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Atkinson collection MSS.30

- Dates:** 1838-1925
Extent: 2.66 cubic feet
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Donor: James R. Atkinson, Houston, Mississippi.

Scope and Contents

These papers belonged to the law firm of Martin and Bates, Houston, Mississippi. Judge Thomas Nelson Martin was the senior partner, and Judge William Stowt Bates, the junior partner. The collection was discovered in a law office in Houston by James Atkinson, a graduate student at Mississippi State University, and donated to Special Collections.

Folders A through C, covering the years 1838-1867, contain legal papers, promissory notes, and receipts regarding civil cases in Chickasaw County. Folder D, 1851-1858, contains legal papers concerning the settlement of the Chickasaw County estate of William Martin, father of Judge Thomas Martin.

Folders E and F are made up of miscellaneous legal papers regarding civil cases in Chickasaw and Calhoun Counties during the years 1870-1877. Folders G1 through G4

(1877-1901) contain 40 letters from Associate Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court, William A. Little, to the law firm of Martin and Bates, tax receipts, statements of land owned, and miscellaneous items regarding the sale and rental of Mr. Little's property in Chickasaw County, Mississippi.

Folders H through M2 contain legal papers referring to civil cases in Chickasaw County from 1861-1917. Folder N is made up of miscellaneous correspondence (1861-1906). Included are two letters from Governor J. M. Stone (August, 1891) and one letter from Attorney General T. M. Miller (August, 1891) concerning the registration of voters in Chickasaw County.

Folders 01, 02, and 03 (1887-1910) contain legal papers, correspondence, and other papers referring to the administration of the estate of Thomas Nelson Martin by William S. Bates. Material concerning the formation of the Chickasaw County Poultry Association (1912) makes up folder P. Folder Q2 contains a temperance broadside to voters of Chickasaw County, a genealogy report on the Bates family, and miscellaneous items.

Folder R1 (1925) consists of Xerox copies of the Houston, Mississippi, *Times Post*, April 9 through May 28, 1925, which contain 'A History of Chickasaw County When Mississippi First Made State' by T. N. Martin. Pamphlets and other published material comprise folder S. Folder T consists of 13 handwritten volumes of court dockets from Chickasaw and Pontotoc counties, 1851-1915, one account book (1903), and volume 77 of American State Report. One volume of court dockets (1857) also contains poetry written by Miss Scottie Bates, the daughter of Judge William Bates, in 1878 and rough drafts of letters from Miss Bates to various friends.

Biographical Data

Full name of person about whom biographical data is needed:

Thomas Nelson Martin

Date and place of birth:

1807 North Carolina

Date and Place of death:

1886 Houston, Mississippi (?)

Names of parents, wife or husband, children, or other family relationships:

Father: William Martin

Wife: Parthenia Howser

Daughter, Susan Martin, married W. S. Bates

His occupation, activities, and place or places where he flourished:

T. N. Martin came to Chickasaw County, Mississippi, from North Carolina in 1836.

Edited the Southern Patriot in Houston, Mississippi beginning in 1846 to 1852.

Elected to State Senate 1865.

Senior partner in law firm Martin & Bates, Houston, Mississippi.

Titles of books or other sources where further information can be found:

Goodspeed, *Memoirs of Mississippi and Mississippians*, Vol. 2, p. 407

Name and address of Person supplying data (and relation to biographee):

Date _____

Biographical Data

Full name of person about whom biographical data is needed:

William Stowt Bates

Date and place of birth:

1830, Franklin County, Alabama

Date and place of death:

1928, Houston, Mississippi

Names of parents, wife or husband, children, or other family relationships:

Father was H. W. Bates. Mother was a Bourland

Married Susan Martin, daughter of T. N. Martin.

Children: Scottie W. W. Tabb of Houston, Mississippi.

May W. A. White of West Point, Mississippi.

His occupation, activities, and place or places where he flourished:

Bates attended college in Tennessee. Operated a country store at Guntown. In 1854 went to Pontotoc to read law with firm of Fountain and Bradford. Admitted to bar in 1856. In 1858 elected probate judge of Pontotoc County. Temporary editor of *Pontotoc Examiner*, 1860-1862. Served in Confederate Army as private. Following the war he resumed law practice as junior partner of Martin & Bates, Houston, Mississippi.

Titles of books or other sources where further information can be found:

Goodspeed, *Memoirs of Mississippi and Mississippians*

Name and address of person supplying data (and relation to biographee):

Date _____

Container List

Box 1	Folders A-N
Box 2	Folders O-S
Box 3	Folder T, Volumes 1-5
Box 4	Folder T, Volumes 6-8, 12-13
Box 5	Folder T, Volume 10
Box 6	Folder T, Volume 11
Box 7	Folder T, Volumes 14-15
Small Oversize Manuscripts Box 24	
Oversize Manuscripts Box 13	

Inventory

Folder	Date	Subject	No. items
A	1838 - 1839	Legal papers re civil cases in Chickasaw County	15
B	1838 - 1840	Legal papers re civil cases in Chickasaw County	15
C	1852 - 1867	Legal papers, promissory notes, receipts re civil cases in Chickasaw County	14
D	1851 - 1858	Legal papers re settlement of William Martin estate in Chickasaw County	18
E	1870 - 1877	Legal papers (miscellaneous) re: civil cases in Chickasaw and Calhoun Counties	7
F	1873 - 1876	Legal papers re civil case of Berry vs Bray, Chickasaw County	9
G1	1877-1899	Letters to law firm Martin & Bates from William A. Little, Associate Justice of Georgia Supreme Court, re: sale or rental of Chickasaw County, Mississippi, property	21
G2	1884 - 1901	Letters from William A. Little to Martin and Bates	20
G3	1880 - 1899	Letters to William A. Little from various persons, including Judge Bates, re property	5
G4		Tax receipts statements of land owned, miscellaneous items re: William A. Little property in Chickasaw County	17
H	1880 - 1887	Miscellaneous legal papers	5
I	1881 - 1883	Legal papers: civil case of Vaiden vs Berry re non-payment of a note	13
J	1882 - 1883	Legal papers: Foster vs Screws in Chickasaw County	17

K	1889 - 1892	Legal papers re criminal case of Jones vs Anderson in Chickasaw Cty,	13
L	1896	Legal papers re McAshaw case involving a stolen horse in Chickasaw County	6
MI	1861 - 1878	Miscellaneous legal and other papers. These items were removed from Civil Docket No. 3, 1858-1863	15
M2	1890-1917	Miscellaneous legal and other papers promissory notes, indentures, receipts, tax receipts, agreements, etc.	9
N	1861-1919	Miscellaneous legal and other correspondence. Included are 2 letters from Governor J. M. Stone, 1 letter from T. M. Miller, attorney general (August, 1891)	20
O1	1887 - 1899	Legal papers, correspondence, and other papers re: administration of estate of Thomas Nelson Martin by William S. Bates	21
O2	1900 - 1903	T. N. Martin Estate Papers, continued	25
O3	1904 - 1910	T. N. Martin Estate Papers, continued	21
P	circa 1912	Letter, by-laws, notes re: formation of Chickasaw County Poultry Association. Includes ledger containing names of members and minutes of two meetings	6
Q1	1893 - 1916	Miscellaneous items: statements of account, weekly time book, receipts	8
Q2		Miscellaneous: notice of law library for sale, newsletter re: W. M. McAlister's candidacy for State Senate, forms re: pensions from War of 1812, temperance broadside, and a genealogical report on the Bates family	13
RI	1925	Newspapers: Xerox copies of <i>The Times-Post</i> , Houston, Mississippi,	14

April 9 - May 28, 1925 (April 23 missing);
Also contains A History of Chickasaw
County When Mississippi First Made
State by T. N. Martin

R2	1978, undated	Clippings	3
S		Pamphlets, etc.	7
T	1851 - 1915	Includes 13 handwritten volumes of court dockets:	

1. Martin & Bates Court Docket Records printed on the spine. ca. 1856.
Calhoun and Monroe counties mentioned but specific courts aren't. Summaries. Indexed.
2. Martin & Bates Circuit and Chancery Docket #2 (printed on the inside cover). 1867-1868.
Printed on the second page, "Gamblin, Buchannon & Martin Day Book for 1859." Followed by
list of accounts. Divided into issue, appearance, and chancery cases. Case names and some
summaries. Letter to Martin & Bates from H.M. Ivey of Palo Alto, Miss., dated January 5, 1866,
glued to page 117. Indexed.
3. Martin & Bates Chancery Cases. No title on the book. 1868-1877.
No counties listed. Summaries. Indexed.
4. Court Docket, M&B. 1869-1896.
Divide into state docket, chancery court cases and issue cases. No counties mentioned.
Summaries.
5. Martin & Bates Circuit Court Cases for Pontotoc County. Cash printed on the spine. 1858-
1883.
Also includes Webster Co. Chancery Court and Sumner Co. Chancery Court cases. Summaries.
6. Martin & Bates Pontotoc Circuit Court Cases. No title on the book. 1856.
Includes poems and letters written by Scottie Bates, daughter of Judge William S. Bates.
Summaries. Indexed.
7. T.N. Martin, Houston, Mississippi. On inside cover. Ledger printed on the spine. No dates.
Chickasaw Circuit Court, Calhoun Circuit Court and Chancery Court in an unspecified county.
Briefs and Martin's intended order of trials. Indexed.
8. W.S. Bates, Houston, Miss. (front cover.) Briefs (on the spine.) 1892-1899
Two articles, pasted on the inside cover, the first page. Chancery Court in unspecified county.
Briefs, summaries and law notes. Indexed.
9. Civil Docket No. 3 (on the first page.) Day Book, G. B. & M. printed on the spine. Accounts
with the heading Houston, Chickasaw County, Miss. 1858-1863.
Summaries, 1861-1870. Also includes a list of articles bought for M&B, 1866-1872, and

taxpaying matters for 1871 and 1872. Indexed.

10. Civil Docket No. 4 (on page headings.) Journal printed on spine. 1870-1898.
Names of counties not found. Summaries. Indexed.

11. Law Docket #2 W.S. Bates printed on the spine. 1899-1919.
Circuit and Chancery Courts, counties unspecified. Summaries.
Lists of lands owned by W.S. Bates, 1889 & 1909.
Agreement forming the firm of Bates & Strain, January 15, 1901; only Bates signed.
Agreement forming the firm of Bates & Harrington, June 9, 1903.
Cases from Bates & Harrington, B & Busby and B & Pierce.

12. T.S. Evans, Houston, Miss., May 8, 1851. On one of the first pages. 1850-1853.
Probate Court, Circuit Court, Justice Court, Appellate Docket. No counties mentioned except for
a few cases near the end, on unnumbered pages, from Yalobusha Co. Circuit Court and Calhoun
Co. Circuit Court. Summaries and fees charged. Clipping on the inside cover. Indexed.

13. Docket of W. Inge of Evans & Inge. On one of the first pages. 1854-1855.
No court or county names. Case names with fee charged.

14. Account Book, 1903.

15. American State Reports, volume 77. S.M. Roane. 1901.

U undated Materials separated from ledgers. 3

Box 3: Artifacts, Textile

4 wallets, 1 purse

1 textile: Alphabet sampler, sewn pockets with embroidery

2000 Addition:

James Nance letters, 1832-1836.

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Separation Sheet

Small Oversize Manuscripts Box 24

The following items have been routed to the above unit for appropriate disposition:

I: Legal papers..., 1881-1883:

Order for sale of property of W.H. Neal and W.E. Berry, 1883 (separated from attachment to two other documents).

M2: Miscellaneous legal and other promissory notes, indentures, receipts, tax receipts, agreements etc., 1890-1917:

Affidavit involving St. Joseph's Family Medicines and J.W. Hardwick, 1894 and 1896.

Affidavits between Augustus Earl Smith and Mary Etta Smith for Augustus Earl Smith's discharge, 1917 and undated.

T: Volume 9: Civil docket No. 3, 1861-1870.

Separation Sheet

Oversize Manuscripts Box 13

The following items have been routed to the above unit for appropriate disposition:

K: Legal papers re: criminal case of Jones vs. Anderson in Chickasaw County, 1888-1892:
Circuit Fee Bill: Jones vs. Anderson, 1892.

R1: Newspapers: Xerox copies of *The Times-Post*, April-May, 1925.

R2: Clippings, 1978, undated:

Newspaper clipping from an Aberdeen newspaper, March 1978.