

Collection: POTTER, ROBERT, PAPER  
Texas

854  
P.C. Misc.

1836-1842

**Physical Description:** Typescript, 31 pages. 1 item.

**Acquisition:** Gift from Dr. Samuel E. Asbury, A. and M. College,  
College Station, Texas.  
December 20, 1943

Division of Archives and Manuscripts  
State Department of Archives and History  
Raleigh, North Carolina

**Description:** Robert Potter, a North Carolina native, after studying and serving six years as a midshipman in the Navy, returned to the state and studied law. In 1828 he was elected as a representative from Granville County to the General Assembly. There he led an attack against the banks, calling for forfeiture of their charters - an act defeated by a small margin - and from popularity thus gained was elected to Congress as a Jacksonian Democrat from the Granville district. In 1831 Potter brutally maimed two of his wife's relatives and was fined and imprisoned for six months but two years later he was again elected to the House of Commons. In 1835 he migrated to Texas, was a member of the convention (1836) declaring Texan independence and later served in the Senate. Potter also served as secretary of the Navy of the Republic of Texas and a member of Congress. A group of political enemies killed Potter at Lake Skoda, near his home, April 2, 1842. For further biographical information see: The Congressional Directory, page 1697.

The typescript contains reminiscences of Mrs. Harriet A. Ames, a former wife of Potter after he moved to Texas.