



Henry William Ravenel family papers, 1716-1891
SCHS 1085.00
Container 11/331

Creator: Ravenel, Henry William, 1814-1887

Description: ca. 100 items

Biographical/historical note: Plantation owner and botanist of Berkeley County and Aiken, S.C. His first wife was Elizabeth G. Snowden; he married secondly Mary H. Dawson. He was the son of Dr. Henry Ravenel (1790-1867), a physician and owner of Pooshee Plantation (Berkeley County, S.C.). Dr. Henry Ravenel (1790-1867) was the son of Rene Ravenel (1762-1822) of Pooshee, who had a brother named Henry Ravenel (1729-1785), known as Henry of Hanover (Plantation). Henry of Hanover also had a son named Henry Ravenel (1751-1823)

Scope and content: Papers consist of financial and estate records, genealogical material, and other items.

Papers (1716-1778) of Henry Ravenel (1729-1785) consist of accounts (for sales of rice and purchases of cloth, groceries, hardware, and other items); bonds; receipts; a plat (1775) of land at the fork of the Broad and Saluda Rivers (S.C.); a promissory note (1775); and a copy of the will (1716) of Rene Ravenel.

Papers (1772-1823) of Henry Ravenel, Jr. (1751-1823) include accounts for purchases of linen, tobacco, padlocks, and other items; a legal opinion (1798) of Lewis Trezevant regarding the division of the estate of Henry Ravenel (1729-1785); a list of hogs killed in 1807 and 1808 (listing date killed, names, weight, when smoked, and when and what pieces eaten); the will (1823) of Henry Ravenel, Jr.; and an inventory and appraisal (1823) of slaves at his plantation in St. John's Berkeley Parish (S.C.).

Papers of Henry William Ravenel include slave bills of sale (1840-1853); slave mortgages (1846-1858); notes (1851) on the history of the Catawba grape; letters written during a trip (1853?) to Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, and elsewhere; and a copy of his will (1885) with attached memoranda concerning the disposition of his estate, particularly his botanical collection and books.

Other family papers include an account book (1795-1796) entitled "An Acct. of Money expended for House Keeping;" slave lists; a scrapbook (1857) containing clippings and annotations concerning currency and banking; loose clippings of editorial letters (1858) addressed to Daniel Ravenel (1789-1873); genealogical notes and letters about the Ravenel family and related families; and a "copy of a confession made by John the Slave of Mr. Enslow the Cooper" concerning the planning of a slave insurrection in Charleston and surrounding areas by Denmark Vesey and others in 1822.

Preferred citation: Ravenel, Henry William, 1814-1887. Henry William Ravenel family papers, 1716-1891. (1085.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

Search terms:

Ravenel, Daniel, 1789-1873.
Ravenel, Henry, 1729-1785.
Ravenel, Henry, 1751-1823.
Ravenel, Henry, 1790-1867.
Ravenel, Henry William, 1814-1887.
Vesey, Denmark, approximately 1767-1822.
Ravenel family.
Botanists -- South Carolina.
Decedents' estates -- South Carolina.
Grapes -- United States.
Plantation owners -- South Carolina -- Berkeley County.
Slave records -- South Carolina -- Berkeley County.
Slaves -- South Carolina.
Charleston (S.C.) -- History -- Slave Insurrection, 1822.
South Carolina -- History.
Clippings.
Estate records.
Financial records.
Letters (correspondence)

Container/folder listing:

11/331/1-10 Ravenel, Henry, 1729-1785

Papers, 1739-1823. 51 items.

Berkeley Co. planter, Accounts of HR and his son Henry Ravenel (1751-1823) for rice (1754), groceries, hogs killed, dry goods, and household expenses with George Ancrum, Thomas Giles, various Mazyck family members and others. Receipts, bonds, promissory notes, a survey plat of land at the fork of Saluda and Broad Rivers in Richland County and estate papers including wills, lists of slaves, and other possessions. Also a copy of a confession by slave John regarding his participation in the Denmark Vesey rebellion (1822) in Charleston. Chronologically arranged.

11/331/11-18 Ravenel, Henry W. 1814-1882

Papers, 1836-1885. 60 items

Berkeley Co. planter. Mortgages of slaves of HWR, bonds, news clippings, and family estate papers. Letters (1853) of HWR regarding journey North to Washington, DC, Boston, MA, Philadelphia, PA and elsewhere. History of the Catawba grape (1851) and a paper on ebonizing wood. Genealogical research regarding Ravenel, Prioleau, Geudron, St. Julien, Chasteignier, Mazyck, and Marion families. Arranged by subject.