around the family of David Anderson (1811–1892) and contains letters written by his wife, Harriet Brockman Anderson (1819–1892), his children, John Crawford Anderson (1842–1892), Mary Elizabeth Anderson (1843–1921), and Henrietta Alethia "Nettie" Anderson (1846–1911), his brother, Franklin Leland Anderson (1830–1909), and his sisters-in-law, Henrietta Malinda "Hettie" Brockman (1840–1877) and Eloise Eugenia "Ella" Brockman (1844–1868).

The correspondence of John Crawford Anderson forms the bulk of the papers, among which is the earliest letter in the collection, dated 10 April 1857. Written to fifteen-year-old John, while a student at Thalian Academy in Anderson county, by his mother, Harriet, from Poolsville in Spartanburg county, it describes the founding of the Reidville Female College and Reidville Male High School and notes that she and "A. Wakefield have given 100 acres and a thousand dollars. The neighborhood have given 4 thousand and Mr. Reid says the schools are fixed facts."

For the next two years John attended Arsenal Academy in Columbia, and by October 1861 he had enrolled at The Citadel in Charleston. His aunt Hettie Brockman wrote him from his father's home, Pleasant Falls in Spartanburg County, on the third of that month describing her visit to an army camp near Columbia where "everything of course was around to see and...with decided interest...I listened to explanations of Camp life," and telling of her attendance at a flag presentation ceremony for the "Brockman Guards" (Co. B, Thirteenth Regiment, South Carolina Volunteers) of which her older brothers Benjamin and Jesse were

members. There she saw Andrew Charles Moore (1838–1862), who had “arrived in our vicinity to cheer us with the news of the ‘dreadful winter they are going to have in old Virginia’” and lamented “if they cannot stand it how many of the noble and brave will breathe away their useful lives in this cause of liberty and only the lazy would-be patriots to enjoy the independence who never once raised a hand to grasp it from the terrible hands of Tyranny.”

John Crawford Anderson kept up a regular correspondence with his aunts Hettie and Ella Brockman and his sisters—Mary, in particular—throughout the war. The latter kept him informed of the estate settlement of their great uncle and aunt, Thomas (1797–1859) and Mary Kilgore Brockman (1800–1861), in November 1861. She wrote him that month detailing the sale of six slaves and listing them by name. Mary also seemed particularly concerned about the moral deportment of the soldiers and wrote to John on 11 January 1862 wishing that “all our Generals were Cromwells” since “austere morality was the characteristic of his army, not an oath was ever heard nor drunkenness ever seen in his Camp.” She went on to declare that “the violation of the third commandment and drunkenness are the crying sins of our nation,” but hoped that “our Country may come through this ‘crucible’ purified and refined.” Mary wrote to her brother again on 15 February on the topic of drunkenness, this time quipping, “I am afraid since Cotton has been dethroned ‘King Whisky’ has usurped the throne.”

Mary and her family at Pleasant Falls contributed to the Confederacy by raising money for a gun boat and housing refugees from Charleston. She wrote to her younger sister Nettie on 19 March 1862 and told of her “travel” the previous two weeks while raising contributions for a gun boat. Acquaintances of hers had been to Reidville and Crawfordsville, where “nearly every one of those factory girls gave a Dollar.” The letter also enclosed a list of thirty-nine donors including Ritter and Harriet, both of whom were listed under the heading “Servants,” and both of whom contributed one dollar. The Anderson family, like many in Spartanburg, hosted refugee families from Charleston when the Union army began to threaten the city. Mary wrote to her brother John on 24 May 1862 saying that “Pa promised Mr. Fanning to take a family, a Mrs. Hayne and family, but they have not arrived, are still in Charleston, I suppose. I have heard

they are among the 'high flyers,' 'big bangs,' etc" and "Grandpa has rented his house at Reidville to Mrs. Gibbs of Charleston." Less than a month later, tensions between the Spartanburg natives and low country visitors had developed. Mary fumed on 11 June that "some of the Refugees are very much dissatisfied in Spartanburg. Think the country people might put up with any and every privation for them." On the contrary, she thought that "they ought to be content with what they can get just now." She related that Mrs. Hayne had not yet arrived, but "the lady in Grandpa's house in Reidville is very much dissatisfied and he has nice patches of Irish potatoes, a garden, and sweet potatoes." In this letter, Mary Anderson also documented a rising feeling among people, including herself, that "the City [Charleston] must fall, that God has decreed it so as punishment to the *Slave holders* of the Low Country," and agreed that "the Institution of Slavery has been grossly abused and I think this scourge on our Coast is meant as punishment for them."

By May 1862 John Crawford Anderson was considering leaving The Citadel and enlisting in Confederate service. He had apparently approached his father on this subject before, for when David Anderson wrote to his son on 5 May, he urged him to use his own discretion in the matter, but reminded him that though he was "altogether willing for you to take the field...you must conduct yourself through this struggle so as not to be ashamed of anything you have done." John would stay at The Citadel until he graduated in 1863, training for his eventual duty as a soldier and trying to help his father sell cotton for a profit. On 20 April 1863 he wrote David Anderson about a "young Horsey, who has a brother now in the employ of John Frazier and Co. and who has been successful in running the Blockade seven times." He went on to explain that "he will get any reasonable quantity of cotton from here to Nassau for part of the profits [if] I furnish the cotton, pay the freight, lose everything if lost, [and] if made he shares the profits and has the general supervision of shippage and selling." There is no extant letter relating his father's reaction to the idea of running the blockade with his cotton.

Later in April, John Crawford Anderson joined his uncles Ben and Jesse Brockman in the Thirteenth Regiment, South Carolina Infantry. He would serve out the war with this unit. After the winter of 1863–1864, during which he thanked his father for an overcoat on 19 January 1864 since he

found it impractical “to wear woolen shirts, on account of the body lice, more familiarly known here as I.F.W.s (In for the War),” he participated in the battles at the Wilderness (where he was wounded), Spotsylvania (where Jesse Brockman would die and Ben Brockman would receive a wound from which he would die a month later), Cold Harbor, and Petersburg before being transferred to the defenses of Richmond in October 1864. Just before he left for his camp near Richmond, he wrote to his sister Mary on 17 October describing desertions from both armies. He claimed that “a good deal of desertion is going on among the Yankees. They come over continuously to our lines,” but maintained that “S.C. though stands pretty fair in that respect we have had but few instances from our Brigade and none from our Regt.”

John’s praise of his regiment in October 1864 reflected frequent comments made by the other soldier represented in this collection of papers, John Crawford Anderson’s uncle, Franklin Leland Anderson. “Uncle Frank” had enlisted for service in the “Spartan Rifles” just before the commencement of hostilities and served continuously with the Fifth Regiment, South Carolina Infantry, and Holcombe’s Legion in Virginia, Georgia, and North Carolina. He maintained a regular correspondence with his niece Mary Elizabeth Anderson and wrote to her on 22 April 1862 from Gordonsville, Virginia, discussing the possibility of his re-enlistment and the morale of the army: “Just think about being pressed in for two years further service to my country...But such is the price of Liberty one of Heaven’s choicest blessings and for it there is no privation we should not cheerfully undergo and pleasure forego for the furtherance of the great work in which we are engaged...What is to be the fate of this Army the Lord only knows, but it is evident the troops here have their minds thoroughly ready for the work; this is the spirit manifested by both officers and men.” This spirit was apparent when he described the soldiers defending the trenches around Petersburg on 4 August 1864. He noted that they had been “more than a month, during all that warm weather, inconvenient to water, and without protection from the sun and dews except such as they could make with their blankets” but that they endured it with a “patient cheerfulness.” He went on to comment on the Battle of the Crater (30 July 1864), during which “no material advantage has been gained by the enemy, save the slaughter of some of our brave men,” and

then remarked dryly, "I consider we are always the sufferers in point of morall worth when we fail to kill less than five to their one."

The final letter written by John Crawford Anderson to his father, dated 11 April 1865, two days after the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia, tries to make sense of the end of the war. He had met up with his "Uncle Frank," who, because of his recent assignment to the role of quartermaster for Holcombe's Legion, had not been captured with the majority of his unit at Petersburg, and the two were trying to find transportation back to Spartanburg following their parole. They and their fellow soldiers mourned "for our country and every man's face wears a haggard, dejected, and troubled look," but they believed it to "be the will of God and...therefore right." The feelings that John ascribes to his body servant at the end of this letter were probably shared by many in the army. "Peter still proves true and says he will never desert the cause, but is very much elated at the idea of getting home."

These letters were edited and published by Tom Moore Craig in *Upcountry South Carolina Goes to War: Letters of the Anderson, Brockman, and Moore Families* (University of South Carolina Press, 2009). **Gift of Mr. Tom Moore Craig, Jr., and Mrs. Susan Craig Murphy.**

Letter, 10 May 1834, of J[asper] Adams, Charleston, to the Rev. Sewall Harding, Waltham, Massachusetts, advises that he would not be able to visit Massachusetts during the summer as he had previously hoped. "At present...it does not appear probable that I shall be able to do this, as the health of one of the professors' wives is so feeble, that he has asked permission to be absent from 3 to 4 months, with a view to travel for her health. I regret this very much, for I very ardently desire to visit N. England. It is now 10 years (May 7th) since I arrived in Charleston. I have learned, however, to obey the calls of duty where they conflict with those of inclination."

Adams explains further that the "subordinate object of my visit to the north would have been, to look up various books, which have become scarce, & of which I am in want." Instead, he writes, since Harding had

“always been very kind in doing business for me,” he had decided to “send you a list which you can keep by you, & when you go to Boston & have a few minutes of leisure, I am sure you will be willing to employ it in looking them up for me.” Much of the remainder of the letter is given over to the list of books, some of which indicate the maximum amount Adams was willing to pay for them.

“I repeat that I suppose you may not be able to procure half, perhaps not a quarter or even an eighth part of the above at the prices mentioned,” the writer continues. “I shall be glad of any of them. Please use your best judgment in my behalf.”

“In looking over your last letter,” Adams writes as he concludes the letter, “I find I have not answered every part of it. I have no references to Mr. Jefferson’s religious opinions except what you may find in my con[vention] sermon [*The Relation of Christianity to Civil Government in the United States: A Sermon, Preached in St. Michael’s Church, Charleston, February 13th, 1833, Before the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Diocese of South-Carolina*], & what he says in the chapter on religion in his notes on Virginia. By looking over his correspondence, you may find a plenty of his antichristian opinions. I have no copy of his works, or I would look them out for you. Your neighbor Whitman is bold in undertaking to prove Mr. J. a christian.” There is also a passing mention of South Carolina’s own “political troubles”: “....I suppose you see by the papers that we still have political troubles. Mr. [Thomas Smith] Grimkè has lately made a great speech on the test oath. If I thought you would care about it, I would send you a copy.” **Acquired with dues contribution of Mrs. Bonnie Stanard.**

Document, 10 January 1905, South Carolina College centennial diploma conferring upon James Woods Babcock the degree of Doctor of Laws “in Recognition of your Eminent Merit and Services.” Signed by D.C. Heyward, Governor and Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and Benjamin Sloan, President. **Gift of Mr. Nicholas G. Meriwether.**

One hundred thirteen manuscripts, 1839–1985, augment the South Caroliniana Library’s holdings relating to the James M. Baxter family of Newberry.

James M. Baxter (1825–1881) corresponded with his wife, Fannie (Frances Caldwell Nance), both when he was away from home on

business as an attorney and when she was visiting family in Laurens. His letters comment on neighbors and acquaintances, political events, his health, and life at home and expresses his deep-seated affection for his wife and children. Writing on 22 September 1868, James noted, "Cotton is beginning to open rapidly but the caterpillar has made its appearance. What damages it will do I cannot say but fears are entertained." While in Mobile, Alabama, in May 1869, he observed in a letter dated the 24th, "The commissioners at the Battle House complain of the fare but we fare being well and have good quarters. I am unwilling to take off my flannels here. The days and nights are quite cool...Mobile is nice but I fear a declining city." And, he added, "Many strangers... inquire after the Old State as they term South Carolina." Baxter's letter to his wife dated 7 July 1870 expresses his lonesomeness while absent from her. "I miss you much in every way and look upon the months of July and August as a time of trial." A year later, 12 August 1871, Fannie wrote that she was thankful their love continued to increase rather than "diminishing and growing cold." The political atmosphere in Newberry in the summer of 1872 led Baxter to write, "Newberry is exceedingly dull and densely crowded with negroes but there is less of excitement than heretofore. The white people are so far wisely allowing the negroes to have their own way in the elections relying upon a masterly 'inactivity' for our final success. How it will be who can tell?"

After the death of James in 1881 the correspondence is chiefly between Fannie Baxter and Lucy, her daughter, a student at the Charleston Female Seminary. Mrs. Baxter was concerned with Lucy's wardrobe and wanted her to be dressed in the same fashion as her classmates. In her letter of 4 April 1882 she noted, "I send by Jeannie Simkins who goes to Charleston tomorrow the lawn for your dress. I have had it washed and find out it is not *linen*...I suppose you will just trim it with some frills or tucks &c." Mrs. Baxter shared with Lucy her worries over her son, Willie, in a letter of 31 January 1882. "Perhaps Willie is no worse about learning than other boys but it is hard to have your Papa's son so backward. I will try to encourage him as much as possible, but he does not love his books." Lucy also corresponded with her brother Willie and her sister Fannie and there are letters from Willie to his mother and from her to him. In a letter of 1

November 1881 the younger Fannie wrote to sister Lucy, "The circus was here today. Mattie Robbie Drayton and I went to the hotel to see the procession." And on 9 November 1881, Lucy wrote from Charleston telling Willie about the circus. "The circus was here tonight...We all went down to see the procession...suppose it is the same that was in Newberry."

In late 1885 Willie left Newberry for Laurens in search of work. He lived with his uncle and aunt, Dr. John A. and Martha Amelia Nance Barksdale, during this time. By April 1886, however, he was not well. In her letter of 13 May, Mrs. Baxter expresses concern that he has written only that he was "getting on 'pretty well' which is not quite equal to 'all right' as you usually say." She was worried too about a "pretty bad finger." A letter from Mrs. Barksdale to Mrs. Baxter, 20 May 1886, includes some medical advice from Dr. Barksdale. "Do you keep the bowels poultice? Dr. Barksdale thinks that is very important in Typhoid fever...says the wandering of the mind is from the quinine. He is very much opposed to *so much* quinine...it does no good and ought not be pushed on the patient."

Willie died on 28 May 1886. A letter of condolence from S.M. McGowan, Abbeville, mentions erysipelas as the cause of death. Naturally, Mrs. Baxter was devastated over the death of her only son. On 14 June 1886 she wrote to her sister, Martha Barksdale, "I cannot be reconciled to my loss and I feel it more and more each day. Such a feeling of loneliness and desolation as I have is dreadful...now I have *no one* to help me in the everyday affairs of life, no father, husband, son, or brother."

Earlier items in the collection include three letters, 9–10 October 1856 and undated, written by William S. Davidson from Charleston to his wife on Sullivan's Island and an anonymous valedictory oration delivered 28 December 1856 before the Polytechnic Society. **Acquired with dues contributions of Mr. Millen Ellis and Mr. & Mrs. Robert P. Wilkins.**

Fifteen manuscripts, 1877–1878, 1888–1891, and undated, consist chiefly of letters to Leslie Charles, presumably Emily Leslie Charles (b. 1859), eldest daughter of Hugh Lide Charles and Caroline Augusta Bacot, of Darlington. The first three letters in the collection were written from China by Mary Thiang to Leslie Charles in Darlington and discuss the former's missionary work in China. In a letter of 17 October 1877, written from Canton, Thiang reintroduces herself as "the Chinese girl, who was in

America nearly six years ago; and was in your neighbourhood a day and night; went to your house...and took some peaches and milk.” Nearly a year later, on 11 July 1878, Thiang wrote again, this time from “Tungchow.” In this letter she described the city to Leslie Charles, including a cemetery used by the foreign community—“it is on a hill & over looks the sea; there are a good many missionaries & children buried there, grave stones are always put up over loved ones, but the Chinese nearly always come & break or try to injure it in some way...it is not the christians who do it, it is the poor heathen.”

The remaining letters were written to Leslie Charles by the Reverend E.C.L. Browne (b. ca. 1835) while he was pastor at the Unitarian Church in Charleston and later from Pomona, California. Browne, a Massachusetts native, served the Unitarian Church in Charleston from 1876 to 1889. Most of the letters he wrote to Leslie Charles center on religion and appear to answer her questions regarding Unitarianism. The last letter Browne wrote to her before leaving South Carolina, dated 10 June 1889, outlines his reasons for moving to California. He lamented that the “southern field is not a fertile one for our thought” and that even though “this church has stood here in Chn. for full 70 yrs, declaring the simplicity of the truth as it is in Jesus... the numbers of those who want simplicity & reason are still but few.” He closed by declaring that “I long to go where they are more numerous.”

His next letter was written 3 February 1890 from Pomona, California, “a little town—5000,” much of which was “entirely hidden in the orange & other fruit trees, wh. makes the village appearance even less than the reality.” His church, he noted, was “a small congregation, & with no proper abiding place, ‘dwelling in tents,’ & worshipping in halls.” E.C.L. Browne’s last letter to Leslie Charles, written 27 April 1891, described his ill health and his decision to retire from the ministry. **Acquired with dues contribution of Ms. Edna Swartzbeck.**

Letter, 23 Sept[ember] [18]62, of John C. Dial, Columbia, to J.B. Davis concerns the purchase of nails, which had escalated in price. “I have been selling nails at 25\$ but they have advanced at the factory 5\$ keg & I am now selling @ 28\$.” The message is penned on the verso of a printed “Circular Notice,” 1 November 1861, regarding the dissolution of the firm of

Allen & Dial due to the death of John M. Allen. "The HARDWARE BUSINESS will be continued at the old Stand, by the Subscriber, in his own name, and on his own account, and he respectfully solicits a continuance of the patronage so generously bestowed upon the old firm." Signed in print by John C. Dial, the circular features a full advertisement for the business, which it indicates was located at the corner of Columbia's Richardson and Washington streets, "At The Sign of The Golden Pad-Lock." **Acquired with dues contributions of Mr. & Mrs. John Lowery and Ms. Catherine Sease.**

Manuscript volume, 1906–1915, diary kept and indexed by Margaret Moore Douglas (1875–1940) details her activities while serving as a Presbyterian missionary and teacher in Recife, Pernambuco, on the northeast coast of Brazil. Race relations and conflicts between Catholics and the "Christian" minority are constant themes in the entries of this Chester native. On 20 August 1906, shortly after her arrival in Brazil, Douglas described the demographic composition of a typical worship service. She expressed surprise that "as yet the gospel has mostly reached only the negroes. I am surrounded in church with negroes, mulattoes, a few white people, of the plainer sort, negro elders, and deacons, a negress as organist." She went on to note that the "better class of white people despise the Christian religion, say it is only for negroes and common people."

Her school's attendance and curriculum was also influenced by these conflicting views on religion. On 27 August 1906 she claimed that her school offered "better training than the Catholic school in all the secular studies," and that this in turn made parents more willing to send their children. However, she admitted that parents also favored her school because they wanted their children to learn English, yet many pupils' parents would "send messages and notes saying 'Do not teach my child the Bible...Do not teach my child the catechism...I do not want my child to learn your religion.'"

Douglas seemed surprised at the differences between interactions among individuals of different races in Brazil when compared to South Carolina. On 17 November 1906 she expressed disbelief that when church members were invited to her house for tea "only two negro men

and one negro woman came” and noted that “it was the first time I was ever served a meal with negroes.”

Although she allowed that “those who take the part in church work that the preachers and their wives do may have to do this,” she expected “to have the same relations with the negroes that I had at home. I do not take any negroes into our school.”

Margaret Douglas also devoted portions of her diary to regional events, including a fundraiser “to raise money for the people who are suffering from the recent earthquake in Chile” (12 September 1906) and the death of Brazilian president Afonso Augusto Moreira Pena (17 July 1909). Some of the final entries revolve around the outbreak of World War I and its effects on Brazil. On 16 August 1914 she noted that flour had doubled in price since the beginning of the war and feared that if fighting continued for long “no more coal [would] be gotten & that will stop the trains and electric cars.” Writing two months later, on 18 October, Douglas lamented that they “are feeling the war in earnest. Prices are still high & we have received word...that all our salaries and appropriations have been cut one half.” **Gift of Mrs. Mary Douglas Stauffer.**

Printed manuscript, undated, election broadside announcing the candidacy of John H. Earle, of Greenville, for Railroad Commissioner. “Born and raised in Sumter, S.C. Graduated from the Citadel, Charleston, S.C. A young, energetic man now living in the Piedmont. A man who is fighting against the use of money in elections. A son of the lamented Senator Joseph H. Earle. A man who will do his duty if elected[.]” **Gift of Mr. Harvey S. Teal.**

Twenty-seven manuscripts, 1834–1849, added to the papers of politician and banker Franklin Harper Elmore (1799–1850), relate chiefly to the operation of Nesbitt Manufacturing Company. Elmore served as a trustee of this iron manufacturing business located in Union District.

Included with the collection are seven letters, 1840–1843, written by the Columbia firm of Pollock Solomon & Company to William Clark, president of the Nesbitt Manufacturing Company, in Cooperville. These discuss the selling of nails and iron in Columbia on the company’s behalf and the shipping of molasses, salt, buttons, saws, spades, scythe blades, screws, sugar, shoes, hats, oil, shovels, and coffee to Cooperville. The firm’s letter to Clark dated 17 May 1841 describes the difficulty they were having in

selling the manufacturer's nails to local merchants although the "quality of your Nails are good so said by every body that has seen them." The writer goes on to indicate that the lack of sales can be attributed to the fact that "the Merchants of this place will not purchase from us unless we sell them as low or something lower than they can get the foreign article delivered at to them," and advises that the plant should direct "us to dispose of your Nails at 6 or 6 ¼ cts. to the greatest extent."

The production efforts of the Nesbitt Manufacturing Company were national in scope, a fact borne out by a number of items extant in this collection of papers. Among these are letters of 13 and 25 August 1843 written from Washington by R. Beale to Elmore in Charleston that seem to indicate that the iron works was producing items on contract for the United States Navy. However, not all of these efforts were successful, as evidenced by a letter written on 7 July 1847 from Washington by Secretary of the Navy John Young Mason to Robert Barnwell Rhett. In this letter, Mason notes his disappointment at "the *mode* of execution" of the contract and declares that this "will not fail to impair his chances for further contracts, because it fails to establish what I hoped to have illustrated by this experiment." Mason had hoped to prove that "a South Carolina foundry had been found successful in furnishing these important supplies for national defence on favourable terms," but informs instead that "the contracts of the Virginia founders, have been executed." **Gift of Dr. & Mrs. Edmund R. Taylor.**

Manuscript volume, 1928–1944, Georgetown Music Club minute book constitutes a record of club activities reflecting sporadic meetings during the Great Depression and early years of World War II. Minutes from 8 December 1930 reference the club's infrequent gatherings since March 1929. No minutes were recorded in this volume between May of 1939 and October of 1942.

The minutes document the difficulty of collecting dues from members and the struggle to pay club debts. They include the names of officers and details of musical programs sponsored by the club as well as those presented by members at regular club meetings. Public outreach included plans to sponsor a program of music at Awendaw CCC [Civilian Conservation Corps] camp on 5 April 1934, a concert appearance by New

York mezzo-soprano Consuelo Cloos, and financial support of Red Cross work in 1943. **Gift of Mr. Harvey S. Teal.**

Three and three-quarters linear feet of materials, ca. 1920s– 1940s, augment the South Caroliniana Library's holdings relating to best-selling author Francis H. Griswold (1902–2001) and consist mainly of early drafts, edited typescripts, carbon typescripts, and research notes used in Griswold's writings.

Born in Albany, New York, in 1902 and reared nearby in Slingerlands, Griswold graduated from Albany Academy and attended Union College for one year. He became enthralled with the American South through extended visits there while employed in tutoring students for college entrance. He lived for a while in Augusta, Georgia, and in the mountains of North Carolina, where he did a lot of his writing, but research for Griswold's two best-selling historical novels led him to Beaufort, Charleston, and Georgetown, South Carolina and to Savannah, Georgia.

The bulk of the collection relates to the two novels set in South Carolina. Included is a copy of the original typescript for *The Tides of Malvern*, published in 1930, and early drafts and edited carbon typescript drafts of *A Sea Island Lady*, which came out in 1939. Two final manuscripts of a short story, "Jerry," and rejection notes from the *American Mercury* and Two Worlds Publishing Company, Inc., as well as a handwritten draft of *Labor for the Wind*, 1927, and subsequent edited typescript drafts with the title changed to *When the Wind Blows* are also included.

Nineteen memoranda books are filled with research notes for Griswold's historical novels: books to read, lists of possible names for characters, bits of Gullah dialect, and weather reports. There are fifty-three photographs which are unidentified and two albums from Great Britain filled with images of buildings, churches, and manors in The Cotswolds. A scrapbook contains clipped newspaper reviews of *The Tides of Malvern*, 1930–1931, published in various papers, as well as notices of similar works of fiction dealing with themes of local color and regionalism. Also present is a first edition of *The Tides of Malvern*, complete with dust jacket, and an edition of *The Idol* (March 1931; vol. 4, no. 3), a literary magazine published by Union College, reviewing Griswold's work and including biographical anecdotes of his early life. **Acquired with dues contributions of Mr. & Mrs. Fred H. Gantt, Dr. & Mrs. Larry A.**

Jackson, Dr. Michael P. Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. William L. Kinney, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Craig H. Metz, Dr. Ann Russell, and Mr. William B. White, Jr.

Letter, 5 October 1860, of Tho[mas] H[art] Law (1838–1923), Theological Seminary, Columbia, addresses his “dear Cousin William” on the “subject of religion” and expresses hope that the recipient would “not regard it as presumptuous or officious in me” since “I need scarcely say that I have your eternal welfare at heart.” For many months, Law reports, he had daily “presented your case at a throne of heavenly grace, and besought the special blessing of our Father in Heaven, upon you.” Now citing a recent conversion among the circle of family friends, the writer confesses that he had found the convert’s rejoicing “reproof...for my backwardness in speaking on the subject of religion, to those whose interests are so near to my heart....And while this reminds me of a duty, which perhaps I owe to you, it also encourages me to go onward in the discharge of that duty.”

The letter continues at length, arguing that “there is nothing which would more delight the great Adversary of Souls than to have a trembling child of God doubt a Saviour’s love,” and suggests that while “you alone know the movement of your soul, only *you* can determine whether you have complied with the terms of salvation—‘Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ.’” “Your condition is truly critical,” Law wrote, “and the question...should be decided at once. If a child of God, you are sinning in not believing it. But if unrenewed, alas! ’tis much worse. You are pausing over the very pit of hell. Then let me beseech at once to fly to Jesus!”

The letter concludes with a recommendation that the recipient peruse Richard Baxter’s *The Saints’ Everlasting Rest*. “Read it carefully & prayerfully, beseeching the Spirit to apply the truth, and you will doubtless be richly rewarded.” **Acquired with dues contribution of Mrs. Frances Stubblefield.**

Manuscript, 19 March 1814, “A list of the Negroes sent to Mr. Jno. Singleton,” identifies twenty-eight slaves by name. Signed by Ann Lehrs, the document further states, “The above Negroes were safely Delivered to Hannibal on Saturday 19th March 1814.” Public records suggest that this may be a Charleston District document. **Gift of Mr. Scott Wilds.**

Manuscript volume, 1803–1809, consists largely of records kept by Davison McDowell (1784–1842) at Strawberry Hill plantation in what is now Georgetown County. Typical entries consist of daily comments describing the preparation and repairing of rice fields, the planting and harvesting of rice, weather, the distribution of blankets and tools to slaves, the hiring of slaves, and illnesses among enslaved persons at Strawberry Hill. In addition to these standard entries, McDowell noted unusual activities and weather patterns. These included the theft of thirty bushels of rice on 6 April 1805 and of his boat on 4 July 1805, the escape of a slave named Rina on 4 October 1805, and the tidal effect of a comet that was visible in October and November 1807.

Also included in the volume is an undated chart listing slaves by name and the days on which they were sick, and a set of accounts, 1803–1809, detailing personal expenses, cattle purchased, and money paid and spent for the hiring of slaves. **Gift of Mrs. Mary Douglas Stauffer.**

Printed volume, 1936, Helen Kohn Hennig's *Columbia, Capital City of South Carolina, 1786–1936*, published by The Columbia Sesqui-Centennial Commission, with manuscript corrections and annotations by Margaret Babcock Meriwether. Inscribed on the flyleaf is "To Mrs. Meriwether, with the deep appreciation of the Columbia Sesqui-centennial Commission: James H. Hammond, Helen Kohn Hennig, J. Macfie Anderson, Ames Haltiwanger, L.B. Owens, Jeff B. Bates, C.S. Lemon, W[illia]m Lykes, Jr." And pasted down opposite the inscription is a check stub for \$25.00 paid Mrs. Meriwether "For reading proof on the History of Columbia," a job for which she was to earn 30 cents per hour for 100 hours. Her manuscript notations indicate that she did not notify those who issued the check of the discrepancy, which she chalked up as "Mathematical Insouciance." In addition to manuscript notations, the volume contains newsclippings and other supporting documentation laid in. **Gift of Mr. Nicholas G. Meriwether.**

Twenty-two manuscripts, 29 January 1852–26 August 1862, consist primarily of letters written by Spartanburg County native Andrew Charles Moore (1838–1862) to his mother, Nancy Miller Montgomery (1804–1862). Moore, an 1858 graduate from South Carolina College (present-day University of South Carolina), studied law at the University of Virginia from 1859 to 1860.

Eleven of the letters in this collection were written while A.C. Moore was a student in Charlottesville, including that of 23 October 1859, written on stationery illustrated with a view of the University of Virginia campus, and 21 November 1859, discussing John Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry, Virginia. Brown and seventeen others, he noted in the letter of 21 November, had been "condemned to be hung at Charlestowne in Dec. for murdering the whites & trying to run off slaves." Moore went on to explain that the "Governor has ordered a large military force & has gone with them...to stay until after the hanging to guard the town from attack by the abolitionist to rescue Browne & the other prisoners" and concluded by predicting that "there is obliged to be a dissolution of the union before long."

In the summer of 1860 Andrew Charles Moore traveled to Washington and New York City in the company of friends and family. The party included Mary J. Foster (1841–1901), Moore's second cousin and future wife, and Andrew Barry Moore (1807–1873), Andrew Charles Moore's first cousin and governor of Alabama. Moore described the time they spent in Washington in two letters, 31 May and 8 June 1860, written respectively to his mother and sister. The first letter details a visit to the Capitol building, where Moore saw "the great men of the nation." He then quipped that they did not "look better or smarter than other people & I must confess my ideas of great men is somewhat lessened." In the letter of 8 June he told his sister that while at the Capitol he heard "Charles Sumner of Brooks notoriety." Moore found it "surprising to hear how he told about pulling out negroes' toenails by the roots and punishment for running away: about cropping their ears to know them, hunting them with dogs, etc." While in New York city, the party stayed at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, "a superb affair...six stories high, built of marble, and most superbly furnished. You are carried up and down the stairs on the 'vertical railway' and there is nothing you can possibly want that a servant will not bring to your room in a few minutes after the ringing of the bell." These servants, however, were not like those that Moore was accustomed to. He explained that "it is seldom that I see a negro here. All the servants are white and I can now order a man as white as myself to black my boots with perfect unconcern, though it seemed wrong at first." He was well pleased with the white

servants though as he thought that they were “quite as obedient; much quicker, and more trusty.”

Following South Carolina’s secession from the United States in December 1860, Andrew Charles Moore joined the Eighteenth Regiment, South Carolina Infantry. Only one letter written by Moore from the field is extant in this collection. Dated 20 October 1861, it describes buying and eating a hog’s head and brains—“a little hog is fine to one who eats beef constantly”—and a recent trip to the First Manassas battlefield. He lamented, “never, was I so forcibly impressed with the idea that war proceeds from want of humanity, & wickedness of heart.” Andrew Charles Moore was killed less than a year later during the battle of Second Manassas.

These letters were edited and published by Tom Moore Craig in *Upcountry South Carolina Goes to War: Letters of the Anderson, Brockman, and Moore Families* (University of South Carolina Press, 2009). **Gift of Mr. Tom Moore Craig, Jr., and Mrs. Susan Craig Murphy.**

Three letters, 4 March 1861, 11 September 1863, and 9 October 1866, added to the papers of Thomas John Moore (1843–1919), were written to Moore by his mother, Nancy Miller Montgomery Moore Evins (1804–1862), his sister-in-law, Mary Foster Moore (1841–1901), and her father, Robert Foster (1812–1890).

The first letter, written to Moore while a student at South Carolina College by his mother from Fredonia plantation in Spartanburg county, details attendance at Reidville Male College and Reidville Female School and describes “Unkle Theron’s misfortunes in getting his house and a negro house burnt.” She goes on to explain that they were able to save “but very little as there was no one at the house but Sally and a negro woman.” The fire, she relates, “was discovered in a small room in the kitchen just beyond the seller door, think a spark must have blown in there,” and notes that they “have put up a negro house and are living in it.”

The next item in the collection was written by Mary Foster Moore, the widow of Thomas John Moore’s older brother Andrew (who was killed at the Battle of Second Manassas in August 1862), from her home in Marion, Alabama. In this letter she inquired why he had not written to her recently and hoped that he had not forgotten “the heart-broken wife of your dear

dead brother, whom you promised should retain a sister[’s] place and love in your memory” or that “some officious persons, who seem to think a great deal less of me since the loss of my *gallant* and *noble husband*” had not been “working upon your kind feelings with regard to me.” Mary Foster Moore also expressed her regret that a monument had not yet been erected at her deceased husband’s burial site, Nazareth Presbyterian Church in Spartanburg County, and implored Thomas John Moore to “visit *that precious grave* frequently and attend to it, to prevent the growth of weeds and grass.”

The third letter was written to Moore by his sister-in-law’s father, Robert Moore, from Marion, Alabama, and deals primarily with the two men’s attempts to arrange payments for the monument erected at Andrew Charles Moore’s gravesite and for portraits of Thomas John Moore’s mother and brother painted by Nicola Marschall (1829–1917).

The letters of 4 March 1861 and 11 September 1863 were edited and published by Tom Moore Craig in *Upcountry South Carolina Goes to War: Letters of the Anderson, Brockman, and Moore Families* (University of South Carolina Press, 2009). **Gift of Mr. Tom Moore Craig, Jr., and Mrs. Susan Craig Murphy.**

Manuscript volume, 1862–1864, **and photograph**, [ca. 1861–1864], attest to the Civil War experiences of Alexander C. Mower, a member of the Fifty-fifth Regiment, Pennsylvania Infantry, who is identified as a musician and member of the drum corps. Throughout the course of the pocket journal, the military unit to which Mower was attached was billeted in the Beaufort and Port Royal vicinity along the South Carolina coast.

An undated account penned on the first several pages of the manuscript volume takes the form of a letter to Harry, telling that “The boys down here smelt powder since my last letter to you,” although Mower notes that he had been sick with fever and consequently had not been able to go along on the military expedition. Auxiliary sources indicate that it was October of 1862 when the Fifty-fifth shared in a military expedition up the Broad River to destroy the Charleston & Savannah Railroad. Landing at Pocotaligo Point, the journal notes, the Union troops were within ten miles of a railroad bridge between Charleston and Savannah and the intention was to burn the bridge and cut off communications by railroad. The Confederates anticipated the movement, however, and the resulting

fighting involved also the Forty-seventh and Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania, as well as the Third and Fourth New Hampshire and part of the Third Rhode Island. According to Mower, the Fifty-fifth lost Captain [Horace C.] Bennett of Co. E in the fight, and there were nearly forty killed, wounded, or missing.

Many other entries are considerably briefer. That of 21 September [18]62, headed Hilton Head, Port Royal, refers to picket duty during which the Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania was reinforced by part of the Eighth Maine Volunteers and tells of a meal of “coon, sweet potatoes, crackers[,] plum butter, jams of different kinds, coffee & whiskey,” a veritable feast, while, he notes, they were surrounded by mosquitoes “which swarmed around us thick as bees.” Another, datelined “Beaufort S.C. Sept. [18]62,” reports a “Rumor that Stone Wall Jackson is surrounded By our troops But Not Generally Beleived.” The death on 30 September 1862 of Pvt. Edward Riley, a fellow member of Co. D, Fifty-fifth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, laid to rest in the Catholic churchyard, is duly noted. An “Irishman...and a good soldier,” who was “much loved By the Entire Company,” Riley, so Mower conjectured, had “no friends in this country as far as we was able to learn.” Mower also writes of the excitement in camp in early October of 1862 amid rumors of peace and expectation of being home by Christmas.

There are scattered references to the drum corps and the duties of a regimental musician. On 14 November 1862, the journal notes, Mower took charge of the drum corps for Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers. In January of 1864, the band of the Fifty-fifth acted as the “Escort from Jail to the Ground of Execution” for a deserter from Co. I, amid what Mower termed simply “Excitement in Camp.” Other times were less somber. On 18 January 1864 there was a “Grand Serenade,” with music provided by officers, including Lt. Col. F[rank T.] Bennett, who played the fiddle until four o’clock in the morning. “Pretty well drunked,” he wrote in summation.

Mower’s entry of 21 June 1862 mentions the ship *Planter*, a 300-ton side-wheel steamship, built for commercial use at Charleston in 1860. In 1861–1862, she served the Confederate Army as an armed transport and dispatch vessel. Then, on 13 May 1862, her black pilot, Robert Smalls, ran her past the Charleston fortifications and turned her over to Federal forces blockading that port. The vessel operated as a unit of the United States

Navy's South Atlantic Blockading Squadron during 1862 but later in that year was transferred to the United States Army.

Perhaps the most compelling note found in the volume is undated and among the briefest of the entries. The person to whom the request was addressed is not identified yet the message speaks poignantly of the human experience in time of war: "Sir, Could you not fill that little Bottle for Me before we start to stay my Nerves Whilst on duty today. A.C.M."

In April 1864 the Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania left South Carolina for Virginia and it was there on 28 January 1865 Alexander C. Mower died at Point of Rocks. His remains are interred at City Point National Cemetery, Hopewell, Virginia.

Accompanying the manuscript volume is a one-sixth plate cased ambrotype showing a young man in knit cap and uniform, seated with a small sword or bayonet raised across his chest and a carved meerschaum pipe clenched between his teeth. "A.C. Mower, Company D[,] 55th, My Child, 1864," is written in the case behind the image. **Acquired with dues contributions of Miss Gloria Bonali, Mrs. Ann Bowen, Father Peter Clarke, Mr. Thomas C. Deas, Jr., Ms. Rebecca Epting, Mrs. Lewis Hendricks, Mrs. C. Warren Irvin, Mr. M. Hayes Mizell, and Dr. Marcia Synnott.**

Manuscript volume, 30 November 1856–16 February 1857, log book of a three-month trading journey from Charleston to Bordeaux, France, of the brig *Abby & Elizabeth*, of New Bedford, Massachusetts. The log was maintained by the ship's master, Thomas C. Perry (1807–1885), and covers the period from when the ship set sail from Charleston in November to its departure from Bordeaux the following February. The ship sailed to Bordeaux with a cargo of cotton and rice and on its return voyage carried wine and prunes.

In addition to providing daily records of wind speed, course, longitude, latitude, general weather conditions, and seafaring sightings, Perry recorded details of life aboard the vessel and inscribed the names of crew members Lewis Jennings, James Bloom, William H. Harrison Perry, George Mundy, William Burke, Samuel Solomons, and Henry F. Thomas. One troublesome seaman, William Burke, who could not "by his own admission whip a rope—nor can we trust him at the wheel," as Perry noted on 23 December, ultimately died on board ship after falling from the

vessel's top mast to the deck below. Another, George Mundy, who had shipped as an able seaman, was "seasick as death" the first day of the voyage.

On 14 December the crew of the *Abby & Elizabeth* encountered the abandoned brig *Grace of White Haven*, which had been deserted at sea with a broken rudder while still laden with tobacco and mahogany and her crew removed bales of tobacco from the disabled ship. Following thirty-four days of travel, on 3 January 1857, the *Abby & Elizabeth* anchored three miles from its intended destination for the burial of seaman William Burke. The next day they entered Bordeaux.

While in the French port the ship's cargo was discharged, freight bound for New York was loaded, and repairs were made to the *Abby & Elizabeth*, which was also painted by the crew. During the stay in port Perry's log notes repeated instances of intoxication. Crew members went ashore on liberty the first day in port and upon their return appeared to have "partaken too freely of the fruit of the vine," causing the ship master to confide, "...I fear I shall have to refuse to give them any more liberty to go ashore while in Port." With or without leave, the incidents continued, however, and on 31 January he noted that the second mate had been confined to jail at his request for having "refused to do duty." Then, on 3 February, a liquor-induced scuffle among shipmates involving a loaded pistol threatened to disrupt order until Perry managed to arrive on the scene in time to prevent bloodshed and restore order.

The jailed second mate having been returned to the ship by the local authorities, the *Abby & Elizabeth* put to sea again on 16 February 1857. According to the log, the return passage took forty-five days, though Perry offers few details on the voyage apart from the fact that the main boom was lost in a squall. **Acquired with dues contributions of Mrs. Mary Louise Mason and Dr. John Hammond Moore.**

Letter, 6 June 1850, of J[oe]l R[oberts] Poinsett, was written from "The Homestead near Greenville S.C.," to Commander Charles Wilkes, U.S. N[avy], Washington, D.C., in support of the latter's claim to extra compensation for his services as commander of the United States Exploring Expedition, commonly called the Wilkes Expedition, even though Wilkes only held the rank of lieutenant.

Recalling that “the intentions of the President [Van Buren] in relation to your compensation & that of the navy officers under you who were charged with the departments of astronomy, Physics, meteorology and hydrography,” Poinsett states that the officers were to receive the pay of officers of similar rank employed on the coast surveys, but “with regard to yourself...it would have been unjust to have burthened you with highly arduous and responsible duties both naval and scientific without augmenting your compensation in both respects. The expedition was regarded by the executive as being entirely divested of all military character except in so far as was necessary to maintain the discipline of the service; it’s purposes were purely scientific. You were appointed First Officer of the Expedition and it was clearly intended if not so expressed, that you should have both the naval command of the squadron and the control and superintendence of the scientific department & scientific operations of the expedition. Your appointment was made without any regard to your naval rank, but altogether from our belief in your fitness to discharge it’s varied and high responsible duties; and we considered you entitled to receive an equal compensation with officers performing similar duties whatever might be their rank or title.”

Acquired with dues contributions of Dr. Anne Dickert, Mrs. Sarah C. Gillespie, Mr. E. Crosby Lewis, and Mrs. Anne R.H. Melton.

Letter, 16 March 1866, written from Oakland, Sumter District, by C.F. Ramsay addresses Mary McD. Gunn, New York City, conveying religious advice and encouraging her to further her education. Ramsay identifies herself as a quasi foster mother, mentor, teacher, and friend and writes of her own reliance upon God as “a Divine Parent who can give me the result of his wisdom & who can support me ‘without money & without price,’” especially since the “annihilation of our currency.” The letter indicates that Ramsay was a contributor to the *Southern Presbyterian* and states that she had “just published a very long piece ‘Reflections on the Life of Jacob,’ which I wrote 3 years ago, but did not offer at that time, on account of its length.” In conclusion, the writer notes, “I hope soon to resume my pen; pray to God that it may be a sanctified pen.”

Independent sources indicate that a Miss C.F. Ramsay, aged around fifty-four years, died as the result of burns from her clothes having caught on fire on 9 February 1880 at Stateburg. She was identified as a native of Charleston. **Gift of Mr. Harvey S. Teal.**

Ninety-one manuscripts, 1793–1854, added to the South Caroliniana Library’s holdings of Singleton family papers relate primarily to the

breeding and racing of horses by Richard Singleton (1776–1852) and other members of the Singleton family. As evidenced by a promissory note, 1 February 1801, for money owed by him to the South Carolina Jockey Club, Richard Singleton’s involvement with the turf started at an early age, and by the end of his life he was one of the premier breeders in South Carolina.

A document titled “Colt Stakes,” 29 December 1810, substantiates the fact that Singleton helped organize and participated in high stakes horse races. This item served as an agreement between James B. Richardson, Allen Jones Davie, and Richard Singleton “to pay annually for Five years...the sum of One hundred Dollars to be run for by three years old, to be bred by a subscriber, or purchased and named by him at or before two years old.” Through horse breeding and the training of stable hands Singleton was also influential in the development of other South Carolinians’ stocks of race horses. Examples of both of these activities include a bill dated 16 July 1829 for thirty dollars owed to Singleton by Paul Fitzsimmons for “putting one mare to Crusader,” and a letter of 9 December 1840 written from Mulberry plantation by James Chesnut to Singleton inquiring “how does my man Abram come on in his Stable Education? Will he do for a groom?” and sending “acknowledgments for all trouble he may occasioned you or my old friend Cornelius or any other teacher for whom he may have received instruction.”

Richard Singleton’s involvement with horse breeding was not limited to South Carolina alone, however. A series of letters, 23 August 1833–14 April 1835, written from Liverpool, England, and Charleston by James Butler Clough regard the shipment of fillies from “Lord Fitzwilliam’s” (presumably William Wentworth-FitzWilliam, the 4th Earl FitzWilliam, a noted English breeder) stables to South Carolina. Another series of letters, written in the 1840s from Hick’s Ford, Virginia, by A.T.B. Merritt, documents the interactions between breeders and racers from that state and South Carolina. Of particular interest is that of 12 December 1845 in which Merritt informs Singleton that he is sending “Hank to aid you in training your horses” and claims that “we have only one trainer in Virginia, viz: Arthur Taylor who ranks as high as Hank does.”

Singleton, along with other top breeders, figures prominently in John Beaufain Irving’s *The South Carolina Jockey Club* published in 1857.

Irving was evidently working on this volume at least fifteen years prior to its publication as he wrote Singleton a letter dated 30 December 1842 informing that he is “about publishing a little work on ‘the South Carolina Turf’—its History, and condition at different epochs” and asking that Singleton furnish him “with such a statement of your career on the Turf as may be gratifying to yourself to be made public, & at the same time useful, as general information for all that are to come after us.” **Gift of Dr. & Mrs. Edmund R. Taylor.**

Letter, 20 Jan[uar]y 1846, addressed to Col. R[ichard] Singleton, Stateburg, by W[illia]m S. Lawton, Charleston, discusses the fluctuation in cotton prices on the international market, part of which, Lawton suggests, was the result of the Oregon boundary dispute. He thought it likely that “the probability of war with England...will keep this market in an unsettled state for several months to come.” The Oregon Treaty which ended the boundary dispute was not signed until June of 1846. Nonetheless, the factor expected that more favorable news from Liverpool would result in the market being improved within the month. **Gift of Mr. Harvey S. Teal.**

Manuscript volume, 1877, from the library of bibliophile Yates Snowden (1858–1933), binds together tear sheets detached for four articles on Reconstruction in the Palmetto State originally appearing in volume 39 of *The Atlantic Monthly*. Three of the essays, “The Political Condition of South Carolina,” “South Carolina Morals,” and “South Carolina Society,” were authored by Belton O’Neill Townsend under the name, “A South Carolinian.” The fourth, “Rodman the Keeper,” was signed by Constance Fenimore Woolson.

Penned on the of the flyleaf of the volume is the following inscription in Snowden’s hand:

“Attracted by these articles on Reconstruction in S.C., & recognizing that they were not the work of the ordinary, (but happily rare), South Carolina ‘scalawag’, but, by a man of ability, who told much that was true, I wrote to my friend Gov. D.H. Chamberlain, asking the name of the anon. author. He answered, ‘Belton O’Neill Townsend’.

“The *scene* of “Rodman, the Keeper” is Florence S.C. Miss Woolson, the author, in this, and other S.C. stories and sketches, is generally very fair, and always sympathetic.” **Gift of Mr. Nicholas G. Meriwether.**

Printed manuscript, 13 September 1819, Charleston, circular letter addressed to “His Excellency The Governor of Pen[n]sylvania” forwarding the resolution of the South Carolina House of Representatives “on the recommendation of the State of North-Carolina, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, to establish a uniform mode of ELECTING ELECTORS of President and Vice-President.” The House of Representatives proceedings are signed in print by R. Anderson, C.H.R. The circular letter bears the signature of South Carolina governor John Geddes. **Acquired with dues contributions of Dr. Lacy Ford, Dr. Janet Hudson, and Mr. & Mrs. Harold F. Gallivan III.**

Letter, 27 January [1845], of N[icholas] P. T[illinghast] (1817–1869), Society Hill, to his mother, Mrs. R[ebecca] P[ower] Tillinghast, care of her son-in-law, Dr. Charles Willing, Philadelphia, P[ennsylvania], was penned less than a month after the death of Nicholas’ father, Joseph Leonard Tillinghast (1791–1844). The elder Tillinghast, a Providence, Rhode Island, attorney who represented his state as a Whig in the United States House of Representatives, 1837–1843, had died on 30 December 1844 and Nicholas, an Episcopal priest in South Carolina, was writing in an attempt to relieve his mother of anxiety regarding potential financial difficulties posed by Rhode Island’s dower laws.

“...though little versed in the laws of Rhode Island,” Tillinghast wrote, “I had entertained no doubt that your right of dower would extend to the whole estate. But I trust...that the condition in which things are now placed, will only strengthen the ties of love between us all. I know that you will find your own comfort & enjoyment as fully secured under the present arrangement, as if the formal verdict of the Law were in your favour. Joyfully shall I avail myself of this opportunity to acknowledge, & repay in some small measure, the vast obligations under which your natural kindness has laid me; & to retain my place in your regard & love by acting, as I know your own kind heart would have prompted you to act toward me, in similar circumstances. What is mine, nominally, shall be yours in reality; my income, whether large or small, shall be placed at your disposal; & I shall satisfy myself, from year to year, that your welfare & comfort are fully provided for in the first place before any portion is appropriated to myself.”

Expressing regret that his mother could not be with him in South Carolina, Nicholas declared, “my stay is now so precarious a matter. In a

negative sense I have got along well, remarkably well, this winter—but of positive satisfaction or enjoyment, derived from congeniality of mind or temper, or from the cheering evidences of spiritual usefulness, or from the conscious ripening of my own faculties under the auspicious influence of elevated intercourse—I have nothing to look back to. My grief has been respected, & that is all that I ask. But it is one of the brightest of my day-dreams, that some future time, may it be near, will see you seated at my fireside, as a permanent inmate—to guide, console, counsel, & inspire me to action.”

Later portions of the letter speak of his desire to travel abroad that summer. “The physicians say confidently that a voyage of this kind would reestablish my health, by checking this overaction of the heart, which keeps me weak; & by accelerating the pulse, often to 100, sometimes to 120, renders me liable to sickness on the slightest imprudence, or exposure, or exertion; besides the dangerous & increasing tendency to organic disease.” Such a trip would not be possible, he explained, were it not for the financial restraint he had practiced “with particular reference to the execution of my project.” Nonetheless, young Tillinghast was anxious for his mother’s advice on the matter.

The letter also makes reference to Joseph L. Tillinghast’s interest in the “French claims,” his stated intention of drafting a memorial on the matter for Congress, and the belief that Rebecca’s father had a large interest in them. **Acquired with dues contribution of Mr. Stephen P. Arrington.**

Letter, 24 May 1845, of Benjamin R[yan] Tillman (1803–1849), was written from Edgefield to the Hon. A[rmistead] Burt, Willington P[ost] O[ffice], Abbeville District, and expresses the writer’s interest in securing for his son an appointment to West Point. “I have a son about nineteen years old at school...at New Market and he is said to be prepared to enter college. His constitution is good & he desires to enter West Point Academy. His name is George D. Tillman....If there is a vacancy and my son can get in I wish you to give me the necessary letters...so that he can go on immediately.” **Gift of Mr. Harvey S. Teal.**

Eight manuscripts, [ca. 1903–ca. 1929], constitute the South Caroliniana Library’s inaugural holdings of literary drafts documenting the writings of Malvina Sarah Black Waring (1842–1930), a longtime resident

of Columbia, who as a young woman signed Confederate notes and in later life saw at least three of her books in print.

Born in Newberry, Malvina was the daughter of John Blair and Elizabeth Ann Sheppard Black. She studied at Limestone College, graduating in 1859, and was first married to Confederate officer William M. Gist, son of South Carolina Governor William Henry Gist. Her husband died in action at Knoxville, Tennessee, in 1863, less than a year after they were married. By early 1865 the young widow was employed to sign Confederate bank notes. With the approach of William Tecumseh Sherman's invading army, she moved with her governmental department to the relative safety of Richmond, Virginia. She later returned to South Carolina and married Columbia contractor Clark Waring (1827–1913) in 1867. Malvina Waring lived out the remainder of her long life there, busily engaged with literary, musical, social, and civic matters. She is known to have written and published at least three books—*The Lion's Share* (1888), *That Sandhillier, A Novel* (1904), and *One Old Reb* (1929).

Included among the collection is the manuscript "The Rose in the Rock," subtitled "A Romance of the Revolution," a handwritten work of short fiction. "A Mighty Rough Road," a typewritten novel-length manuscript, features numerous handwritten emendations and evidences a change in title from "The Ash-Flower." The writer is identified as "Malvina Sarah Waring. Author of 'That Sandhillier,' 'The Lion's Share,' 'Leetle Maussa and Scrap,' etc." "One Old Reb," a typewritten draft of the published novel of the same name includes sporadic handwritten corrections. Other items found with the collection are "Bed-Time," a holograph poem; "Ups and Downs," a typewritten short story manuscript that appears to be signed "Fontenelle"; and a handwritten history of the Caldwell family and an incomplete text of a speech to a meeting of the Daughters of the American Revolution. **Acquired through the University South Caroliniana Society Endowment.**

Three letters, 17 November 1836, ca. 15 June 1837, and 18 October 1847, addressed to Sumter District resident Richard M. Wheeler concern family and business matters in South Carolina and Georgia. Wheeler is identified in the 1860 census as a resident of Sumter District, in the vicinity of Mayesville Post Office. The forty-nine-year-old farmer was head of a household which included a wife and nine children.

The earlier two letters were written by Wheeler's niece. Sarah Wheeler wrote from Walthonville, [Georgia?], on 17 November 1836 mentioning a resurgence of religious fervor in the Sandhills following a Baptist association meeting. A letter dating from around 15 June 1837, is signed S. Miranda W[heeler] and was written from Belmonte, Bryan Co[unty, Georgia], to convey news of courtships, engagements, and marriages, including the termination of the engagement between Lucille Wilson and Abial Wilson. The writer indicates that she was employed as a teacher in the household of Lewis Hines, of Bryan County, located west of Savannah and asks to be addressed as Miranda rather than as Sarah.

The letter of 18 October 1847 was sent by E.L. Anderson from Darlington to Richard M. Wheeler, Mt. Clio P[ost] O[ffice], Sumter Dist[RICT], and notes the prevailing interest in railroad development in Darlington area, with a barbecue to be given at Eli Gregg's store in an effort to secure capital stock. Anderson also references a meeting of the Welsh Neck Baptist Association, protracted meetings held by Baptists and Methodists in Darlington District, the prevailing good health of the area, and the plentifulness of provisions despite a poor cotton crop. **Acquired with dues contributions of Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Strasburger, Sr.**

SELECTED LIST OF PRINTED SOUTH CAROLINIANA

J.B. Alexander, *Biographical Sketches of the Early Settlers of the Hopewell Section: And Reminiscences of the Pioneers and Their Descendants by Families, with Some Historical Facts and Incidents of the Times in Which They Lived* (Charlotte, N.C., 1897). **Acquired with dues contributions of Mr. & Mrs. Stewart Clare, Dr. Charles Lesser, and Ms. Nancy Washington.**

Harriette Wightman Allston, *The Escape of Daddy Rabbit* (Charlotte, N.C., 192_). **Acquired with dues contribution of Mrs. Alberta L. Quattlebaum.**

Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company of Virginia, *Short Sketch of Charleston, S.C.: How It Fared in Two Wars and an Earthquake* (New York, 1886). **Acquired with dues contribution of The Rev. William M. Shand III.**

Sidney Babcock, *Stories for Little Girls, or, A Present for Mother* (New Haven, Ct., 1831) **Acquired with dues contributions of Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Hoffius.**

Charleston City Directory (Charleston, 1890). **Acquired with dues contributions of Mrs. A. Mason Gibbes, Mr. & Mrs. Gene Duncan, and Miss Elizabeth Glazebrook.**

Charleston Port Society for Promoting the Gospel Among Seamen, *Proceedings and Address of the Charleston Port Society, in Behalf of the Establishment of a Sailor's Home, in This City* (Charleston, 1839). **Acquired with dues contributions of Dr. & Mrs. Benjamin M. Gimarc and Mrs. Roberta Quattlebaum.**

Theodore Dehon, *Sermons on Baptism* (Charleston, 1835). **Acquired with dues contribution of Dr. Constance B. Schulz.**

Dominie [John A. Hamilton], *Chris Spangler: A Tale of the War* (Orangeburg, 1893?). **Acquired with dues contributions of The Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Thom C. Jones.**

Howard Douglas Dozier, *A History of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad* (Boston, 1920). **Acquired with dues contributions of Mr. Thomas Hal Clarke, Mr. Millen Ellis, Mr. & Mrs. William Hubbard, and Mrs. Marguerite G. Old.**

John Fox, Jr., "The Southern Mountaineer," *Scribner's Magazine*, pp. 387–399 (April 1901) and 556–570 (May 1901). **Gift of Mr. Nicholas G. Meriwether.**

Harmon Foundation, *An Exhibition of the Work of Negro Artists at the Art Center, 65 East 56th Street, New York, N.Y.* (New York, 1931). Works of Edwin Augustus Harleston and William H. Johnson are featured in the exhibit. **Acquired with dues contribution of Mr. Thomas C. Deas, Jr.**

Hawthorne School of Aeronautics (Orangeburg), *Hawthorne Prop Wash*, vol. 1, no. 1 (11 January 1943). **Gift of Mr. Brad Mobley.**

Hawthorne School of Aeronautics (Orangeburg), *Hawthorne Propwash*, vol. 1, no. 1 (January 1942). **Gift of Mr. Brad Mobley.**

Leonidas Howard, *Sketches of Nehemiah and Edith Howard, and Their Descendants* (Mulberry, 1891?). **Acquired with dues contributions of Mr. & Mrs. Robert Wilkins.**

Jacob W. Hinckley, *The Master and Owners of the Schooner Mary Eddy, Appellants, vs. M.C. Mordecai & Co., Appellees: To the Honorable James M. Wayne, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and Judge of the Sixth Circuit: The Petition of Jacob W. Hinckley, Master of the Schooner Mary Eddy, for W. & N. Lindsay, Owners of the Said Schooner* (Charleston, 1858?). **Acquired with dues contribution of Ms. Joanne F. Duncan.**

Lady of Charleston, *The Carolina Receipt Book, or, Housekeeper's Assistant in Cookery, Medicine, and Other Subjects, Connected with the Management of a Family* (Charleston, 1832). **Acquired with dues contributions of Mr. Kenneth L. Childs, Mr. Michael J. Mungo, and Mr. Cosmo Walker.**

Harriet P. Lynch (comp.), *A Year Book of Southern Poets* (New York, 1909). **Acquired with dues contribution of Mrs. D.I. Ross, Jr.**

Albert G. Mackey (ed.), *The Southern and Western Masonic Miscellany*, vol. 1, nos. 2–12, and vol. 2, nos. 1–12 (Charleston, 1850–1851). **Acquired with dues contributions of Mr. & Mrs. David A. Epting, Jr., and Dr. & Mrs. Philip Racine.**

John Charles McNeill, *Lyrics from Cotton Land* (Charlotte, N.C., 1922). **Gift of Mrs. Elizabeth Newton.**

Pons Menard, *Opuscules en Verse et en Prose* (Charleston, 1841). **Acquired with dues contribution of Mr. & Mrs. Daniel R. Day III.**

S. Augustus Mitchell, *[Map of] North and South Carolina* (Philadelphia, 1877). **Acquired with dues contributions of Mr. & Mrs. Charles Baker.**

News and Views of Hartsville: The Biggest Town of its Size in South Carolina (Hartsville, 1909). **Acquired with dues contribution of Mrs. Charlotte B. Alexander.**

William Harwar Parker, *Questions on Practical Seamanship: Together with Harbor Routine and Evolutions, Prepared for the Midshipmen of the C.S. Navy* (Richmond, 1863). Inscribed by the author to Lt. John Rutledge. **Acquired with dues contribution of Mr. Michael J. Mungo.**

Petition of Peter Trezevant (Charleston, 1845?). Trezevant's lawyers present documentation that the state of Georgia owes Trezevant (then a resident of Brighton, England) five thousand pounds plus interest for supplies which his wife's deceased father, Robert Farquhar, furnished to the Continental Army in 1777. **Acquired with dues contributions of Mrs. Eugene B. Chase, Mrs. Mary W. Gay, Dr. Julian Bonham Shand, Jr., and Mrs. Betty S. Smyrl.**

Proceedings of the First Convocation of the Colored Clergy of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America: Held at the Church of the Holy Communion, 6th Avenue and 20th Street, New York City, Sept. 12th, 13th, and 14th, 1883 (Newark, N.J., 1883). **Acquired with dues contributions of Mrs. James W. Cruce, Mrs. Andrew B. Marion, Dr. & Mrs. Charles H. Peeples, and Mr. Geddeh Smith.**

Second Annual Report of the Railroad Commissioner of the State of South Carolina (Columbia, 1880). **Acquired with dues contributions of Dr. Don Doyle and Dr. Marjorie Spruill.**

William Gilmore Simms, *Guy Rivers, the Outlaw: A Tale of Georgia* (London, 1841). **Acquired with dues contributions of Mrs. M.L. Duval and Mr. & Mrs. John L. McCants.**

Sons of the American Revolution. South Carolina Society, *By-laws of the South Carolina Society of the Sons of the Revolution* (Charleston, 1906). **Acquired with dues contribution of Mrs. Robin Copp.**

South Carolina. Court of Appeals, *Catalogue of the Library of the Court of Appeals at Columbia, S.C., February, 1846* (Columbia, 1846). **Acquired with dues contributions of Dr. & Mrs. Alexander G. Donald.**

South Carolina Power Company, *An Outline of Progress in the Mode of Travel About America's Most Historic City, Charleston, S.C. on the*

Inauguration of Complete Motor Bus Service (Charleston, 1938).
Acquired with dues contribution of Mrs. Carol M. Goodwin.

Paul Trapier, *The Spirit to be Poured out upon Servants: A Sermon, Preached in Several of the Protestant Episcopal Churches in Charleston, in Nov. & Dec. 1849* (Charleston, 1850). **Acquired with dues contributions of Mr. Paul Begley, Mrs. Elsie T. Goins, Mr. Edward B. Latimer, Mrs. W.S. Ware, and Mr. Edward T. Zeigler.**

William Henry Trescott, *Oration of Hon. William Henry Trescott Delivered Before the Alumni of the College of Charleston, June 25, 1889: With the Constitution and List of Members of the Alumni* (Charleston, 1889). **Gift of Mr. Nicholas G. Meriwether.**

United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, *Sketch Showing the Progress of the Survey in Section No. V from 1847 to 1883* (Washington, D.C., 1885). **Acquired with dues contributions of Mr. & Mrs. Deward Brittain, Dr. & Mrs. George B. Richardson, and Dr. & Mrs. Robert M. Weir.**

Emmett Williams, *Guardian Angel Active-Passive* (Köln, 1985). **Acquired with dues contributions of Mrs. Patrick J. Doyle, The Rev. Dr. Roger M. Gramling, and Mrs. Anne Sheriff.**

PICTORIAL SOUTH CAROLINIANA

Ambrotype, ca. 1863, of Joseph and William Templeton in Confederate uniforms. The brothers served in Co. B, Twelfth South Carolina Volunteers. **Gift of Dr. Sara M. Lindsay.**

Carte-de-visite, 1860s, of Dr. Lightfoot, by Wheeler's Art Gallery, Greenville, W.H. Clark, artist. Lightfoot is wearing Native American clothing and face paint: moccasins, leather breeches with embroidery, leather coat with fringe and fur collar, and long feather headdress. Taken in studio. **Acquired with dues contributions of Mr. & Mrs. H. William Carter, Jr.**

Cabinet photograph, 1860s, of portrait of Georgetown County rice planter Davison McDowell (1784–1842). Copy of miniature made by Pullman's Photograph and Portrait Gallery, Washington, D.C. **Gift of Mrs. Mary Douglas Stauffer.**

Two stereographs, 1861–1865 and undated, of Charleston, possibly by George Stacy. "Southern Military Academy—Remains of Revolutionary Fortification in the foreground, surrounded by 600 lb Blakely solid shot, Charleston, No. 625," shows The Citadel on Marion Square and Second Presbyterian Church beyond. "Charleston, The Orphan Asylum, No. 635," shows a man with his pipe in a garden and the orphanage behind. A third stereograph, "A Cross," by J.A. Palmer, of Aiken, No. 265 in "Aiken and Vicinity" series, shows a white needlepoint cross against a dark background. **Acquired with dues contribution of Mr. Burnet S. Maybank.**

Two stereographs, 1868, of sailing boats and skiff in waters off Cape Island, Charleston County. One shows a single-mast sloop with headsail and mainsail up, close to shore. The other shows a two-mast schooner with four sails up and further out, with its skiff inside the breakers. **Acquired with dues contributions of Mr. & Mrs. T.H. Shaffer.**

Stereograph, ca. 1872, "Panoramic View of Charleston, From the Spire of St. Michael's Church, (Looking North)" shows Meeting Street with ruins of the Circular Church in the distance. The label on the reverse indicates that this is No. 15 in the series by S.T. Souder, Charleston. The view was sold later by G.N. Barnard, after he bought Souder's studio in 1873. **Acquired with dues contributions of Mr. & Mrs. Robert D. Palmer.**

Stereograph, ca. 1876, "Interior of Unitarian Church, Charleston, S.C.," in G.N. Barnard's "South Carolina Views" series. It shows the pulpit and surrounding area as seen from the back balcony. The Gothic interior with its decorative fan vaulting plaster ceiling dates from 1852. **Acquired with dues contribution of Mrs. James W. Scott.**

Stereograph, ca. 1876, "Uncle Tony's Cabin," No. 131 in the "Characteristic Southern Scenes" series by J.A. Palmer, Aiken. Shows an African-American family outside a log cabin: a man in a ragged coat seated in turned chair, a woman sitting on the stoop, and a boy with a small pail standing beside her. **Acquired with dues contribution of Dr. Phillip Edward Mullen.**

Stereograph, ca. 1880, of Mr. Markley's lawn, by Wheeler's Art Gallery, Greenville, shows trees and a shaped shrub beside a curved driveway near the corner of a clapboard house, with larger trees and lawn in the background. Markley owned the Greenville Coach Factory, later the Markley Carriage Factory, in downtown Greenville. **Acquired with dues contributions of Mr. & Mrs. Joe H. Allston.**

Stereograph and photograph, undated, "Bridge at Greenville," No. 154 by W.T. Robertson, Asheville, showing men standing in a wagon stopped on a bridge. The photograph shows the interior of a grocery store showing floor displays of fresh vegetables and seeds and walls lined with shelves of tin goods. Printed and possibly taken by J.C. Webb's Studio, Darlington. **Acquired with dues contribution of Mrs. Alice H. Sanders.**

Tintype, 1870s, of Charlotte Blair (1860–1917), daughter of Lovick William Rochelle Blair and Sallie T. Workman Blair, of Camden. Charlotte became a successful businesswoman in Birmingham and organized the American Cast Iron Pipe Company in 1905. She lost her sister Rochella to suicide shortly after the murder of their father in 1882. **Gift of Mr. Harvey S. Teal.**

One hundred forty-seven photographs and fifty-one postcards, 1860s–1961, of the Boozer and Goode families of Columbia. Sitters include Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Boozer, the W.M. Gladdens family, The Rev. M.W. Gilbert, George Robert Jones, Dr. Walter R. Harrison, Richard Maseo Johnson, Willie Long, and Willie Brown. Also included is a photograph of the Boozer home at 1009 Marion Street. The postcards are

between friends, many of whom took teaching positions across South Carolina, and family who moved out of Columbia.

Printed materials also include “An Acrostic in Remembrance of Carrie E. Dobbins” (1872–1892) by her devoted sister Nellie Dobbins and presented to Mr. & Mrs. Boozer; calling card of Miss Helen N. McIver, 1325 Barnwell Street, Columbia; and an image of Levi P. Morton who was Vice President (1892–1893) and Governor of New York (1895–1896). While Vice President, Morton introduced an election law to protect the voting rights of African Americans in the South but allowed it to die in the Senate. Also of interest is a sixth plate double case containing a braided coil of hair.

Ralph and Sallie Boozer and children Mamie, Ralph, and Mary appear in the city directories as early as 1895, with Ralph a baker and later a driver for Oliver Riedlinger Bakery. In the late 1910s, they removed to 2218 Washington Street. James and Carrie Goode lived at 1013 Pine Street. James is listed in city directories as an insurance agent for Mutual Relief and Benevolent Association. Their son James attended Benedict College a year before he moved to Philadelphia in 1916. **Acquired with dues contributions of Mrs. Katherine I. Butler-Bachman, Mr. & Mrs. Joel T. Cassidy, Dr. Donald L. Fowler, and Dr. Warren L. Griffin.**

Photograph, 1892, of the Great Seal of the Confederate States of America, copied by W.A. Reckling, Columbia. The silver seal shows Washington on horseback surrounded by a wreath of tobacco, rice, wheat, corn, and other agricultural products; around the margins is “Confederate States of America, 22d February 1862, Deo vindice.” It was designed by Thomas J. Semmes of New Orleans and engraved in London in 1864 and reached Richmond shortly before its evacuation in 1865. The seal fell into Union hands and was eventually presented to the State of South Carolina in 1888. **Acquired with dues contributions of Mr. & Mrs. Edward G. Kluiters.**

Two photographs, 1904, of E.W. Robertson’s house in Columbia and of the South Carolina State House taken in March 1904. The Robertson house, also called Laurel Hill because it sat on Laurel Street, is in neoclassical style with Doric columns on the front and side porte-cochere, veranda, and side porch, three central bays recessed and bow in middle bay on the second storey, and a partial third floor in the center of the

house. Landscape plantings about the residence are small, indicating that the house is new. Robertson was president of the National Loan and Exchange Bank. The view of the State House shows the north facade with the Confederate monument in front. **Acquired with dues contribution of Mrs. Arlyn F. Bruccoli.**

Photograph, ca. 1905, of the H.D.M. Ott and Son dry goods store in Bowman. The photograph shows Henry David Mortimore Ott and employees standing outside. Two sons, Curtis and Charley, are listed in the 1910 census as bookkeeper and salesman for the store. The 1900 census shows two older sons, Henry and Daniel, but they do not appear with the elder Ott in the 1910 census. **Acquired with dues contribution of Mr. Benjamin Boatwright.**

Photograph, ca. 1910, of Waring Cone in front of his store in Holly Hill. The two-storey brick building sits by itself and has a sign, "Peters Shoes sold by M.W. Cone." The windows sport advertisements for Luzianne coffee and Jell-O. **Acquired with dues contribution of Mrs. Laura S. Crosby.**

Photograph, 1915, "Dinner to the Board of Trustees of the University of South Carolina, at the Home of August Kohn, March 11, 1915--All Present: August Kohn, David R. Coker, W.M. Hamer, Jos. A. McCullough Chairman House committee on Education, Dr. W.T.C. Bates, Huger Sinkler Chairman Senate Committee on Education, P.A. Wilcox, Jas. Q. Davis, J.E. Swearingen State Superintendent of Education, Governor R.I. Manning Chairman Board, USC President Wm. S. Currell, and C.E. Spencer." Taken outside the Kohn residence by Blanchard, Columbia. **Gift of Mrs. Ione Coker Lee.**

Photograph, ca. 1917, of a company of soldiers with rifles, possibly at Camp Jackson and taken by Blanchard, of Columbia. Pine trees and piles of debris are behind the soldiers but no buildings are evident. **Gift of Mr. Harvey S. Teal.**

Panorama, 1917-1918, "Part of M.P.'s Camp Jackson, North Columbia Camp," by Griffith with Agate Pictorial News Service, Columbia. The image shows soldiers, wearing Military Police insignia, on horseback and kneeling with dogs and a goat; railroad tracks and tents in background. **Acquired with dues contributions of Mrs. James W. McIlwain.**

Photograph, 1922, of ten trolley conductors or drivers with Southern Public Utilities Co., an electric streetcar company operating in Greenville, 1916–1934. Each driver has route number on hat, “S.P.U.” on collar, and a lapel watch; one has a change maker at waist. Photograph by Mitchell and Wheeler, The Mitchell Studios, Greenville. **Gift of Mr. Harvey S. Teal.**

Photograph, 1923, of a large group of boys cooking sausages on sticks over an open fire in a wooded area near Lockhart. It could be an outing for children of mill workers at Lockhart Mills. **Acquired with dues contributions of Mr. & Mrs. R. Glenn Sharp.**

Sixteen photographs, 1927, of construction of the Wateree River bridge through Sumter and Richland Counties, “S.C. Project 106,” showing reinforced concrete with steel arches bridge and also of bridge over the Congaree River at Columbia, “F.A. Project 251,” showing various stages of reinforced concrete with steel spans bridge. Photographs developed by Blanchard Studio, Columbia, and possibly taken by Blanchard. **Acquired with dues contributions of Dr. & Mrs. Marcus A. Fields, Mr. & Mrs. David H. Keller, Mr. & Mrs. Ellison Singletary, and Mr. & Mrs. Hampton M. Williams.**

Eleven photographs, ca. 1928, of construction of Lake Murray dam. The photographs document the early stage of the project with construction of center dam and creation of high dirt walls for the core of the dam. Of interest are a nighttime view and photographs of African-American boys carrying lunch to workers and H.D. Dellinger, of Cayce, playing cards with H.B. Stewart and R.R. Kay. Also includes a photograph of a dark clapboard bungalow in Lexington County. **Acquired with dues contributions of Mr. & Mrs. Robert Doster.**

Seven photographs, undated, in postcard format of young African-American women taken by Roberts’ Art Studio, Columbia. Also, a small photograph of a young African-American man and a large rectangular crayon portrait of an African-American couple. **Acquired with dues contribution of Mr. William M. Gregg.**

Photograph, undated, of the Seigler house on Highway 78 near Bamberg taken by T.J. Pooser and Bro., Bamberg. The house is a two-storey clapboard with full front porch and a half porch above. **Gift of Mr. Harvey S. Teal.**

Album, 1860s–1890s, of the Monckton and Holland families contains twenty-eight cartes-de-visite, twenty-two cabinet, and four panel photographs. Those identified include Mrs. A.C. (Eliza) Monckton, Mr. Alonzo Monckton, John Casey, Molly Casey, Mrs. Annie Witfockel, Helen Hart, Mrs. F.L. Holland, William Monckton, Marie Monckton, Mrs. William (Margaret) Monckton, Ella Mayhen, twins Jim and William Holland, Master Leslie Holland, and Mr. Shields and his dog. Photographers include George V. Hennies, William P. Hix, W.A. Reckling, Hix & Fitzgerald, Wearn & Hix, Hennies & Bucher, of Columbia; J.C. Fitzgerald, of Greenville; G.N. Barnard, of Charleston; James D. Wilder, of Sumter; Macnabb, of New York; and Trask, J.R. Applegate, O.B. DeMorat, and Mahan & Keller, of Philadelphia.

William H. Monckton was a blacksmith, machinist, and later storekeeper for Southern Railway in Columbia. In the early 1860s he and George W. Wright operated Monckton & Wright, blacksmiths and wagon makers, on Laurel Street. His wife, Margaret, operated the Union Depot Dining Rooms in the late 1880s and through the 1890s. Their son William H., Jr., worked in T.A. McCreery Co. as a clerk and later as manager. By 1899 he was manager of Globe Dry Goods Co. Alonzo Monckton was also a machinist although he sold fish and oysters on Plain Street in 1885. In the 1900s he was proprietor of the Columbia Inn, later joining W.H., Jr., at Globe Dry Goods. **Acquired with dues contributions of Mr. & Mrs. Robert D. Cook.**

Album, 1909–1926, created by Mary Peele, a student and later teacher at Columbia College, Columbia. A combination of photographs, postcards, and printed images, the album shows students, teachers, and workers at the college as well as family members. Most people are unidentified or called by nicknames and include her brother, David D. Peele, teacher and dean of the college, and “Noah of the kitchen,” an African American who died in 1915. Also includes photographs of the Confederate Soldiers Home and “S.C. Daughters Confederacy Hospital,” Columbia. Mary Peele was the daughter of Andrew H. Peele and Lenora Jane Gibson Peele, of Gibson, N.C., and one of ten children. She and her husband, H.C. Ritter, were later missionaries in China. Mary died in an automobile accident in South Carolina before 1943. Her siblings became well-known educators and Methodist ministers in North and South

Carolina. **Acquired with dues contributions of Dr. & Mrs. Hugh DuBose.**

Drawing, 1837, of John Izard Middleton, son of South Carolina governor Henry Middleton. Candide Blaize created the pencil drawing with watercolor accents while Middleton was in Paris and shows a young man sitting in a chair, holding a book on his left knee. Middleton was a signer of the Ordinance of Secession and Speaker of the South Carolina House of Representatives. **Acquired with dues contributions of Dr. John Hammond Moore and Mrs. Susanne C. Matson.**

Four woodcuts, 1861, 1863, and undated, of Charleston during the Civil War from international newspapers. The *Illustrated Times* (London) for 18 May 1861 shows "Bombardment of Fort Sumter" and "Scene on the floating battery in Charleston Harbour during the bombardment of Fort Sumter" and for 1 June 1861 shows "Arrival at Charleston of Volunteers from Louisiana." The *Illustrated London News* for 16 May 1863 has a center spread with "Attack by the Federal ironclads on the Harbour defences of Charleston, three p.m. of the 7th of April," "Confederates sinking torpedoes by moonlight in the Harbour channel, Charleston," and "The Federal ironclad Keokuk as she appeared on the morning after the fight." *Le Monde Illustre* has an undated center spread of "Distribution de vivres aux indigents sure la grande place de Charlestown." **Acquired with dues contributions of Dr. L. Shannon DuBose and Mr. & Mrs. R. Glenn Sharp.**

Exhibition poster, 1959, for Jasper Johns' first foreign solo exhibition at the Galerie Rive Droite in Paris. The letterpress halftone poster features a target reproduced in black and with Johns' name in a purple banner above and location details in a purple banner below. Johns and Robert Rauschenberg have been credited with driving the pop art movement in the mid-1950s, a move away from abstract expressionism toward use of everyday objects in surprising ways as seen in his flag and target paintings. By 1960 Johns was studying lithography, making prints, and moving beyond the pop art culture. **Acquired with dues contributions of Mrs. C.M. Cupp, Dr. & Mrs. William D. Kay, Mrs. Carolyn Dabbs Moore, and Mr. & Mrs. James G. Snowden.**

Other gifts of South Caroliniana were made to the Library by the following members: Dr. & Mrs. Robert K. Ackerman, Dr. George F. Bass,

Mrs. Mary Bull Benton, Ms. Beth Bilderback, Mrs. Ann Bowen, Dr. Ronald E. Bridwell, Dr. Rose Marie Cooper, Ms. Roberta Copp, Mrs. Gayle Darby, Dr. Tom Crosby, Dr. Bobby Donaldson, Mr. Henry G. Fulmer, Dr. Gilbert S. Guinn, Mrs. Georgia H. Hart, Mr. John Heiting, Mrs. Alexia Helsley, Mr. Steve Hoffius, Mr. Brent H. Holcomb, Dr. Suzanne Hurley, Dr. George L. Irwin, Dr. Thomas L. Johnson, Mr. Jerry A. Kay, Dr. James E. Kibler, Jr., Dr. Valinda Littlefield, Mrs. Maria B. Macaulay, Mr. Nicholas G. Meriwether, Dr. John Hammond Moore, Dr. Constance A. Myers, Miss Louise Pettus, Dr. William L. Ramseur, Dr. William C. Schmidt, Jr., Mr. Gedde Smith, Dr. Marjorie Spruill, Dr. Allen H. Stokes, Jr., Dr. Rodger Stroup, Dr. & Mrs. Edmund R. Taylor, Mr. Harvey S. Teal, Ms. Elizabeth West, and Mr. William Boyce White, Jr.

Life Memberships and other contributions to the Society's Endowment Fund were received from Mrs. Ann B. Bowen, Dr. & Mrs. William W. Burns, Father Peter Clarke, Mr. Thomas C. Deas, Jr., Dr. Lacy K. Ford, Dr. Donald L. Fowler, Ms. Felicia Furman, Mrs. Sarah Gillespie, Mr. William M. Gregg, Dr. & Mrs. Warren L. Griffin, Jr., Mr. Steve Griffith, Dr. Gilbert S. Guinn, Dr. William Hine, Dr. Janet G. Hudson, Dr. Thomas L. Johnson, Mr. Hans J. Kaufmann, Jr., Mr. Ivan Jay McLeod, Mr. M. Hayes Mizell, Dr. John Hammond Moore, Mr. Michael Mungo, Ms. Susan Retzloff, Mrs. Alice H. Sanders, Ms. Catherine Sease, The Rev. William M. Shand III, Dr. Allen H. Stokes, Mr. Harvey S. Teal, and Mr. & Mrs. Robert Wilkins.

ENDOWMENTS AND FUNDS TO BENEFIT
THE SOUTH CAROLINIANA LIBRARY

The Robert and May Ackerman Library Fund provides funds for the acquisition of materials to benefit the South Caroliniana Library, including manuscripts, printed materials, and visual images.

The Elizabeth Boatwright Coker Graduate Assistantship honors the noted author who established this assistantship to encourage and enable graduate history students to advance their professional research skills. It is shared with USC's Department of History.

The Edwin Haselden Cooper Director's Fund provides support to be expended at the Library Director's discretion.

The Orin F. Crow Acquisition and Preservation Endowment honors the memory of Dr. Crow, a former University of South Carolina student, professor, Dean of the School of Education, and Dean of the Faculty. This endowment was established in 1998 by Mary and Dick Anderson, Dr. Crow's daughter and son-in-law.

The Jane Crayton Davis Endowment has been created to help fund the preservation of the irreplaceable materials at the South Caroliniana Library. As a former president of the University South Caroliniana Society, Mrs. Davis is keenly aware of the need for a central repository for historical materials and of the ongoing obligation of the Library to maintain the integrity of its collections.

The William A. Foran Memorial Fund honors this revered University of South Carolina history professor and funds the acquisition of significant materials relating to the Civil War and Reconstruction, areas of particular interest to Professor Foran.

The Arthur Elliott Holman, Jr., Acquisition and Preservation Endowment was established in honor of Mr. Holman on 19 August 1996, his eightieth birthday, by his son, Elliott Holman III, to strengthen and preserve holdings in areas of Mr. Holman's interests, such as the Episcopal church, music and the arts, Anderson County, and other aspects of South Carolina history.

The Arthur E. Holman, Jr., Conservation Laboratory Endowment Fund provides support for the ongoing operation of the conservation laboratory, for funding graduate assistantships and other student workers, and for equipment and supplies and other related needs.

The John C Hungerpiller Library Research Fund was established by his daughter Gladys Hungerpiller Ingram and supports research on and preservation of the Hungerpiller papers and acquisition of materials for the South Caroliniana Library.

The Katharine Otis and Bruce Oswald Hunt Biography Collection Library Endowment provides for the purchase of biographical materials benefitting the South Caroliniana and Thomas Cooper Libraries' special, reference, and general collections and the Film Library.

The Lewis P. Jones Research Fellowship in South Carolina History honors Dr. Jones, esteemed professor emeritus at Wofford College, by funding a summer fellowship for a scholar conducting serious inquiry into the state's history.

The Lumpkin Foyer Endowment Fund at the South Caroliniana Library provides support for enhancements and maintenance of the Lumpkin Foyer as well as unrestricted support for the Library.

The Governor Thomas Gordon McLeod and First Lady Elizabeth Alford McLeod Research Fellowship Endowment was established in 2001 and will provide support for a research fellowship at the South Caroliniana Library to encourage the study of post-Civil War politics, government and society, with an emphasis on South Carolina history. This endowment was established by the family of Governor and Mrs. McLeod in recognition of their contributions to the Palmetto State.

The William Davis Melton Graduate Assistantship Endowment benefits University Archives by providing graduate students with invaluable experience while promoting the care, use, and development of the University's historical collections, with particular focus on oral histories. The endowment was established by Caroline Bristow Marchant, Walter James Bristow, Jr., and William Melton Bristow in memory of their grandfather, president of the University of South Carolina from 1922 to 1926. An additional gift of property from General and Mrs. T. Eston Marchant fully funded the endowment.

The Robert L. and Margaret B. Meriwether South Caroliniana Library Fund will support the South Caroliniana Library in memory of Library founder, Robert L. Meriwether, and his wife and colleague, Margaret B. Meriwether, who also worked on behalf of the Library. The

fund was created to receive gifts in memory of their son, Dr. James B. Meriwether, who died 18 March 2007.

The John Hammond Moore Library Acquisitions and Conservation Fund established in honor of Dr. Moore provides support for acquisition of new materials and conservation of existing holdings at the South Caroliniana Library.

The Robert I. and Swannanoa Kenney Phillips Libraries Endowment was established in 1998 by their son, Dr. Robert K. Phillips, to honor his parents and his family's commitment to generations of support of the University of South Carolina. It provides for acquisitions and preservation of materials in the South Caroliniana Library and the Thomas Cooper Library. Priority is given to literature representing the various majority and minority cultures of Britain and America to support undergraduate studies.

The Nancy Pope Rice and Nancy Rice Davis Library Treasure Endowment has been established to strengthen the ability of the Dean of Libraries to make special and significant acquisitions in a timely fashion for the University of South Carolina libraries. These funds allow the Dean to purchase books and manuscripts to enhance the special collections held by South Caroliniana Library and Thomas Cooper Library.

The John Govan Simms Memorial Endowment to Support the William Gilmore Simms Collections at the South Caroliniana Library provides support for the Library to maintain its preeminent position as the leading and most extensive repository of original source materials for the research, analysis, and study of William Gilmore Simms and his position as the leading man of letters in the antebellum South.

The William Gilmore Simms Visiting Research Professorship Endowment, established by Simms' granddaughter Mary C. Simms Oliphant and continued by his great-granddaughter Mrs. Alester G. Furman III and other family members, recognizes and honors the noted nineteenth-century American literary giant.

The Ellison Durant Smith Research Awards are endowed through a gift from the estate of Harold McCallum McLeod, a native of Timmonsville, Wofford College graduate, and veteran of World War II. This fund was established in 2000 to support research at the South Caroliniana Library on government, politics, and society since 1900 and to pay tribute to

“Cotton Ed” Smith (1864–1944), a dedicated United States Senator from 1909 to 1944.

The South Caroliniana Library Portrait Conservation Endowment provides support for ongoing and future conservation needs of the Library’s priceless portrait collection. Proceeds from these funds will be expended first to address the greatest needs of the collection and for ongoing and future needs.

The South Caroliniana Library Oral History Endowment Fund supports the activities and programs of the Oral History Program, including equipment, supplies, staff, student training, and publications as administered by the South Caroliniana Library.

The South Caroliniana Library Portrait Conservation Project Fund provides for the immediate needs, maintenance, and conservation of the Library’s portrait collection.

The Southern Heritage Endowment Fund supports and encourages innovative work at the South Caroliniana Library and at McKissick Museum.

The Allen Stokes Manuscript Development Fund established in honor of Dr. Stokes provides for the acquisition of new materials and preservation of library materials housed in the Manuscripts Division at the South Caroliniana Library.

The University Libraries Treasure Acquisitions Program Fund provides timely support when opportunities occur to acquire significant materials that will enhance our Special Collections holdings.

The Louise Irwin Woods Fund provides for internships, fellowships, graduate assistantships, stipends, program support, preservation and/or acquisitions at the South Caroliniana Library.

MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA GUARDIAN SOCIETY
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Members of the Carolina Guardian Society share a commitment to the future of the University of South Carolina, demonstrating their dedication and support by including the University in their estate plans. Through their gifts and commitment, they provide an opportunity for a future even greater than Carolina's founders envisioned two hundred years ago. Membership is offered to all who have made a planned or deferred gift commitment to the University.

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MR. THOMAS F. McNALLY
Dean of Libraries