

1798, 1830-1855, 1874-1875, 1879, 1898, 1907-1908, 1915

**Physical Description:** 212 items; correspondence, newspaper, magazine, business reports, legislative bills and acts, Mexican War records (pay-rolls, muster rolls, vouchers, discharges), postal cards, map, land grant, and biographical sketch.

**Acquisition:** Biennial Report, 1926-1928. Presented by Mattie Higgs in behalf of Nellie Fort, Raleigh (2 items). August 15, 1963. Gift of Miss Katherine R. Fort, 310 Hillcrest Road, Raleigh (29 items). No additional acquisition information is available.

**Description:** Gaston H. Wilder was born April 1, 1814, in Johnston County. He graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1838 with a B. A. in law, and received an M. A. from the same institution in 1843. He served as paymaster of the United States Army during the Mexican War and after the war was president of the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad. During the Civil War he served as a financial officer with the government of the Confederate States of America. He died August 5, 1873, in Wake County.

The Gaston Wilder Papers are arranged as indicated above in the section entitled "Physical Description." Each of the categories listed therein is described in detail in the paragraphs which follow:

Correspondence (1045.1): A letter containing a list of the speeches scheduled by Romulus M. Saunders during June and July, 1844 (June 12, 1844); a Spanish language letter regarding an unspecified financial transaction in New Orleans between Wilder and a Mexican citizen (June 17, 1848); and a report on room and board rates at Chapel Hill boarding houses (May 15, 1907). Also included are letters written (1874-1879) by former classmates (unidentified) at the Salem Female Academy. These letters deal almost entirely with personal affairs.

Newspaper (1045.1): The Davis Cadet, July, 1889. Published by the Davis Military School, La Grange. Contains articles entitled "A Nest Building Frog," "Indian Medicine Men and War Dances," "Something About Seals," etc.

Magazine (1045.1): The Democratic Review, February, 1852. Contains articles entitled "Revolution or Migration--The Irish Question," "The Presidency and the Review," "Paul Jones," etc.

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Business reports (1045.1): Included within this category are the "Second and Third Annual Reports of the President and Directors of the F[ayetteville] and W[estern] Plank Road Company" (Apr. 10, 1851; Apr. 8, 1852), and the president's and treasurer's report for the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad (1857).

Legislative bills and acts (1045.1): Includes pamphlets containing the "Acts of the General Assembly and the Ordinances of the Trustees for the Organization and Government of the University of North Carolina (1838)," "A Bill for the Better Regulation of the Militia of this State (1846)," and the "Acts of Assembly Establishing and Regulating Common Schools in North Carolina (1853)."

Mexican War payrolls, muster rolls, vouchers, and discharges (1045.2-1045.3): Payrolls and muster rolls for various American military units which served in the Mexican War, and vouchers and discharges issued to officers and enlisted men. J[ubal] A. Early is listed on a muster roll for the 1st Regiment, Virginia Volunteers (1045.2--June 30, 1847). Also included are vouchers issued to Early (1045.2--Oct. 8, 1847) and Abner Doubleday (1045.3--Feb. 2, 1848).

Postal cards (1045.1): Multi-colored picture postcards issued by the Japanese Department of Communications in commemoration of the visit of the Great White Fleet of the United States, 1908.

Map (1045.1): A multi-colored miniature of A. W. Shaffer's map (1887) of Wake County. The miniature is less detailed than the full-size map, and a number of discrepancies between the two are apparent.

Land grant (1045.1): State grant to Leroy Branon, Johnston County (1797).

Biographical sketch (1045.1): A brief typescript account of Wilder's life.

#### Arrangement of Papers

- P. C. 1045.1 Correspondence, newspaper, magazine, business reports, legislative bills and acts, postal cards, map, land grant, and biographical sketch.
- P. C. 1045.2 Mexican War payrolls, muster rolls, vouchers, and discharges.
- P. C. 1045.3 Mexican War vouchers.

#### Finding Aids

- Main Entry Card
- Date Cards
  - 1798
  - 1830-1839
  - 1840-1849

1798, 1830-1855, 1874-1875, 1879, 1898, 1907-1908, 1915

1850-1855  
1874-1879  
1898  
1907-1908  
1915

Subject Cards

DOUBLEDAY, ABNER

EARLY, J[UBAL] A[NDERSON]

EDUCATION--COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES--North Carolina, University of (Chapel Hill)--Acts of the General Assembly and ordinances of the trustees for the organization and government of the, 1838

--COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES--North Carolina, University of (Chapel Hill)--Accommodations for students at the, 1907

--PRIVATE SCHOOLS--Davis Military School (La Grange)--The Davis Cadet (school newspaper), July, 1889

--PRIVATE SCHOOLS--Salem Female Academy--Correspondence between former students at the, 1874-1879

--PUBLIC SCHOOLS--Common schools in North Carolina, Synopsis of the acts establishing and regulating, 1853

JAPAN--Great White Fleet--Postal cards (Japanese) commemorating the visit of the, 1908

LEGAL DOCUMENTS--Land Grant--Leroy Branon (grantee), Johnston County, 1797

MILITIA--State, A bill for the regulation of the, 1846

PUBLICATIONS--NEWSPAPERS--Davis [Military School] Cadet, July, 1889

--PERIODICALS--Democratic Review, Feb., 1852

RAILROADS--Raleigh and Gaston--President's and treasurer's report for the, 1857

ROADS--F[ayetteville] and W[estern] Plank Road Company--Annual reports of the president and directors, 1851, 1852

SAUNDERS, R[OMULUS] M[ITCHELL]

SHIPS--Great White Fleet--Postal cards (Japanese) commemorating the visit to Japan of the, 1908

WAKE COUNTY--Map--Miniature of A. W. Shaffer's, 1887

WAR--MEXICAN--General--Discharges

--General--Muster rolls

--General--Payrolls

--General--Vouchers

--Units--1st Regiment, Virginia Volunteers