STEPHENS, ALEXANDER HAMILTON, 1812-1883.
Alexander Hamilton Stephens collection, 1821-1935

Emory University
Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library
Atlanta, GA 30322
404-727-6887
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Alexander Hamilton Stephens collection, 1821-1935
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 94
Extent: 5.5 linear feet (12 boxes), 1 oversized papers box (OP), and 9 microfilm reels (MF)
Abstract: Papers of Georgia politician Alexander Hamilton Stephens and his nephew John A. Stephens including correspondence, legal papers, miscellaneous materials, and microfilm copies of the Alexander Stephens papers at the Library of Congress (formerly at Manhattanville College) and Duke University.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access
Special restrictions apply: Due to preservation concerns, researchers are required to use microfilm copies of papers where available.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction
All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Additional Physical Form
The correspondence in Subseries 1.1 from August 5, 1826 - December 29, 1850 and January 22, 1852 -December 29, 1859; and the legal files in Subseries 1.2 from October 8, 1821 - October 29, 1859 are also available on microfilm.

Source
Gift, with subsequent purchases.
Citation
[after identification of item(s)], Alexander Hamilton Stephens collection, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Processing
This finding aid may include language that is offensive or harmful. Please refer to the Rose Library's harmful language statement for more information about why such language may appear and ongoing efforts to remEDIATE racist, ableist, sexist, homophobic, euphemistic and other oppressive language. If you are concerned about language used in this finding aid, please contact us at rose.library@emory.edu.

Collection Description

Publication Note

Scope and Content Note
The collection consists of the papers of Alexander Hamilton Stephens from 1821-1935 and John A. Stephens from 1866-1893. The papers include correspondence, legal papers, miscellaneous materials, and microfilm copies of the Alexander Stephens papers at the Library of Congress (formerly at Manhattanville College) and Duke University.

Arrangement Note
Organized into two series: (1) Alexander H. Stephens papers and (2) John A. Stephens papers.

Finding Aid Note
Index to selected correspondence in Subseries 1.1 available.
Description of Series

Series 1: Alexander H. Stephens papers, 1821-1935
  Subseries 1.1: Correspondence, 1826-1935
  Subseries 1.2: Legal papers, 1821-1899
  Subseries 1.3: Bills and receipts, 1838-1883
  Subseries 1.4: Miscellaneous material
  Subseries 1.5: Microfilmed correspondence from other repositories, 1832-1882

Series 2: John A. Stephens papers, 1866-1893
  Subseries 2.1: Correspondence, 1866-1893
  Subseries 2.2: Bills and receipts, 1873-1890
Series 1
Alexander H. Stephens papers, 1821-1935
Boxes 1-10; MF 1-9

Scope and Content Note
Series 1 of this collection consists of correspondence; legal papers; the two-volume diary kept by A.H. Stephens as a prisoner at Fort Warren, Boston Harbor, in 1865; and miscellaneous materials.

The correspondence, which comprises the bulk of the Alexander Stephens materials, dates from August 5, 1826 - May 28, 1935. Much of the correspondence is of political nature, although a large portion relates to personal and family affairs. Many letters from members of the Stephens family are present, notably those of William G. Stephens, a nephew of A.H. Stephens and Mary Salter Stephens, the second wife of A.H. Stephens' brother Linton. The correspondence is sparse before 1854 and is strongest from 1860-1875. The papers that appear after 1883, the year of Stephens' death, are of negligible importance. Chief correspondents include Alexander H. Stephens, Joseph E. Brown, Howell Cobb, Linton Stephens, Thomas W. Thomas, and Robert Toombs.

Subseries 1.2 contains a group of legal papers (October 8, 1821 - February 17, 1899), including papers connected with the law practices of A.H., Linton, and John L. Stephens, and Robert Toombs; and Stephens family documents (wills, deeds, etc.). Subseries 1.3 includes a collection of A.H. Stephens' financial papers (mainly bills and receipts) from 1838-1883 (mainly bills and receipts).

Miscellaneous material (Subseries 1.4) in the collection include: the two-volume diary kept by A.H. Stephens as a prisoner at Fort Warren, Boston Harbor, in 1865; printed speeches and manuscripts of A.H. Stephens; newsclippings; a reprint of a speech delivered by C.L. Vallandigham, October 4, 1866, at Rossville, Ohio; miscellaneous printed matter and manuscripts; and a collection of Confederate and pre and post war letter covers and stamps.

Subseries 1.5 contains microfilm copies of correspondence held by other repositories. The subseries includes 3,053 letters between Alexander Stephens and his brother Judge Linton Stephens from 1834 to 1872 that are held at the Library of Congress (five microfilm reels). These papers were originally at Manhattanville College of the Sacred Heart. In addition, there is some correspondence between A.H. Stephens and several other persons, including Herschel V. Johnson, Cosby Connell, Henry H. Cumming, James Gardner, Jr., and Robert Toombs. The subseries also contains a microfilm copy of forty-four letters (January 17, 1832 - September 22, 1879), primarily correspondence between A.H. Stephens and various members of his family, procured from Duke University (1 microfilm reel).

Arrangement Note
Organized into five subseries: (1.1) Correspondence, (1.2) Legal papers, (1.3) Bills and receipts, (1.4) Miscellaneous material, (1.5) Microfilmed correspondence from other repositories.
## Subseries 1.1
### Correspondence, 1826-1935  
**Boxes 1 - 7; Box 11; MF8-9**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
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| 1   | 1      | August 5, 1826-December 21, 1839  
|     | OP1    | August 12, 1832  
| 1   | 2      | January 15-September 24, 1840  
| 1   | 3      | October 12, 1840-December 19, 1841  
| 1   | 4      | January 6-December 8, 1842  
| 1   | 5      | February 4-December 29, 1843  
| 1   | 6      | January 1-December 28, 1844  
| 1   | 7      | January 2-April 26, 1845  
| 1   | 8      | May 7-November 20, 1845  
| 1   | 9      | December 5-December 31, 1845  
| 1   | 10     | January 4-December 28, 1846  
| 1   | 11     | January 4-December 29, 1847  
| 1   | 12     | January 19, 1848-October 8, 1849  
| 1   | 13     | January 2-December 16, 1850  
| 1   | 14     | January 4-December 26, 1851  
| 1   | 15     | January 22-[June, 1852]  
| 2   | 1      | July 1-December 17, 1852  
| 2   | 2      | January 3-December 28, 1853  
| 2   | 3      | January 8-March 24, 1854  
| 2   | 4      | April 8-December 29, 1854  
| 2   | 5      | February 1-December 8, 1855  
| 2   | 6      | January 5-December 9, 1856  
| 2   | 7      | January 12-July 23, 1857  
| 2   | 8      | August 3-December 28, 1857  
| 2   | 9      | January 4-December 13, 1858  
| 2   | 10     | April 6-December 29, 1859  
| 2   | 11     | Alexander Stephens to Mrs. Elizabeth Church Craig, ALS and typescripts,  
|      |        | August 10, 1859 and September 11, 1859 [not microfilmed]  
| 2   | 12     | January 5, 19(60)-January 31, 1860  
| 2   | 13     | February 5-February 27, 1860  
| 2   | 14     | March 2-May 29, 1860  
| 2   | 15     | June 4-December 31, 1860  
| 2   | 16     | January 1, 18(61)-February 25, 1861  
| 3   | 1      | March 8, April 30, 1861  
| 3   | 2      | May 1-May [25], 1861
June 1-June 25, 1861
July 4-August 28, 1861
September 10-October 30, 1861
November 1-November 23, 1861
November 26-December 11, 1861
December 12-December 31, 1861
January 1-January 26, 1862
January 27-February 24, 1862
March 4-October 8, 1862
November 1-December 29, 1862
January 4-June 23, 1863
August 23, 1863
July 2-August 29, 1863
September 3-December 27, 1863
January 2-May 29, 1864
June 3-August 30, 1864
September 12-November 4, 1864
October 6-December 29, 1868
January 4-April 30, 1869
May 12-July 20, 1869
August 6-November 30, 1869
December 1-December 31, 1869
January 7-April 22, 1870
May 5-August 19, 1870
September 5-December 30, 1870
January 16, 1870-March 22, 1871
April 2-May 30, 1871
June 2-August 30, 1871
September 14-December 23, 1871
January 21-March 28, 1872
April 7-June 26, 1872
July 1-July 30, 1872
August 1-September 25, 1872
October 4-December 30, 1872
January 2-March 24, 1873
April 1-June 26, 1873
July 1-August 30, 1873
September 6-November 19, 1873
November 21-December 31, 1873
January 1-January 26, 1874
February 1-February 26, 1874
March 2-March 31, 1874
April 2-April 30, 1874
May 8-June 27, 1874
July 2-August 30, 1874
September 7-November 30, 1874
December 1-December 31, 1874
January 2-January 31, 1875
February 2-February 28, 1875
March 3-April 28, 1875
May 12-July 29, 1875
August 1-December 24, 1875
January 4-March 18, 1876
April 2-May 31, 1876
June 3-September 7, 1876
October 30-December 30, 1876
January 9-March 12, 1877
April 8-June 18, 1877
July 21-December 30, 1877
January 8-September 12, 1878
October 16-December 30, 1878
January 2-March 26, 1879
April 2-September 25, 1879
October 9-December 28, 1879
January 2-January 30, 1880
February 8-August 1880
September 8-December 24, 1880
January 4-March 16, 1881
April 2-August 24, 1881
September 2-December 8, 1881
January 1-May 31, 1882
June 7-July 23, 1882
August 3-September 19, 1882
October 16-December 25, 1882
January 8, 1883-May 28, 1935
Undated
Undated fragments
Undated, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Salter to A. H. Stephens

**Microfilm copy**

MF8  August 5, 1826 - December 29, 1850
MF9  January 22, 1852 December 29, 1859
Subseries 1.2
Legal papers, 1821-1899
Box 8; MF7

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<td>May 15, 1838 - March 12, 1839</td>
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<td>January 28, 1841 - December 9, 1843</td>
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<td>January 7, 1851 - January 28, 1853</td>
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<td>January 24, 1860 - June 20, 1861</td>
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<td>April 29, 1862 - September 10, 1867</td>
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<td>February 3, 1868 - February 6, 1875</td>
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Microfilm copy
MF7 October 8, 1821 - October 29, 1859
Subseries 1.3
Bills and receipts, 1838-1883
Box 9 (folders 1-2)

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<td>January 12, 1870–January 18, 1883; undated</td>
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### Subseries 1.4
### Miscellaneous material
### Box 9 (folders 3-13), 10

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<td>Miscellaneous photographs</td>
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<td>Alexander H. Stephens, miscellaneous manuscripts, February, 1861-188?</td>
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<td>Alexander H. Stephens, miscellaneous manuscripts, undated</td>
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<td>Alexander H. Stephens, printed speeches: May 11, 1858-November 14, 1860</td>
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<td>Clippings: February 14, 1861-November 22, 1885</td>
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<td>Covers, Stamps; Inventories</td>
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<td>Covers (Pre and Post War, wartime)</td>
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<td>Covers (Pre and Post war, wartime); Stamps</td>
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<td>Robert Grier Stephens (grandnephew of A. H. Stephens), Correspondence to Raymond Martin Bell, 1955-1969</td>
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Subseries 1.5
Microfilmed correspondence from other repositories, 1832-1882
MF1-6

Library of Congress Alexander H. Stephens papers microfilm
Box  Folder  Content
MF1  Complete index, 1834-1872; Letters, 1834-1849
MF2  Papers, January 1850 – June 1858
MF3  Correspondence, June 1858 – December 1862
MF4  Correspondence, January 1863 – November 5, 1865
MF5  Papers, November 6, 1868 – 1882; Appendix, Newspaper clippings, etc.

Duke University Alexander H. Stephens papers microfilm
MF6  January 17, 1832 – September 22, 1879 (44 letters)
Series 2
John A. Stephens papers, 1866-1893
Box 11

Biographical Note
John Alexander Stephens, the son of Alexander H. Stephens' brother John Lindsay Stephens and Mary Elizabeth Booker Stephens. He rose to the rank of lieutenant in the Confederate Army, serving in the 15th Regiment, Georgia Volunteer Infantry. (See Lillian Henderson, *Roster of the Confederate Soldiers of Georgia*, volume 2, p. 441). After the war, Stephens practiced law in Crawfordville, Georgia. He later moved to Atlanta and became a partner of Lucius J. Gartrell, a prominent Atlanta criminal lawyer and former Georgia legislator, United States Congressman and Confederate general. When his uncle Alexander H. Stephens became governor in 1883, John A. Stephens was appointed Adjutant General of Georgia. He retained this position until 1886, the year preceding his death.

Scope and Content Note

Arrangement Note
Organized into two subseries: (2.1) Correspondence and (2.2) Bills and receipts.
**Subseries 2.1**  
**Correspondence, 1866-1893**  
**Box 11**

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Subseries 2.2  
Bills and receipts, 1873-1890  
Box 12

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<td>Additions: Photocopies of letters and other documents of Alexander H. Stephens</td>
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