

Collection: WEBB, JAMES, Papers
Hillsborough, N. C.

P.C. 127.1-127.3

1781-1846

Physical Description: 243 items (3 boxes); letters, receipts, accounts, bank statements, promissory notes, a copy of a land grant, a check, and other miscellaneous papers.

Acquisition: From Biennial Report: 1932-1934, 251 letters which belonged to Dr. James Webb of Hillsborough. Presented by Miss Sarah Cheshire, Raleigh.

Description: James Webb Papers, 1781-1846. Doctor James Webb, a prominent Hillsborough physician, was born February 22, 1774 (possibly in Essex County, Virginia) and died at Hillsborough on February 24, 1855. He attended the University of North Carolina 1795-1796, and he was an active member of the board of trustees of that institution from 1812 until 1850. Doctor Webb also served as the Hillsborough agent for the Bank of Cape Fear for over twenty years.

The great bulk of material in this collection concerns the activities of Webb as agent for the Bank of Cape Fear. Correspondence primarily is between cashiers and agents for the Bank of Cape Fear in Wilmington, Fayetteville, and Raleigh, including John Hill, J. W. Wright, D. W. Stone, Thomas H. Wright, and E. H. Wingate. Also included are letters from C. Dewey and P. P. Lawrence of the Bank of the State of North Carolina. Other bank related items included bank statements, a stock dividend announcement (1829), a financial statement for the Bank of Cape Fear office at Hillsborough (1840), a notarized protest against the Bank of Cape Fear for nonpayment of note in specie (1841), a list of bank stockholders receiving dividends (1841), a check for \$500 (1842), and an account between the Raleigh branch of the bank of Cape Fear and the agency of the Bank of Cape Fear at Hillsborough (1843).

Correspondence involved with the sale of Tennessee and Alabama lands belonging to Webb and his associates constitutes the second major subject area. Agents for Webb in the western areas sent detailed accounts describing the property involved, telling of living conditions in West Tennessee, and relating problems involved in the sale of land. Other related material concerns suits involving land originally granted for Revolutionary service of James Armstrong, a copy of land grant issued to Martin Armstrong in 1786, letters and legal papers relative to the estate of Henry Neal, and a title bond for land in Tennessee.

Other correspondence includes a 1781 letter from Nicholas Long to Gover-

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nor Burke describing Revolutionary War activities, personal observations by James Webb, prices of commodities in Wilmington, Roanoke Navigation Company stock, sale of guardian bonds, private business matters (financial and legal), requirements of the Department of Pensions, sale of University of North Carolina land, and the 1840 presidential election campaign in Alabama.

Miscellaneous items in the collection consist of two promissory notes from Henry Neal and others to Archibald D. Murphey (1823), a receipt signed by Joseph Caldwell (1834), James Webb's accounts with various business concerns, a short theme entitled "Should a Representative obey the wishes of his Constituents: or the dictates of his own conscience," and various other notes, bills, receipts, and financial statements.

Finding Aids:

Main Entry Card

Geographic Card

Hillsborough

Autograph Cards

Andrew Joyner

Nicholas Long

Charles Manly

John Owen

Subject Cards

Bank of Cape Fear

Commerce - Commodity prices in Wilmington (1825-1836)

Revolution - Campaign, 1781

Roanoke Navigation Company - Stock values

Western lands - Sale of

Date Cards

1823-1829

1830-1839

1840-1846

Finding Aid completed by Don Lennon, 23 February 1966.