

Collection: GEORGE E. BADGER PAPERS
Raleigh, North Carolina
Washington, D. C.

P.C. 52.1

1822-1861

Physical Description: 48 items; letters, telegram, resolution, account list, invitation, note, orders.

Acquisition: From Biennial Reports: 1914-1916, 8 letters to Senator James A. Pearce of Maryland presented by his son, the Honorable James A. Pearce of Chestertown, Maryland; several of the following were purchased either from Stan V. Henkels at auction in Philadelphia or from Goodspeed's Book Shop in Boston: 1916-1918, 5 letters by George E. Badger and one by Governor Edward B. Dudley; 1918-1920, letter to John P. Kennedy, Secretary of the Navy, 1852; 1920-1922, 2 letters from George E. Badger; 1928-1930, 14 letters to James M. Carlisle, Washington, D. C., 1857-1860; 1930-1932, 1 account list, 1845.

Description: Correspondence of George Edmund Badger (1795-1866; for biographical sketch see Samuel A. Ashe (ed.), Biographical History of North Carolina, VII, 34-44) includes a note from Daniel Webster (1834) indicating copies [of the Congressional Record] would be mailed; orders to naval officers and recommendations for naval appointments, including 4 to Badger (Secretary of the Navy, 1841) and others to William B. Preston (1850) and John P. Kennedy (1852) signed by members of the North Carolina congressional delegation. Letters from Badger (United States Senate, 1846-1855) to Senator James A. Pearce of Maryland refer to personal affairs, to Badger's theological pamphlet ["An Examination of the Doctrine Declared and the Powers Claimed by the Right Reverend Bishop Ives," 1849, pp.105.], to the relationship between Congress and a territory, to Whig newspapers and party affairs, and to the need for Pearce to assume leadership of the party in the Senate. A letter introducing a friend is addressed to Stephen A. Douglas in Paris.

Other letters to Pearce indicate Badger's satisfaction at leaving public office, views on American politics and the dissolution of the Whig party, and plans to appear before the United States Supreme Court and the Court of Claims. A letter in 1856 contradicts Whig newspaper charges that Pearce's support of Buchanan instead of Fillmore was vindictive.

Fourteen letters (1857-1860) to James Mandeville Carlisle of Washington, D. C., indicate close personal ties as well as a legal partnership. In addition to resumes of legal cases, letters refer to possible appointment of Carlisle as Minister to Spain (1857), to a Franklin stove purchased in Washington for Patrick H. Winston, and to gas [rosin product] lights installed in Raleigh (1858). A letter in 1859 contains "particular best wishes to the Chief Justice [Roger

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Brooke Taney]" and one in 1860 refers to possible dissolution of the Union and comments on the General Assembly of North Carolina.

Miscellaneous items include letters regarding uncollected fees, an invitation to the inaugural ball of James Buchanan (1857), and a letter from Francis L. Hawks to John H. Bryan concerning a prospective visit to Raleigh. A copy of a March 3, 1855, United States Senate resolution expresses appreciation of Badger's courtesy, ability, liberality, and valuable service.

Arrangement of Papers:

P. C. 52.1 Correspondence, 1822-1853
Correspondence, 1854-1861, n.d.
Miscellaneous

Finding Aids:

Main Entry Card

Autograph Cards

Caldwell, J[oseph] (1850)
Dudley, Edw[ar]d B[ishop] (1841)
Graham, James (1841)
Graham, Will[iam] A[lexander] (1841)
Hawks, Francis L[ister] (1853)
McLean, John (1841)
Mangum, Willie P[erson] (1841)
Outlaw, David (1850)
Stanly, Edw[ard] (1850)
Webster, Dan[ie]l (1834)

Date Cards

1850-1859 (27 items)

Geographic Cards

North Carolina, Wake County
Washington, D. C.

Subject Cards

Buchanan, James (1856-1857)
Carlisle, James Mandeville (1857-1860)
Douglas, Stephen Arnold (1853)
Fillmore, Millard (1856)
Ives, Levi Silliman (1853)
Kennedy, John Pendleton (1852)
Pearce, James Alfred (1853-1855)
Pierce, Franklin (1855)
Preston, William Ballard (1850)
Taney, Roger Brooke (1859)
Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad Company (1841-1846)
Whig Party (1853-1856)
Winston, Patrick Henry, Sr. (1858)

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See also

Letters from George E. Badger in Private Collections:

P.C. 1 David Settle Reid
P.C. 6 John Heritage Bryan
P.C. 37 John Jordan Crittenden
P.C. 47 William Hawkins Polk
P.C. 61 William Alexander Graham
P.C. 69 Willie Person Mangum
P.C. 84 David Lowry Swain
P.C. 119 C. B. Heller
P.C. 172 Ralph Buxton (a speech)

Miscellaneous Records - Naval Papers

Miscellaneous Records - Secretaries of the Navy from North Carolina

Articles, The North Carolina Historical Review:

London, Lawrence Fouchee, "George Edmund Badger in the United States Senate, 1846-1849," XV (January, 1938), 1-22
_____, "George Edmund Badger and the Compromise of 1850," XV (April, 1938), 99-118.
_____, "George Edmund Badger, His Last Years in the United States Senate, 1851-1855," XV (July 1838), 231-250.

Articles, Lives of Distinguished North Carolinians (E. J. Peele, ed.):

Graham, William A., "George E. Badger," 181-209.
George E. Badger, "Ordinance of Secession," [speech], 210-212.
_____, "Speech on Slavery and the Union," 213-228.
Wilson, Peter M., "George Edmund Badger, Secretary of the United States Navy," North Carolina Booklet, XV (January, 1916), 137-151.

Southern Historical Collection, University of North Carolina,
Chapel Hill, 1941

George E. Badger Papers (6 items)

Manuscript Collection, Duke University Library, 1947

George E. Badger Papers (20 items)

Finding Aid completed by Ellen Z. McGrew, 17 June 1966.