

Collection: SAUNDERS, WILLIAM LAURENCE, COLLECTION
Raleigh, North Carolina

P.C. 27.1-27.4

1775-1890, n.d.

Physical Description: 656 items: letters, telegrams, bills, receipts, accounts, newspaper clipping, brochure, extracts, will, and miscellaneous papers.

Acquisition: From Biennial Reports: 1908-1910, 115 letters and other documents transferred from capitol by Secretary of Historical Commission, relating to Saunders' term as secretary-treasurer of the University of North Carolina Board of Trustees and to his work on Colonial Records; 1928-1930, 471 items (1881-1885) transferred from office of Secretary of State.

Description: Papers of William Laurence Saunders (1835-1891; for biographical sketch see Samuel A. Ashe, ed., Biographical History of North Carolina, vol. IV, pp. 381-390) include letters to him on political, historical, and university matters relative to his work as Secretary of State (1879-1891), editor of Colonial Records of North Carolina (1881-1891), and as secretary-treasurer of the University of North Carolina Board of Trustees (1875-1891).

Correspondence relating to political affairs includes letters from United States Senator Matt W. Ransom, 1882, concerning chances of the Democratic Party in North Carolina attracting "old-line" Republican voters and asking Saunders to recommend someone to compile agricultural statistics for the United States Department of Agriculture; from United States Senator L. Q. C. Lamarr, 1882, concerning the re-election of Zebulon B. Vance to the United States Senate; from Peter M. Hale, 1883, concerning the publication of a weekly Democratic newspaper; from Thomas J. Jarvis, Minister to Brazil, 1887, urging Saunders to become a candidate for governor of North Carolina; from United States Representative H. H. Cowles, 1888, requesting that he support Adlai E. Stevenson for vice-president. Other letters refer to the political strength of the Democrats, the Radicals, and the Negroes in North Carolina.

Correspondence relating to historical matters includes letters from W. Noel Sainsbury reporting progress in copying the colonial records of North Carolina in the Public Record Office, London; and letters from many others, particularly Joseph B. Cheshire, Jr. and Graham Daves, concerning research, copying, and collection of colonial records available in the United States. Additional letters are from the president of Trinity College concerning a lecture on "North Carolina During the Revolution"; from Charles C. Jones, author of History of Georgia (1883) concerning autograph letters; from Zebulon B. Vance concerning an article, which he considered slanderous,

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about early settlers in North Carolina, published in Harpers Magazine, February, 1883. Miscellaneous items, copied for Saunders by a friend, include extract of a letter from a 1775 newspaper advising a North Carolinian to sell his land and slaves and return to England; newspaper clipping describing visit of Governor Richard D. Caswell to New Bern in 1777; letter from General Robert Howe, 1777, copied from the collection of autographs in the Library of Congress protesting his failure to be promoted; and from Richard D. Caswell at Camp Thompson's Creek, South Carolina, (1780) to Governor Abner Nash concerning army intelligence and disposition of British prisoners.

Correspondence relating to the University of North Carolina is primarily from President Kemp P. Battle and concerns finances; the building of Memorial Hall, with attending sale of tablets commemorating University Confederate dead and prominent alumni and a controversy over naming the hall; teacher training courses; need for equipment; vacancies on Board of Trustees, with a need for more interdenominational representation; and commencement plans; as well as a petition from the faculty concerning the scope of literary societies, letters from lawyers handling escheats for the University, and many accounts from the college bursar.

Other correspondence, in addition to that from relatives, includes letters from Thomas J. Jarvis describing his life as Minister to Brazil, correspondence with Hinton Rowan Helper, and the changes made in building plans for the Governor's Mansion in Raleigh; from Franklin P. Hobgood and James H. Horner concerning school progress of a niece and a nephew; from men arranging for the transportation of the body of Confederate Colonel John McLeod Turner to Raleigh, 1883; and from acquaintances asking for jobs or money. Miscellaneous items include a copy of the will of Mary E. Smith of Orange County; extract from an 1868 order for soldiers to police elections in Pitt County; menu of a banquet for Thomas J. Jarvis by citizens of Raleigh; Calendar of 1890-1891 for University of North Carolina; and a testimonial to the proficiency of Alfred DuFour in the German language and French literature.

Arrangement of Papers:

- P.C. 27.1 Papers, 1866, 1868, 1882, 1885-1888 (mounted volume)
- 27.2 Extracts, 1775-1779
- Correspondence, 1870, 1881-1883
- 27.3 Correspondence, 1884
- 27.4 Correspondence, 1885-1888, n.d.
- Accounts, 1882-1888
- Miscellaneous, 1857-1890, n.d.

Finding Aids:

- Calendar: "William L. Saunders Manuscripts, 1866-1890" in David L. Corbitt, ed., Calendar of Manuscript Collections, (Raleigh: North Carolina Historical Commission, 1926), Vol. I, pp. 301-306.

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Finding Aids (Cont'd):

Subject Cards (persons and places)

Bancroft, George, 1885
Brazil, Petropolis, 1887
Caswell, Richard D., 1780
DuFour, Alfred
DeGraffenreid, Christoph
Helper, Hinton Rowan, 1888
Howe, General Robert, 1777
Nash, Governor Abner, 1780
Smith, Mary E., will, 1881
Stevenson, Adlai, E.,
Trinity College, 1888
Turner, John McLeod, burial, 1883
University of North Carolina, 1875-1890
University of North Carolina, literary societies, 1888
University of North Carolina, Memorial Hall

Finding Aids completed by Ellen Z. McGrew, 25 February 1966.

1775-1890, n.d.

Finding Aids (Cont'd):

See also: Secretary of State's Records (1879-1891), State Department of Archives and History.

William L. Saunders Papers, Southern Historical Collection, University of North Carolina Library, Chapel Hill.

Bryan Grimes Papers, (P.C. 3.2, 3.3) William L. Saunders to Bryan Grimes, 1870, 1876, 1877, 1879.

Cornelia P. Spencer Papers, (P.C. 7.2), William L. Saunders to Cornelia P. Spencer, 1878.

Main Entry Card

Autograph Cards

Barringer, R[ufus]	Jones, H[amilton] C.
Battle, R[ichard] H.	Kenan, Tho[mas] S[tephen]
Burgwyn, W[illiam] H[yslop] S[ummer]	
Battle, Kemp P[lummer]	Lamar, L[ucius] Q[uintus] C[incinnati]
Cameron, Paul C[arrington]	Leazar, A[ugustus]
Carr, J[ulian] S[hakespeare]	Manning, John
Caswell, R[ichard] D.	Means, P[aul] B[arringer]
Cheshire, Jos[eph] Blount, Jr.	Peebles, R[obert] B[ruce]
Cowles, W. H. H.	Phillips, S[amuel] F[ield]
Creecy, R[ichard] B[enbury]	Philips, Fred[erick]
Crowell, John F[ranklin]	Ransom, M[att] W[hitaker]
Daves, Graham	Rivers, W[illiam] J[ames]
Davis, Geo[rge]	Ruffin, T[homas], [Jr.]
Fries, H[enry] E[lias]	Sainsbury, W. Noel
Gore, J[oshua] W[alker]	Saunders, R[omulus] M[itchell]
Gray, Julius A[lexander]	Schenck, D[avid]
Green, W[harton] J[ackson]	Spencer, Cornelia P[hillips]
Hale, P[eter] M[allett]	Stedman, Cha[rles] M[anly]
Hobgood, F[ranklin] P.	Vance, Z[ebulon] B[aird]
Horner, J[ames] H[unter]	Venable, F[rancis] P[reston]
Howe, [General] Robert	Waddell, A[lfred] M[oores]
Jarvis, Tho[mas] J[ordan]	Wiley, C[alvin] H[enderson]
Jones, Charles C[olcock]	Winsor, Justin
	Winston, Geo[rge] T[ayloe]

Subject Cards

Agricultural Statistics, collection, 1882
Colonial Records of North Carolina
Democratic Party, 1870-1890
Democratic State Convention, 1884
Education, Teacher Training Courses, University of North Carolina
Historiography of North Carolina, Colonial Period
Negroes, North Carolina, 1875-1890
Newspaper, Democratic, 1883
Politics, North Carolina, 1875-1890
Radicals, North Carolina, 1875-1890
Secretary of State, office of, 1879-1890

Collection: SAUNDERS, WILLIAM LAURENCE, COLLECTION
 (Addition)
 Raleigh and Chapel Hill, North Carolina
 1729-1906

Physical Description: 100 items: deeds, family papers, legal papers, material relating to Thomas Burke and Abner Nash, material collected for Colonial Records.

Acquisition: Gift of Mr. William C. Tinus, [REDACTED], Whispering Pines, North Carolina (28389) who inherited them from his wife, a member of the Saunders Family.

Description: For biographical sketch, see Samuel A. Ashe, ed., Biographical History of North Carolina, IV, 381-390. The papers consist of family records, documents relating to Abner Nash and to Thomas Burke, miscellaneous documents (some of which were printed in Colonial and State Records of North Carolina) and other materials concerning his duties as Secretary of State. Saunders was the son of Laura Lucinda Baker Saunders and his maternal grandfather was Dr. Simmons Jones Baker of Halifax County, whose first wife was the daughter of Turner Smith and who had extensive land holdings in Florida.

Arrangement of Papers
 PC 27.5

LAND RECORDS

1. Deeds

- James Speir to William Boykin, May 8, 1729, Bertie County (fragment)
- John Speir to Thomas Norfleet, May 16, 1740, Edgecombe County
- Moses Horne to James Smith, February 20, 1744, Edgecombe County
- Robert Council to Henry Turner, January 5, 1745, Edgecombe County (True Copy)
- William Roundtree to Marmaduke Norfleet, Senr., December 17, 1764, Halifax County
- John Drew to James Smith, April, 1768, Halifax County (fragment)

Arrangement of Papers (cont'd)

PC 27.5

LAND RECORDS (cont'd)

1. Deeds (cont'd)

- Thomas Turner to James Smith, May 12, 1758, Edgecombe County
 - Arthur Bell to Simmons Jones Baker, January 20, 1797, Halifax County
 - Francis Young to Norfleet Harriss, July 1, 1800, Halifax County
 - William Vaughan to Norfleet Harriss, September 14, 1803, Halifax County
 - Moses Harrill to L. D. Baker, March 8, 1805, Martin County
 - Richard A. Turner and Lucy N. Turner to Simmons J. Baker, January 13, 1825, Northampton County
 - William Smith to S. J. Baker, May 22, 1833, Martin County
 - Miles Everitt to Simmons J. Baker, November 22, 1838, Washington County
 - Colin M. Clark to S. J. Baker, July 18, 1847, Halifax County
2. Bond to deliver deed, Richard Wills, Northampton County, to James Harris, Isle of Wight County, Virginia, February 8, 1747 (incomplete)
 3. Plat of William R. Armistead land, n.d.
 4. Entry and warrant issued to Adam Cooper for land in Burke County on Brush Creek; April 4, 1788; survey by D. Vance, October 15, 1789, for Adam Cooper of 132 acres of land on both sides of Brush Creek, Burke County
 5. Agreement between James Moore and Simmons J. Baker to settle boundary between their land, Martin County, February 17, 1818, according to Edmondson survey; survey of Baker land by James Edmondson, surveyor, September 7, 1807
 6. Survey of 1080 acres of land belonging to Dr. Simmons J. Baker
 7. Unidentified procedure for handling land grants, n.d. (fragment)
 8. Deed of Gift, James Smith of Halifax County to his grand-daughter Polly Turner Baker and Simmons Jones Baker, her husband, adjoining the plantation owned by the said Polly, consisting of land bought from Horn, March 10, 1796
 9. Deed from Turner Young and Asenith Young, his wife, to Josiah Nelms, Halifax County, May 17, 1811

ABNER NASH PAPERS

10. Bill from Edward Young to Abner Nash for spars and work on brig, n.d.
11. Letter from Solomon Wilson to Abner Nash placing his affairs in Nash's hands, particularly the collection of his debts, October 29, 1770

Arrangement of Papers (cont'd)
PC 27.5

ABNER NASH PAPERS (cont'd)

12. Deeds

Joseph Montfort to Abner Nash, February 4, 1775
(Blake Baker land in Halifax County)

Joseph Montfort and Priscilla, his wife, to Abner Nash,
January 5, 1775 (Blake Baker plantation on south side
of Roanoke River, Halifax County)

- 12a. Bill of sale from John Howell to Abner Nash for the ship "North
Carolina" lying in the River Trent above Newbern, August 12, 1782

THOMAS BURKE PAPERS

13. Account of Dr. Thomas Burke with William Ronald and Co.,
1764-1767
14. Bills for room, board, and supplies while in Philadelphia,
1779-1781
15. Board bills, Philadelphia, 1780-1781
16. Letter from N. Walthoe to Dr. [Burke], n.d.
17. Letter from M. J. Burke to Thomas Burke, [December 31, 1768].
concerning qualifying for court
18. Draft of legal opinion to Mrs. Thos. Scott, n.d.
19. Letter from Betsy Hav---, March 19, 1769, marked on reverse "Some
Juvenile Letters to and from Ladies" and one of Burke's sonnets
on the back
20. Letter from Robert Reid to Burke, November 24, 1773, enclosing
letter from William Orton who mended a chair (Orton letter
missing)
21. Letter from John Peasley, Hillsboro, to Dr. Burke requesting
gunpowder, July 15, 1776
22. Letter from Richard Peters to Burke, September 10, 1778, concerning
movement of British troops (fragment)
23. Draft of statement by Burke to the North Carolina General Assembly
concerning the Articles of Confederation, October 31, 1779
(SR, XVIV, 349-351)
24. Dr. Burke's dinner and club bill with Geo. Evans, 1780-1781
25. Draft of Burke's "Idea of an American Constitution," n.d.
26. Letter from Mark Ridley to Mark Pringle, April 13, 1781,
introducing Burke
27. Letter from Burke to Lieut. Lynn, relating to some property that
Lynn had seized without restitution, n.d.
28. Petition of Continental officers of North Carolina who were
prisoners of war on parole for clothing, March 18, 1782

Arrangement of Papers (cont'd)

PC 27.6

MISCELLANEOUS AND FAMILY PAPERS

29. Approved claim of Nathan Bateman as Constable, Martin County, 1769
30. Bute County Association [1776] (CR, X, 1104-1105)
31. Page from unidentified foundry, Chatham County, 1777, containing account of melting of hearth stones when furnace grew hot
32. Cassin's New Annual Compendium of the Stocks, 1793
33. Interrogatory of Ann Chamberlain and Mary Harrell, Bertie County, concerning paternity of James Williams, April 7, 1795
34. Duplicate copy of minutes of the Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina, July 17 and 18, 1797 (incomplete)
35. Partnership agreement between Simmons J. Baker, Martin County, and Reuben Ellis, Halifax County, for purpose of carrying on a mercantile business, June 1, 1818
36. Memorandum of Walker Anderson concerning distribution of Mr. Saunder's library, November 7, 1839
37. Gates County execution to Willis Riddick, James Riddick, Thos. Riddick to appear to answer complaint of Sarah B. Saunders on behalf of the orphans of Thos. Saunders for debt March 10, 1843
38. Citizenship certificate of Joseph Stonebanks, August 31, 1852
39. Printed copy of speech by Jefferson Davis in U. S. Senate, May 7, 1860
40. Letter from R. B. Saunders to R. Ould, August 16, 1863, inquiring about Major Joseph H. Saunders, 33rd Regiment, North Carolina Troops; letter from Maj. Joseph H. Saunders to R. B. Saunders at Johnson Island prisoner of war camp, Ohio, February 16, 1865
41. Genealogical Table for the use of Joseph H. Saunders written by his father, James Saunders. Written 1824, published 1866
42. Landreth's Rural Register and Almanac, 1868
43. Bill of Sale of one wooden building by the Post Quartermaster, Raleigh, to Mr. A. W. Fraps, August 22, 1868
44. Patent issued to Joseph Stonebanks of College Point, New York, for attaching wheels to sleighs, December 29, 1868
45. Confederate stamps and Laura Baker Saunders' notebook, n.d.
46. Letter from Saunders to Jefferson Davis asking him to write a letter to be used as a foreword to Moore's Roster, April 18, 1882; letter from Jefferson Davis to Governor Jarvis, Superintendent of Public Instruction Scarborough, and Saunders accepting the invitation, May 9, 1882
47. Letter from Jno. D. Davis to Saunders concerning Sir Walter Raleigh, March 16, 1888.
48. Letter from Saunders to Richard Baker, Norfolk, concerning Baker ancestry, March 10, 1891
49. Inventory of wedding gifts, 1903
50. Blanche Baker to "Cousin Mary" [Saunders], 1906

Arrangement of Papers (cont'd)

PC 27.6

MISCELLANEOUS AND FAMILY PAPERS

51. Commission from H. J. Burgess, Clerk of Court, to John Anthony and Jesse A. Dawson to examine Areanath Young to determine whether she signed deed to Josiah Nelms freely and of her own accord (see No. 9, PC 27.5)
52. Typed copy of transcript of temporary boundary between North and South Carolina, September 24, 1764 (location of original unknown)
53. Letter from "Aunt Mary" [Saunders] to "George" concerning Lumley Castle and family connections
54. Testimonial of good character of Anton Fraps, July 19, 1858
55. Wrapper of letter from Col. Palmer to the Governor in Council, December 1, 1757 (letter missing)
56. Instructions from Alex. Martin to Capt. Doherty to procede to Edenton and obtain articles of clothing and coffee and return to Halifax where they are to be delivered to Col. Davie, January 19, 1782
57. Survey by E. Haywood, surveyor, for James Norfleet and Turner Smith for land lying in Halifax County in "cipriss Swamp," September 21, 1790 (with seal)
58. Letter from William S. Stryker, Adjutant General of New Jersey, to Saunders concerning North Carolina regiments in the Battle of Monmouth, April 12, 1883
59. Pencil sketch of Battle of Reams Station, part of the Battle of Petersburg, August 25, 1864, drawn by J. S. Dunn, Co. F, 46th Regt., NCT, William L. Saunders, commanding
60. Genealogies of the Saunders family, n.d. Compilers not indicated. Apparently for different branches of the family
61. Scrapbook kept by Miss Anne Saunders of Chapel Hill, sister of William L. Saunders, from 1859 through the "War Between the States" containing newspaper clippings of poetry, pressed flowers, Confederate money and stamps, and similar items.

Finding Aids

Main Entry Card

Geographic Cards

Bertie County
Burke County
Chatham County
Edgecombe County
Gates County
Halifax County
Martin County
Northampton County
Washington County

Finding Aids

Autograph Cards

Baker, Simmons Jones
Burke, M. J.
Burke, Thomas
Davis, Jefferson
Davis, Jno. D.
Fraps, Anton
Martin, Alex.
Nash, Abner
Peasley, John
Peters, Richard
Reid, Robert
Ridley, Mark
Saunders, Joseph H.
Saunders, R. B.
Saunders, William L.
Stonebanks, Joseph
Stryker, William S.
Walthoe, N.
Wilson, Solomon

Subject Cards

BAKER LAND, MARTIN COUNTY
BOUNDARY LINE, 1764
BUTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION
CASSIN'S NEW ANNUAL COMPENDIUM OF THE STOCKS, 1793
DEEDS
EDUCATION, COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
LAND RECORDS
LANDRETH'S RURAL REGISTER AND ALMANAC
MOORE'S CIVIL WAR ROSTER
PATENT
PATERNITY OF JAMES WILLIAMS
RALEIGH
SAUNDERS FAMILY SCRAPBOOKS AND GENEALOGIES
WAR - AMERICAN REVOLUTION
WAR - CIVIL WAR

Finding Aid completed May 23, 1979, by T. W. Mitchell

PRIVATE COLLECTIONS WORK SHEET

NUMBER: PC.27.4

NAME OF COLLECTION: William Laurence Saunders Papers

DATES: 1884

ACQUISITION INFORMATION: Transferred from Office of the Secretary of State,
Dec. 1970

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION: Bound volume relating to the Election of 1884. Register of Anti-Prohibition & Liberal Party, and Republican Party, district and county committees, and candidates for state house and senate and county offices in the 1884 election, showing gubernatorial vote of 1880 and anti-prohibition vote of 1881, county by county. Pre-printed forms bound as a volume. Republican Party committees, when reported, are shown in columns printed for that purpose under the county name; Anti-Prohibition/Liberal Party committees, when shown, are shown on blank leaf to the left of the page with the county name. Candidates for office are sometimes shown by party affiliation: "R" for Republican, and "L" for Anti-Prohibition/Liberal. Though the Democratic leadership was dismayed by this fusion of Republican and Anti-Prohibition parties, the latter of which included a great number of Democrats opposed to prohibition, there is nothing to indicate how their register came to be in the hands of one of the leaders of the Democratic Party. Democratic Party district and county committees were not intended to be reported in the volume, and when Democratic candidates for office are reported, the list is not reliable.