



Ravenel family papers, 1746-1941
1130.00
Containers 11/502 – 503a

Creator: Ravenel family.

Description: 1.25 linear ft.

Biographical/historical note: South Carolina family. William Ravenel (1806-1888), son of Daniel Ravenel (1762-1807), was a Charleston (S.C.) businessman. He was a member of the mercantile firm of Ravenel & Co., and president of the Stono Phosphate Company. His wife, Eliza Butler Pringle Ravenel (1814-1888), was the daughter of James Reid Pringle (1782-1840). Mary Ravenel McCall (1800-1886) was the sister of William Ravenel. William Ravenel's daughter Rose Pringle Ravenel (1850-1943) was a Charleston (S.C.) writer and artist.

Scope and content: Papers consist of correspondence, writings, financial records, scrapbooks, and other items. Included are the papers of Edmund Ravenel (1797-1871) and William Ravenel (1806-1888).

Correspondence (1882-1941), mostly that of Rose Pringle Ravenel, but also other Ravenel family members and friends, concerns family and social matters, family estates, Ravenel genealogy, business affairs, and other matters. Included are letters of William Ravenel (1806-1888) and others regarding a family portrait (miniature) taken by a Union soldier in Cheraw (S.C.) during the Civil War. Correspondents of Rose P. Ravenel include Gabriel E. Manigault, Robert C. Winthrop, Yates Snowden, Owen Wister, and others.

Writings (ca. 1890-1940) are mainly those of Rose P. Ravenel and include manuscripts of Gullah stories about Brer Rabbit and Brer Wolf, anecdotes about African Americans, manuscript of and notes for "Some Churches in Colonial Times In and Near Charleston," poems, and reminiscences. Also included are essays (apparently school exercises on various subjects) and a speech (1930).

Financial records consist of an account book (1806-1807) of Reverend Edward Jenkins of Charleston (S.C.) which contains accounts with James Reid Pringle and lists payments to upholsterer and cabinetmaker John Watson and others; and a receipt book (1823-1850) of Mary Ravenel McCall.

Scrapbooks (1855-1925) of Rose P. Ravenel and other Ravenel family members contain clippings, verse, literary and religious passages, quotations, and calling cards.

Other items include reports to stockholders of the Stono Phosphate Company and stock certificates.

Preferred citation: Ravenel family. Ravenel family papers, 1746-1941. (1130.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

Search terms:

Jenkins, Edward, 1744-1821.
McCall, Mary Ravenel, 1800-1886.
Manigault, Gabriel E. (Gabriel Edward), 1833-1899.
Pringle, James Reid, 1782-1840.
Ravenel, Rose P.
Ravenel, William, 1806-1888.
Snowden, Yates, 1858-1933.
Watson, John, 1751-1812.
Winthrop, Robert C. (Robert Charles), 1809-1894.
Wister, Owen, 1860-1938.
Ravenel family.
Stono Phosphate Company (Charleston, S.C.)
African Americans -- Anecdotes.
Church buildings -- South Carolina.
Gullahs -- South Carolina -- Folklore.
Portrait miniatures, American -- South Carolina.
Women authors, American -- South Carolina -- Charleston.
Charleston (S.C.)
South Carolina -- History.
Accounts.
Letters (correspondence)
Receipts.
Scrapbooks.
Stock certificates.
Writings.

Brief container and series listing:

1130.01 Family Document series

11/503/01-02 Financial papers, 1806-1850 (2 items).
111/503-503a Scrapbooks, 1855-1925 (5 v.).

1130.02 Papers of Individual Ravenel family members

1130.02.01 Ravenel, William, 1806 1888. William Ravenel papers, 1746 1886.
0.5 linear ft.
11/502/01-17 Family correspondence, 1746-1879 (xx items).
11/502/22-29 Business papers, 1848-1886 (xx items).
1130.02.02 Ravenel, Rose P., b. 1850.
11/502/18-21 Family correspondence, 1882-1941 (xx items).
11/503a/02-12 Writings, 1890-1940 (50 items).

1130.02.03 Ravenel, Edmund, 1797 1871. Edmund Ravenel papers,
1836 - 1864. Ca. 60 items.

11/503a/13-16 Plantation and medical papers, 1836-1864 (57 items).

Container listing:

11/502/1-10 Ravenel, William, 1806-1888

Family correspondence, 1746-1859

Charleston factor. Letters of William, Eliza B. Pringle Ravenel and their families. Correspondents to WR include Frederick A. Ford regarding SC College life and VA parties & social life (1825); John C. Ravenel, Paris France, regarding social and work life (1834); Phillip G. Prioleau, Columbia regarding stage coach driver (1836); Robert N. Gourdin, Liverpool Eng., regarding WR's engagement difficulties (1835); Robert Pringle, Paris regarding death of John M. Pringle (1837) with letter of introduction for John M. Pringle from Alfred Huger (1836); Elizabeth M. Pringle regarding marriage settlement (1836). Correspondents of Eliza B. Ravenel include William Ravenel in Liverpool regarding voyage, daily schedule tourist sites, and Queen Victoria (1837); and a letter to EM Pringle regarding James L. Petigru anecdote (1840) and family matters. Letters regarding death of James R. Pringle from Alfred Huger, Hugh S. Legare, President Martin VanBuren and E.B. Ravenel (1840). Also letters of Mary L. Ravenel (later DeSaussure) regarding family matters (1845-1859) including letter regarding St. Cecelia Ball (1846). Copies of Pringle family letters from England regarding genealogy (1747-1772, 1846-1847) and family matters. Also a letter of Samuel Prioleau, St. Augustine FL (1781) regarding POW's from Charleston and treatment of the families of POWs. Also letter from R. Pringle regarding subscription towards rebuilding Pon-Pon Chapel, Colleton Co. (1792). Elizabeth McPherson (later Pringle) regarding death of her father (1806) and passport of James R. Pringle (1805). Chronologically arranged.

11/502/11-17 Ravenel, William, 1806-1888

Family correspondence, 1860-1879

Charleston factor. Civil war letters of the William Ravenel family. Included are letters from James R.P. Ravenel in Paris (1860-1861) regarding life in Europe and his attempts to return to service in the South, his service in the war throughout SC, and family matters (1862-1879); Eliza B. Ravenel, Charleston (1860-1865) to her children regarding family matters, political and war news; WR regarding family, war news. Letters from and regarding death of Citadel Cadet William Ravenel Jr. Other letters from Mary L. DeSaussure, St. Julien Pringle, and Catherine P. Ravenel. Ravenel family letter book (1849-1865) mostly regarding war matters, Charleston life, war matters and Jefferson Davis. Chronologically arranged.

11/502/18-21 Ravenel, Rose P., b. 1850

Family correspondence, 1882-1941

Charleston writer. Letters mostly to Rose P. Ravenel but includes correspondence of William Ravenel regarding Charles Fraser miniature taken by a Union soldier in Cheraw during the Civil War (1882-1883). RPR's correspondents include Lucy Wifry, Sarah P. Cleveland, G.E. Manigault regarding Carolina Art Assn. (1882); Robert Winthrop, Catherine P. Ravenel, Yates Snowden, and Owen Wister. Also includes family estate matters and Stono Phosphate Co. stockholder meetings reports and other material (1888). Chronologically arranged.

11/502/22-29 Ravenel, William, 1806-1888

Business Papers, 1848-1886

Charleston factor. Accounts, letters, plats, bonds, and other business material of William Ravenel. Includes the accounts (1851-1886) of Elizabeth B. Ravenel; tax accounts (1878-1880) of Edward and William Ravenel and Mary McColl. Account book (1859-1861) for shipments from Charleston to Liverpool, England charged to Ravenel & Co., C.T. Mitchell Co and others on various vessels. Papers regarding founding of Palmetto Importing Co. of SC (1863). Cotton accounts (1861-1863) of Ravenel with AB Walter & Son of GA Confederate bonds and misc. business papers (1848-1868) of William Ravenel and Elizabeth B. Ravenel, fire plats of ST. Thomas Parish, Berkeley Co. (1874) and one plat of St. James Goose Creek, Berkeley Co. (1879). Chronologically arranged.

11/503/1-2 Ravenel Family, 1806-1850

Financial papers, 1806-1850. 2 items

SC family. An account book (1806-1807) of the Rev. Dr. Edward Jenkins, Charleston, listing payments to, among others, upholsterer and cabinetmaker John Watson and accounts with James R. Pringle. Receipt book (1823-1850) of Mary McColl listing payments to Catherine Ravenel, house painters, tutors, tax officers, the Union Insurance Co. and others.

11/503-503A/1 Ravenel family, 1855-1925

Scrapbooks, 1855-1925. 5 items

Charleston family. Scrapbook (1855-1865) of St. Julien Pringle with clippings and verses. Indexed scrapbook (1870-1893) with clippings, literary excerpts, religious observations, and a ms. of Bishop Butler's "Sermon on the Gout of the Tongue." Scrapbook (ca. 1890-ca.1900) of clippings and quotations kept by a Miss Ravenel. Scrapbook (1897-1958) of calling cards kept by Elizabeth M. Ravenel. Scrapbook (1922-1925) kept by Rose P. Ravenel.

11/503A/2-12 Ravenel, Rose P., b. 1850

Writings, ca. 1890-1940. Approx 50 items

Charleston writer. Writings of RPR including ms of Gullah stories on Briar Rabbit and Briar Wolf, anecdotes on blacks, ms. and notes for Some Churches in Colonial Times in and near Charleston. Misc. writings regarding 1806 shipwreck of the Rose-In-Bloom, reminiscences, and poetry. Anonymous essays, apparently school exercises on literary, historical and political subjects. Address (1930) of Catherine Ravenel to the Ladies' Benevolent Society regarding history of the society. Genealogical papers regarding Ravenel, Pringle, McPherson, Prioleau and other families.

11/503A/13-16 Ravenel, Edmund, 1797-1871

Plantation and medical papers, 1836-1864. 57 items

Berkeley county planter and physician on Sullivan's Island. Letters, account book, business papers, and devotional notes. Plantation account book (1851-1864) lists of purchases of plantation supplies, payment for goods and services to William Barnwell, Robert Hood, Samuel W. Hamlin, and others; payments of debts, school fees, taxes, and earnings from rice, bricks and timber. Plantation papers include purchase (1836) of Grove Plantation, Berkeley Co. and of Brabant plantation, Berkeley Co. (1851) and slave listings and sales papers. Medical papers include "general description about the Cholera," reports of yellow fever on Sullivan's Island

(1858) and a letter regarding a hurricane and yellow fever on Sullivan's Island (1854). Misc. business papers and devotional notes.

11/509 Ravenel, Daniel, 1789-1874

Estate account books, 1815-1871. 5 bound vols.

Charleston estate executor. Accounts kept by DR regarding estates of Daniel Ravenel (1762-1807), Catherine Prioleau (Mrs. Phillips G.), John S. Cripps, Louisa C. Ravenel, and Henry E. Ravenel. Misc. deeds.