

JOHNSON, CAVE, 1793-1866. Cave Johnson papers, 1833-1948

Emory University
Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Johnson, Cave, 1793-1866.
Title: Cave Johnson papers, 1833-1948
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 271
Extent: .25 linear ft. (1 box) and 2 oversized bound volumes (OBV)
Abstract: Papers of Tennessee politician Cave Johnson including correspondence, a family history, a scrapbook containing appointments and newspaper clippings relating to Cave Johnson, as well as documents relating to the Civil War service of his son, Polk G. Johnson.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Source

Gift, 1985.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Cave Johnson papers, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Processing

Processed by Susan Potts McDonald, May 6, 2005.

Collection Description

Biographical Note

Cave Johnson (1793-1866), was born near Springfield, Robertson County, Tennessee. He practiced law in his native state and served (1829-1837, 1839-1845) in the U.S. House of Representatives. Johnson gave active support to James K. Polk in the presidential campaign of 1844 and served (1845-1849) as Postmaster General in Polk's cabinet, introducing postage stamps in the U.S. postal system. He later became (1853) a circuit judge in Tennessee. During the Civil War he opposed secession but afterward supported the Confederacy.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of papers of Cave Johnson from 1833-1848. The papers include correspondence from Andrew Jackson to Cave Johnson (1843); a holograph copy of a letter from Jackson to Felix Grundy (1835); and a letter from John Tyler to Johnson (1842). The bulk of the collection consists of letters from James K. Polk to Johnson (1833-1848) with one letter from Polk to Theophilis Fisk (1844). The correspondence primarily pertains to the period (1829-1837, 1839-1845) when Johnson represented his Tennessee district in Congress. The collection sheds light on the internal organization and working of the Jackson Party. The 1832 letters concern the break between Andrew Jackson and Judge Hugh Lawson White and the early beginnings of the Whig party in Tennessee; the letters written by Polk in 1844-1845 pertain to his own nomination and election in the 1844 presidential campaign.

In addition the collection contains a family history written by Cave Johnson around February 1862; a scrapbook containing appointments and newspaper clippings relating to Cave Johnson, as well as documents relating to the Civil War service of his son, Polk G. Johnson; and a book containing receipts for court costs (1870).

Arrangement Note

Arranged by record type.

Container List

Correspondence-Andrew Jackson

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	Jackson to Felix Grundy, Washington, June 11, 1835 [manuscript copy in Felix Grundy's hand]
1	1	Jackson to Johnson, Hermitage, ALS, February 9, 1843
1	1	Jackson to Johnson, Hermitage, ALS, November 22, 1843
1	1	Jackson to Johnson, Hermitage, ALS, December 11, 1843
1	1	Jackson to Johnson, ANS, no date

Correspondence-James K. Polk

1	2	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, ALS, April 24, 1833
1	2	Polk to Johnson, Shelbyville, ALS, June 20, 1833
1	2	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, September 7, 1833
1	2	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, September 26, 1833
1	2	Polk to Johnson, Washington City, ALS, January 7, 1835
1	2	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, March 31, 1835
1	2	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, April 13, 1835
1	2	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, April 16, 1835
1	2	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, April 17, 1835
1	2	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, April 19, 1835
1	2	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, May 7, 1835
1	2	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, May 25, 1835
1	2	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, May 25, 1835
1	2	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, May 26, 1835
1	2	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, May 27, 1835
1	2	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, June 6, 1835
1	3	Polk to Johnson, Dandridge, ALS, April 25, 1841
1	3	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, September 21, 1841
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, January 21, 1844
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, March 18, 1844
1	4	Polk to Theophilus Fisk, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, March 20, 1844 [manuscript copy]
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, March 21, 1844
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, March 21, 1844
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, May 4, 1844
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Nashville, Tennessee, ALS, May 13, 1844
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Nashville, Tennessee, ALS, May 14, 1844
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, May 17, 1844

1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, May 20, 1844
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, June 8, 1844
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, June 21, 1844
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, July 1, 1844
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, July 6, 1844
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, July 16, 1844
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, August 20, 1844
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, August 22, 1844
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, August 23, 1844
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, August 26, 1844
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, August 28, 1844
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, October 9, 1844
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, October 14, 1844
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, October 14, 1844
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, October 30, 1844
1	4	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Tennessee ALS, December 21, 1844
1	5	Polk to Johnson, Columbia, Washington, ALS, June 26, 1845
1	5	Polk to Johnson, no place, ALS, May 21, 1847
1	5	Polk to Johnson, Washington, ALS, September 18, 1848

Correspondence-John Tyler

1	6	Tyler to Johnson, May 20, 1842
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Other papers

1	8	Family history by Cave Johnson [circa February 1862]
OBV1		Scrapbook
OBV2		Receipt ledger for court costs, 1870
