

STEPHENS, ALEXANDER HAMILTON, 1812-1883.

Alexander Hamilton Stephens collection, 1821-1935

Emory University
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Stephens, Alexander Hamilton, 1812-1883.
Title: Alexander Hamilton Stephens collection, 1821-1935
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 94
Extent: 5.5 linear ft. (12 boxes) and 1 oversized papers box (OP) ; 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.

Collection Description**Publication Note**

Many of the Alexander Stephens, Robert Toombs, and Howell Cobb letters in the collection have been published in *The Correspondence of Robert Toombs, Alexander H. Stephens, And Howell Cobb*, edited by Ulrich Bonnell Phillips. The first edition of this work was published in Washington, D.C. in 1913 as Volume II of the Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Year 1911. A reprint of the first edition with a new introduction by James Z. Rabun was published by the Da Capo Press, New York, 1970.

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

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	August 5, 1826-December 21, 1839
OP1	1	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

3	3	June 1-June 25, 1861
3	4	July 4-August 28, 1861
3	5	September 10-October 30, 1861
3	6	November 1-November 23, 1861
3	7	November 26-December 11, 1861
3	8	December 12-December 31, 1861
3	9	January 1-January 26, 1862
3	10	January 27-February 24, 1862
3	11	March 4-October 8, 1862
3	12	November 1-December 29, 1862
3	13	January 4-June 23, 1863
OP1	1	August 23, 1863
3	14	July 2-August 29, 1863
3	15	September 3-December 27, 1863
3	15	January 2-May 29, 1864
3	17	June 3-August 30, 1864
3	18	September 12-November 4, 1864
4	1	November 5-December 13, 1864
4	2	January 6-March 23, 1865
4	3	April 25-December 29, 1865 and undated wartime letters
4	4	January 7-March 31, 1866
4	5	April 2-May 28, 1866
4	6	June 6-December 31, 1866
4	7	January 15-May 27, 1867
4	8	June 2-September 17, 1867
4	9	September 20-December 27, 1867
4	10	January 12-June 26, 1868
4	11	July 4-September 29, 1868
4	12	October 6-December 29, 1868
4	13	January 4-April 30, 1869
4	14	May 12-July 20, 1869
4	15	August 6-November 30, 1869
4	16	December 1-December 31, 1869
5	1	January 7-April 22, 1870
5	2	May 5-August 19, 1870
5	3	September 5-December 30, 1870
5	4	January 16, 1870-March 22, 1871
5	5	April 2-May 30, 1871
5	6	June 2-August 30, 1871

5	7	September 14-December 23, 1871
5	8	January 21-March 28, 1872
5	9	April 7-June 26, 1872
5	10	July 1-July 30, 1872
5	11	August 1-September 25, 1872
5	12	October 4-December 30, 1872
5	13	January 2-March 24, 1873
5	14	April 1-June 26, 1873
5	15	July 1-August 30, 1873
5	16	September 6-November 19, 1873
5	17	November 21-December 31, 1873
5	18	January 1-January 26, 1874
5	19	February 1-February 26, 1874
6	1	March 2-March 31, 1874
6	2	April 2-April 30, 1874
6	3	May 8-June 27, 1874
6	4	July 2-August 30, 1874
6	5	September 7-November 30, 1874
6	6	December 1-December 31, 1874
6	7	January 2-January 31, 1875
6	8	February 2-February 28, 1875
6	9	March 3-April 28, 1875
6	10	May 12-July 29, 1875
6	11	August 1-December 24, 1875
6	12	January 4-March 18, 1876
6	13	April 2-May 31, 1876
6	14	June 3-September 7, 1876
6	15	October 30-December 30, 1876
6	16	January 9-March 12, 1877
6	17	April 8-June 18, 1877
6	18	July 21-December 30, 1877
6	19	January 8-September 12, 1878
6	20	October 16-December 30, 1878
7	1	January 2-March 26, 1879
7	2	April 2-September 25, 1879
7	3	October 9-December 28, 1879
7	4	January 2-January 30, 1880
7	5	February 8-August 1880
7	6	September 8-December 24, 1880

7	7	January 4-March 16, 1881
7	8	April 2-August 24, 1881
7	9	September 2-December 8, 1881
7	10	January 1-May 31, 1882
7	11	June 7-July 23, 1882
7	12	August 3-September 19, 1882
7	13	October 16-December 25, 1882
7	14	January 8, 1883-May 28, 1935
7	15	Undated
7	16	Undated fragments
7	17	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

Box	Folder	Content
8	1	October 8, 1821-November 22, 1837
8	2	May 15, 1838-March 12, 1839
8	3	April 26-December 1839
8	4	January 14-December 21, 1840
8	5	January 28, 1841-December 9, 1843
8	6	May 22, 1844-October 28, 1846
8	7	January 15, 1847-April 1849
8	8	February 25-October 1850
8	9	November, 1850
8	10	January 7, 1851-January 28, 1853
8	11	January 27, 1854-October 8, 1857
8	12	January 1, 1858-October 19, 1859
8	13	January 24, 1860-June 20, 1861
8	14	April 29, 1862-September 10, 1867
8	15	February 3, 1868-February 6, 1875
8	16	June 1, 1877-February 17, 1899
8	17	Undated

Microfilm copy

MF7 October 8, 1821-October 29, 1859

Subseries 1.3

Bills and receipts, 1838-1883

Box 9 (folders 1-2)

Box	Folder	Content
9	1	December 13, 1838–November 4, 1869
9	2	January 12, 1870–January 18, 1883; undated

Subseries 1.4
Miscellaneous material
Box 9 (folders 3-13), 10

Box	Folder	Content
9		Alexander H. Stephens Prison Diary, Fort Warren, Boston Harbor, 2 volumes, 1865
9	3	Miscellaneous photographs
9	4	Alexander H. Stephens, miscellaneous manuscripts, February, 1861-188?
9	5	Alexander H. Stephens, miscellaneous manuscripts, undated
9	6	Alexander H. Stephens, printed speeches: May 11, 1858-November 14, 1860
9	7	Clippings: February 14, 1861-November 22, 1885
9	8	Clippings: Undated
9	9	Miscellaneous manuscripts: February 3, 1848-February 24, 1879
9	10	Miscellaneous manuscripts: Undated
9	11	Miscellaneous printed matter: 1862-April 8, 1895; undated
9	12	C. L. Vallandigham: Speech, Rossville, Ohio, 1886, October 4. Reprinted from the <i>Cincinnati Commercial</i>
9	13	Covers, Stamps; Inventories
10	1	Covers (Pre and Post War, wartime)
10	2	Covers (Pre and Post war, wartime); Stamps
10	3	Robert Grier Stephens (grandnephew of A. H. Stephens), Correspondence to Raymond Martin Bell, 1955-1969

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)
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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

The John A. Stephens papers constitute 803 items and include correspondence and bills and receipts. A large part of the correspondence concerns Stephens' business affairs. Letters cover the period April 13, 1866 - September 27, 1893. Correspondents include: Clifford W. Anderson, Garnett Andrews, E. Foster Blodgett, Joseph E. Brown, Andrew H. H. Dawson, Dudley H. DuBose, William H. Felton, Nathaniel J. Hammond, Benjamin H. Hill, Herschel V. Johnson, Henry D. McDaniel, William L. Scruggs, John Henly Smith, Hansford Dade Duncan Twiggs, and William T. Wofford.

Arrangement Note

Organized into two subseries: (2.1) Correspondence and (2.2) Bills and receipts.

Subseries 2.1
Correspondence, 1866-1893
Box 11

Box	Folder	Content
11	1	March 27, 1866-December 12, 1867
11	2	January 8, 1868-December 25, 1869
11	3	January 5-December 6, 1870
11	4	January 28-August 27, 1871
11	5	September 4-December 27, 1871
11	6	January 4-March 22, 1872
11	7	April 5-May 28, 1872
11	8	June 1-August 28, 1872
11	9	September 8-November 26, 1872
11	10	January 8-March 22, 1873
11	11	April 8-July 21, 1873
11	12	August 5-December 23, 1873
11	13	January 12-March 28, 1874
11	14	April 4-July 31, 1874
11	15	August 12-December 19, 1874
11	16	January 6-April 22, 1875
11	17	May 3-August 15, 1875
11	18	September 7-December 31, 1875
11	19	January 1-February 25, 1876
11	20	March 9-May 30, 1876
11	21	June 2-July 1, 1876
11	22	February 10, 1877-December 29, 1879
11	23	August 21, 1880-December 10, 1882
11	24	January 2-December 7, 1883
11	25	January 6-August 12, 1884
11	26	September 8-December 23, 1884
11	27	January 12-December 31, 1885
11	28	January 6-November 15, 1886
11	29	February 5, 1887-July 27, 1893

Subseries 2.2**Bills and receipts, 1873-1890****Box 12**

Box	Folder	Content
12	1	January 14, 1873-November 28, 1882
12	2	January 24-July 27, 1883
12	3	August 3-December 31, 1883
12	4	January 4-June 28, 1884
12	5	July 1, 1884-March 23, 1885
12	6	April 1-December 28, 1885
12	7	July 6-November 4, 1887
12	8	January 4-December 31, 1888
12	9	January 1-April 30, 1889
12	10	May 1-December 14, 1889
12	11	188?-January 6, 1890
12	12	Additions: Photocopies of letters and other documents of Alexander H. Stephens
