Mississippi State University Libraries
Special Collections Department
Manuscripts Division
P.O. Box 5408,
Mississippi State, MS 39762-5408
Phone: (662) 325–7679
E-mail: sp_coll@library.msstate.edu

Atkinson collection MSS.30

Dates: 1838-1925
Extent: 2.66 cubic feet
Preferred Citation: Atkinson collection, Special Collections Department, Mississippi State University Libraries.
Access: Open to all researchers.
Copyright Statement: Any requests for permission to publish, quote, or reproduce materials from this collection must be submitted in writing to the Manuscripts Librarian for Special Collections. Permission for publication is given on behalf of Mississippi State University as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained.
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 Rl (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:


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
    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 _________________________
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1</td>
<td>Folders A-N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2</td>
<td>Folders O-S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3</td>
<td>Folder T, Volumes 1-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4</td>
<td>Folder T, Volumes 6-8, 12-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 5</td>
<td>Folder T, Volume 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 6</td>
<td>Folder T, Volume 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Folder T, Volumes 14-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Small Oversize Manuscripts Box 24</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Oversize Manuscripts Box 13</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>1838 - 1839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>1838 - 1840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>1852 - 1867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>1851 - 1858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>1870 - 1877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>1873 - 1876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G1</td>
<td>1877-1899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G2</td>
<td>1884 - 1901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G3</td>
<td>1880 - 1899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>1880 - 1887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>1881 - 1883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>1882 - 1883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code</td>
<td>Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>1889-1892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>1896</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M1</td>
<td>1861-1878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M2</td>
<td>1890-1917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>1861-1919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O1</td>
<td>1887-1899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O2</td>
<td>1900-1903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O3</td>
<td>1904-1910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>circa 1912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q1</td>
<td>1893-1916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R1</td>
<td>1925</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.

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.

No counties listed. Summaries. Indexed.

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.

Includes poems and letters written by Scottie Bates, daughter of Judge William S. Bates.
Summaries. Indexed.

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.

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.


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.


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. 7
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.

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.