

LOVETT, ROBERT WATKINS, 1818-1912.

Robert Watkins Lovett papers, 1787-1916

Emory University
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Lovett, Robert Watkins, 1818-1912.
Title: Robert Watkins Lovett papers, 1787-1916
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 486
Extent: 1 linear foot (2 boxes), 1 oversized papers box (OP), and 2 bound volumes (BV)
Abstract: Correspondence between the Watkins, Smith and Meriwether families, essays, speeches, genealogical information, prescription books, photographs, and legal papers of Georgia clergyman and physician Robert Watkins Lovett.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

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Source

Gift, 1966.

Citation

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

Processing

MRD, 1967.

Collection Description

Biographical Note

Robert Watkins Lovett, physician and clergyman, was born November 11, 1818, in Screven County, Georgia, and died there July 3, 1912. He was the son of Robert Watkins Lovett, Sr. and Emily Roberts. He was educated at the Georgia Conference Manual Labor School (1838, Covington), Emory College (1839-1843, Oxford), and the Medical College (1844, Augusta). He practiced medicine and also served as an itinerant Methodist clergyman with the Georgia Conference. He married three times and had seven children. Each of his wives had a sister who married his friend Judge Thomas Molloy Meriwether.

Dr. Lovett was married three times, first in 1843 to Miss Elizabeth Mason Andrew, daughter of Bishop James Osgood Andrew, who died in 1856. In 1859, he married Miss Sallie Isabella Price, and after her death he married Miss Marietta Smith who survived him by less than a year. There were five children by the first marriage, Robert Osgood Lovett, Dr. William Cuyler Lovett, James Meriwether Lovett, Amelia Lovett, and another daughter; and two children by the second marriage, Watkins Price Lovett and Mary Isabella Lovett.

Dr. Lovett's close friend was Judge Thomas Molloy Meriwether (son of William Meriwether, a Surgeon's Mate in the War of 1812, and grandson of General David Meriwether), whose three wives were sisters of the three wives of Dr. Lovett.

Watkins Price Lovett married Carietta Meriwether, daughter of Thomas and Henrietta Smith Meriwether.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of the papers of Robert Watkins Lovett from 1787-1916. The papers include 127 letters, 20 of which were written by Robert Watkins Lovett and 15 by Thomas Molloy Meriwether. There are also 22 letters and 2 postal cards by Henrietta Smith Meriwether to her twin sister Marietta Smith Lovett, December 18, 1857-June 11, 1885. Among other prominent Georgians represented by letters or documents by, to, or otherwise related to them, are: Joel Abbot, 1776-1820; David Adams, 1766-1835; William Wyatt Bibb, 1781-1820; Henry L. Benning, 1814-1875; John Clark, 1766-1832; Augustine Smith Clayton, 1783-1839; Thomas Willis Cobb, 1784-1830; William Harris Crawford, 1772-1834; George Rockingham Gilmer, 1790-1859; Benjamin Hawkins, 1754-1816; Josiah Meigs, 1757-1822; David Meriwether, 1754-1822; James Meriwether (General), b. 1756; James Meriwether (Major), 1789-1854; William Rabun, 1771-1819; and George M. Troup, 1780-1856.

Besides the letters there are 79 other items including essays and speeches by Robert W. Lovett while he was a student at the Georgia Conference Manual Labor School and at Emory College; instructions to David and James Meriwether concerning negotiations with the Creek and Cherokee Indians (a letter by John C. Calhoun, Secretary of War, accompanies one set of instructions, August 24, 1822); the plat of a survey of a lot in Newton County by E. L. Thomas, who surveyed the town of Oxford, Georgia; a diary of 1861 and prescription books by Dr. Robert W. Lovett, and photographs of Dr. Lovett and his close friend Judge Thomas Molloy Meriwether. Also included are various wills, deeds, land grants and other documents pertaining to the Lovett and Meriwether families.

An addition includes 142 letters plus one folder of poems, fragments and miscellaneous material. Twelve of the letters were written to Bishop James O. Andrew, between 1832 and 1839 from Joshua Soule and other churchmen and deal primarily with church matters. The remainder of the letters were written by and to members of the Lovett family between 1834 and 1916.

Arrangement Note

Arranged by correspondent.

Container List

Benning, Cobb, Lewis, Randolph (1787-1835)

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	Statement signed by Edmund Randolph, Governor of Virginia, April 10, 1787 to accompany a certificate granted to William Pollard, Hanover County Court.
1	1	Prospectus of a school for the "Liberal Education of Boys" to be established at Covington, Kentucky by Cadwallader Lewis, 1831, 8 p.
1	1	Cummuns, F. (at home) to Thomas W. Cobb (1784-1830); October 7, 1826 offering condolences on the death of his wife, Mrs. Cobb.
1	1	Benning, Henry L. (1814-1875) (Columbus, Georgia) to Thomas M. Cobb, (Athens, Georgia) June 20, 1835, ALS., 3 p. Benning is Confederate General for whom Ft. Benning was named.

David Meriwether (1795-1822)

1	2	Receipt given to David Meriwether for tax money of Wilkes County.
1	2	Hawkins, Benjamin (1754-1816), to General David Meriwether; April 18, 1807. Concerned negotiations with the Indians, ALS, 5 p.
1	2	Copy of Resolution by the House of Representatives naming the members, (David "Merriweather" et al) elected as the "six electors of President and Vice-President of the United States...", November 15, 1808
1	2	Robin, William (1771-1819) to David Meriwether; September 16, 1817. Rabin was Governor of Georgia 1817-1819.
1	2	Clark, John (1766-1832), Governor of Georgia to Major General David Adams; June 29, 1820.
1	2	David Adams (1766-1835) to David Meriwether; August 29, 1820. States that Dr. William "Meriweather" has his approval as a commissioner to deal with the Creeks. He suggests they hold the treaty at "Indian Springs."
1	2	Copy of Resolution. (Similar to one above.) This one has "eight electors" and is dated November 11, 1820.
1	2	Copy of David Meriwether's note to Governor John Clark accepting the legislature's appointment, November 19, 1820.
1	2	Meigs, Josiah (1757-1822), General Land Office, Washington, D. C. to Mrs. David Meriwether; December 1, 1820.
1	2	Copy of treaty with the Creek Indians by David Meriwether and Daniel M. Forney; 1820[?]
1	2	Crawford, William Harris (1772-1834), to David Meriwether. Undated, no place, Fragment. Concerned with Indian negotiation.
1	2	Calhoun, John Caldwell (1782-1850) ("Department of War") to David Meriwether, Athens, Georgia; August 24, 1822, ALS, 1 p. Letter enclosing a copy of instructions for dealing with the Creeks and Cherokees.

- 1 2 Instructions (See above); June 15, 1822. 3 p. Manuscript Incomplete.
(Typewritten copies of last 2 items are filed with the originals.)

Meriwether, James, the Gen'l (b. 1756) and the Major (b. 1789)

- 1 3 Land Grant with name of J. Meriwether, 1809-1828, C. C. (County Clerk?), registered January 9, 1789. This must have been General James Meriwether, b. 1756, brother of General David Meriwether.
- 1 3 Clayton Augustin Smith (1783-1839), (Athens, Georgia) to Major James Meriwether (1789-1854) ALS, 4 p.; January 21, 1826. Clayton would like to get a West Point appointment for his son Philip Clayton.
- 1 3 Hull, Asbury, (Athens, Georgia) to Major James Meriwether (Washington, D. C.); April 25, 1826. ALS, 3 p. Hull is probably a professor at University of Georgia. Discusses Haynes' speech on the Panama Mission, the Clay - Randolph duel. "Dr. Tom" may be Thomas Cobb who married Fannie Meriwether.
- 1 3 Gilmer, George Rockingham (1790-1859), (Washington, D. C.) to Major James Meriwether (Athens, Georgia); May 16, 1828. ALS, 2 p. Gilmer was elected Governor of Georgia in 1828 and again in 1837. Author of "'Sketches' of some of the first settlers of upper Georgia." F285. G54. See p. 9 for a Map showing the settlers on Broad River (Georgia) including Thomas and Frank and David Meriwether, John Marks, Dr. William Bibb and Nancy Hart.

Dr. William Meriwether, Surgeon's Mate, War of 1812, (1812-1819)

- 1 4 Bibb, William Wyatt (1781-1820), (Washington, D. C.) to Dr. William Meriwether, (Wilkes County, Georgia), March 16, 1812, ALS, 1 p. Bibb was a Congressman from Georgia and Governor of Alabama. Dr. Meriwether was a Surgeon's Mate in the War of 1812.
- 1 4 Abbot, Joel (1776-1826), (Washington, D. C.) to Dr. William Meriwether (Augusta, Georgia); February 8, 1818, ALS, 3 p. Abbot is U. S. Representative from Georgia 1817-1825. Discusses Spain and U. S. relations.
- 1 4 Cobb, Thomas Willis (1784-1830). (Washington D. C.) to Dr. William Meriwether; February 15, 1818, ALS 4 p. Cobb was a Representative and Senator of Georgia. Concerns Henry Clay, South American affairs, Spain, Amelia Island.
- 1 4 Cobb, Thomas Willis (Washington D. C.) to Dr. William Meriwether (Augusta, Georgia); February 19, 1819, ALS, 3 p. Discusses the Missouri - state slave question.

Major James Meriwether (1822-1826)

- 1 5 Clark, John (1766-1832), Milledgeville, Georgia to Col. Duncan G. Campbell and Major James Meriwether (1789-1854); December 17, 1822, ALS, 2 p. Concerns appointment to negotiate with the Indians. (Clark was Governor of Georgia)

- 1 5 McMinn, Joseph (d. 1824), Cherokee Agency, to James Meriwether and Duncan G. Campbell; July 9, 1823, ALS, 4 p. Suggests they meet with Cherokees at New Town.
- 1 5 (Cherokee Agency) to Charles R. Hicks, Head Chief, Cherokee Nation, July 23, 1823, ALS, 2 p. (MS copy).

Troup, George M. (1780-1856)

- 1 5 (Milledgeville, Georgia) to Col. Duncan G. Campbell and James Meriwether; October 25, 1824, LS, 2 p. Troup was Governor of Georgia. About "claims" of Georgians against Indians.
- 1 5 From unknown, Milledgeville, Georgia to "Gentlemen" [Campbell and Meriwether?]; December 9, 1824, ALS, 2 p.; Lee, William (Treasury Department) to Campbell and Meriwether; April 13, 1825. Notice of Requisition for a warrant for 25,000 to be used in "execrution" of a treaty with the Creeks.
- 1 5 Barbour, Turner, Dept, of War to Duncan G. Campbell; May 27, 1825, LS, 2p. Concerned with massacre of General McIntosh and Colonel Hawkins.
- 1 5 McLean, John (1785-1861), Post Office Department, to James Meriwether (House of Representatives); March 22, 1826, ALS, 1 p.
- 1 6 Meriwether, James, Major, (1789-1854), Madison County, Tennessee, to Thomas Mallory Meriwether, Oxford, Georgia; March 10, 1845, ALS, 3 p.
- 1 6 Meriwether, James, Major, (1789-1854), Madison County, Tennessee, to Thomas M. Meriwether, April 16, 1852, ALS, 2 p. Concerns land and personal and family matters.

Thomas Molloy Meriwether, Business and Legal Papers (1845-1876)

- 1 7 Deed to two lots in Oxford, Georgia sold by A. B. Longstreet and signed by him and witnessed by H. R. Branham and William Henry Waddell, December 7, 1852.
- 1 7 Certificate commissioning Thomas M. Meriwether a Justice of the Inferior Court of Newton County by Howell Cobb, Governor of Georgia, January 8, 1853.
- 1 7 Certificate for "Agricultural Detail", October 6, 1864.

Thomas Molloy Meriwether, (1874-1885)

- 1 8 Letter to Thomas from his Mother, Mrs. Phinzy; April 18, 1851.
- 1 8 Thomas Molloy Meriwether to his wife, Carrie (Henrietta Caroline (Smith) Meriwether), May 2, 5, 13, 1877 from Louisville, Ky. Where he attended a Methodist (General?) Conference; November 28, 1877 from Gainesville, Georgia; May 3, 7, 17, 18, 1878 from Atlanta, Georgia; November 27 and December 1, 1879 from Augusta; December 1, 1881 from Athens, Georgia; and 2 undated. 14 letters.
- 1 8 Thomas to his daughters, Occie and Howard, from Augusta, Georgia; November 20, 1879, 1 letter

- 1 8 J. O. Andrew, son of Bishop Andrew, to Thomas, Molloy Meriwether, August 21, 1884 and February 21, 1885, 2 letters.
- 1 8 Annie to Cousin [Sue], Riverside, 1885?, 1 letter.
- 1 8 Tom Meriwether (Atlanta, Georgia) to his father, Thomas; October 23, 1896, 1 letter. Tom is in dental school.

Wills, Etc. (Meriwether) (1826-1899)

- 1 9 Thomas Molloy Meriwether, August 7, 1899, James G. Lester, Administrator
- 1 9 Deed signed by Jacob Phinzy, Thomas's stepfather, December 25, 1841
- 1 9 Will with the signature of Green B. Haygood, father of Atticus Green Haygood, recorded July 6, 1837.

Elizabeth Lovett, Grandmother of Robt. W. Lovett, (1822-1856)

- 1 10 Lovett, Robert W., Sr. to his mother Elizabeth (Monroe County, Alabama), January 5, 1822.
- 1 10 Letters to Elisabeth from Patience Mobley (Mobley's Pond, Screven County, Georgia); July 22, 1843 from J. H. Schroebel (Mobile, Alabama); February 25, 1843; Susan Amos (Bellville); March 1, 1845; Richard W. Lovett (Union County, Arkansas) grandson of Elizabeth; March 28, 1848; E. L. Elizabeth's daughter; January 15, 1853; Richard W. Lovett; March 10, 1853; Mary H. Marshall, Elizabeth's granddaughter; August 4, 1854; Robert W. Lovett Jr., January 27, 1856; Mary Marshall, June 1, 1856; Also included are bills and receipts, 1831-1852.

George H. Round, (Georgia Conference Manual Labor School)

- 1 11 Certificate to Robert W. Lovett signed by George H. Round, Superintendent; July no 1839.

Robert W. Lovett

- 1 12 Lovett, Robert W., Jr., (1813-1912), Covington, Georgia, to his Mother; May 16, 1839.
- 1 12 Robert's Speech for the annual examination of 1839, Georgia Conf Man'l Lab. School, June 19, 1839. 6 pages.
- 1 12 Notification to Robert of his election to the Few Society, Emory College, signed by James M. Adams; August 31, 1839.
- 1 12 Essay by Robert on the pitfalls of fashion; November 11, 1839.
- 1 13 Robert to his parents; August 20, 1840.
- 1 13 3 Essays: "Knowledge and Benevolence", "Church and State", "The Slanderer", and "A Friend", All by Robert and each is dated.
- 1 14 Robert and Lucy Lovett to their son, Robert; March 9, 1841.
- 1 14 7 essays on speeches: "Progress in Invention", "Dangers in Spontaneous Speaking", "Shall Ministers be permitted to Legislate?", "Anticipation and

- Hope", "Commercial versus Military Spirit", "Deception", "Essay, Censa, Question Committee". Each is dated.
- 1 14 Robert to his parents; November 22, 1841.
- 1 14 Report of grades; Emory College, September 1841.
- 1 15 Robert to his parents; August 17, 1842.
- 1 15 3 essays or speeches: "Columbus," "A Defense of Lawyer," and "Religion"
- 1 16 A petition to the faculty of Emory College stating that Robert "should have shared the 'first honor'" signed by Irby B. Hudson, W. C. Hodges, James A. Mann, George T. Burton, Henry H. McQueen, W. W. Thomas, John R. Billups; June 7, 1843.
- 1 17 Robert (Augusta, Georgia) to his parents; January 22, 1844.
- 1 17 Also includes matriculation and course tickets (5), signed by Joseph A. Eve, M. D., Dean, and a picture of the college building.
- 1 18 3 temperance addresses; 2 undated, 1 dated June 26, 1845.
- 1 19 12 letters by Sarah Isabell Price to her friend and fiancée, Robert W. Lovett; November 4, 1857-March 1, 1859.
- 1 19 1 letter by Sallie to her husband, Robert; December, 1860.

Robert W. Lovett-miscellaneous

- 1 20 License to preach, September 10, 1849, signed by Josiah Lewis, P. E.
- 1 20 Certificate promoting Robert Watkins Lovett to elder in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, January 10, 1864, signed by Bishop James O. Andrews
- 1 20 Part of a "composition book" probably owned by Marietta Smith Lovett and a song "My Husband" probably by her also.
- 1 20 2 small photographs of Robert Watkins Lovett and William Molloy Meriwether.

Robert W. Lovett, and others, (1854-1916)

- 1 21 Robert to his parents, February 5, 1854 - September 29, 1859, 4 letters.
- 1 21 Robert to his sweetheart Marietta Adeline Smith, July 11 and September 12, 1865 and 1 undated, 4 letters.
- 1 21 Other family letters, February 16, 1860 - June 6, 1916, 12 letters.

Lovett-Meriwether correspondence, (1857-1899)

- 1 22 Henrietta Meriwether to her twin sister, Marietta Lovett, December 18, 1857 - June 11, 1885, 22 letters and 2 postal cards.
- 1 22 Letters to Marietta from Fannie Perdue, C. W. Smith, her brother, Wesleyan Female College, Fannie Graves "Eliza" and "Jatie."
- 1 22 Miscellaneous pieces one of which is a rhyme about a "frog" (a thermometer?) bearing the dates October 24, 1865 and October 24, 1890 (25th wedding anniversary?)

Lovett family-miscellaneous

- 1 23 Two sheets containing interviews with Anna Lee and Ellen, and Uncle Tom Judon, about Dr. Robert W. Lovett, dated October 4 and September 27, 1926 by [Heyward Meriwether Lovett?]
- 1 23 Extract with list of "Defaulting Colored Voters", sworn to before "James G. Lester, Justice Peace", April 17, 1886, Newton County, Georgia.
- 1 23 Circular by Wilson Lumpkin January 1, 1828 concerned mainly with Indian affairs.
- 1 23 Song sung at the funeral of Dr. Curley W. Smith (in the handwriting of his sister, Mrs. Robert W. Lovett, Jr.) by the young ladies of Wesleyan Female College, Macon, Georgia; April 6, 1888 and 7 other items.
- 1 24a Family genealogy.

Legal Papers (1790-1864 and undated)

- 1 24 Plot of a survey of a lot in Newton County by E. L. Thomas, August 31, September 1, 1847.
- 1 24 Rough draft of an act to "establish a seat of learning for females in the state of Georgia," no place, undated.
- 1 24 Manuscript Map showing "Washington Town", Wilkes County, Georgia.

Letters to Bishop James Osgood Andrew, 1832 - 1839.

- 1 25 Soule, Joshua (1781 - 1867) October 12, 1832, February 3, 1834, November 18, 1837.
- 1 25 Lane, George W. (
- 1 25 Olin, Stephen (1797 - 1851) January 10, 1837, October 19, 1839.
- 1 25 Morris, Thomas A. (1794 - 1874) December 23, 1837, January 7, 1839, October 5, 1839 Means Alexander (1801 - 1883) January 26, 1839.
- 1 25 Garland, L.C. (1810 - 1895) February 15, 1839.
- 1 25 Longacre, James B. (1794 - 1869) August 16, 1839.

Robert Watkins Lovett, Sr.-family correspondence

- 1 26 Lovett, J.C. to his father, Robert, February 28, 1834.
- 1 26 Lovett, Elizabeth to son Robert, January 24, 1840, March 1, 1853.
- 1 26 Lovett, Robert Watkins, Sr. to wife, Lucy, March 31, 1840.
- 1 26 Marshall, Mary [granddaughter of Elizabeth Lovett] to Lovett, Elizabeth, August 17, 1845.
- 1 26 [?] to mother, Elizabeth, May 13, 1852.

Robert Lovett, Jr., Robert Lovett, Sr., and Lucy Lovett [While attending school: 1836 - 1839 Georgia Conference Manual Labor school, Covington, Georgia; 1839 - 1842 Emory College, Oxford, Georgia; Medical College, Augusta, Georgia]

- 1 27 1836-1841, Robert Lovett, Jr. from parents
- 1 28 1836-1840

1	29	1841-1842
1	30	1843
1	31	1854-1858
1	32	1859-1861

Robert W. Lovett-Sallie Price correspondence

2	33	1858-1859, Robert W. Lovett to Sallie Price
2	34	1860-1864, Robert W. Lovett to Sallie Price
2	35	1858 [?]-1859, Sally Price to Robert W. Lovett, Jr.
2	36	1860-1864, Sally Price to Robert W. Lovett, Jr.

"Lou" Letters ["Lou" was apparently Lou Lovett who lived at Mobley Pond, Screven County, Georgia.]

2	37	1860-1876, J.O. Andrew's letters to "Lou."
2	38	1869-1874, "Annie" to "Lou."
2	39	1856-1879, Letters to "Lou" from "Aunt Sallie", "Aunt Code" and "Jennie."

Misc. Letters, 1849-1916

2	40	1849, February 4, Lizzie (Mrs. R.W. Lovett, Jr.) Mobley Pond, to Octavia Andrew, her sister (Wesleyan College, Macon, Georgia)
2	40	1854, December 26, Alexander M. Wynn (LaFayette, Alabama) to "Uncle". This may be addressed to Bishop Andrew. Alexander may be "Alexander Means? Wynn". He is "still a member of the Pacific Conference."
2	40	1858 to "Dear Sallie" May be from her mother and probably during Robert Lovett's courtship.
2	40	1859, September 20.
2	40	1868, July 14, G.W.L. Price to "Brother Robert". Mentions the impossibility of "making money planting cotton with free negroes."
2	40	1872, March 19 Annie? to Cousin Bob [Lovett?]
2	40	June 24 Cynthia Smith to daughter, Marietta Lovett.
2	40	1873, January 13 Robt. W. Lovett to daughter.
2	40	1898, January 19 to "Dear Clara". Writer lives at Southside, Florida
2	40	1899, September 19 H.M.L. [Howard Meriwether Lovett ?] to "dear Clara".
2	40	1916, December 8 Louisa H.A. Minor (Whiteside, Montana) to "Dear Little Cousin", Miss Frances M. Lovett, Girard, Georgia.
2	41	Court Order demanding that certain property be turned over to Elizabeth Lovett by John F. Lovett. State of Alabama. Fifth District, Southern Chancery, Division, Monroeville, Alabama, May 27, 1847.
2	41	7 receipts, 1840's and 1850's.
2	41	Draft of an essay or address, author unknown.
2	41	Clipping of a poem, "Make Home Bright and Pleasant."

- 2 41 Ms. of a poem, "Where hath my ship gone? I set it out. . . ." 7 fragments of letters, etc. 1 by J.O. Andrew, Jr.
- 2 42 Photograph: Robert Watkins Lovett.
- 2 43 Letter: Sallie Price Lovett to Annie [Meriwether?], 29 February 18??.
- 2 44 James Cuyler Lovett, Certificate from Georgia Conference Manual Labor School, 2 June 1837.
- 2 45 John C. Calhoun letter, March 1823.
- 2 Scrapbook of Family Clippings, 32 numbered leaves.
- 2 Sentiment book of Elizabeth Mason (Andrew) Lovett, apparently later used by Dr. Lovett as a receipt or prescription book.
- 2 Prescription book.
- 2 Diary, 1861, by Dr. Robt. W. Lovett. Saturday, April 13, 1881 entry "Fort Sumpter - surrendered today."
- 2 A Seal - [colonial ?]
- BV 1 Lovett Family Bible with 1 p. of family records.
- BV 2 "United States Dispensatory" by Wood & Bache, Philadelphia, 1843, Association Copy.
- Legal Documents
- OP1 1 Land survey, Dorcas Pickeron, Burke County, Georgia, 1786
- OP1 1 Land grant, Dorcas Pickeron, Burke County, Georgia, 1790
- OP1 1 Indenture, Gabriel Clements, Burke County and Jacob Clements, Jr., Burke County, 1808
- OP1 1 Articles of Agreement, Screvin County, Georgia, Josiah Scott and William Edwards of Putnam County, 1817
- OP1 2 William Meriwether commission signed by James Madison
- OP1 3 Deed, E. F. S. Hail to Martha Roberts granting title to slaves in accordance with terms of will, June 5, 1857
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