



**Wilson family papers, 1815-1924**  
**SCHS 1300.00**  
**Containers 28/682-687**

**Creator:** Wilson family.

**Description:** 3 linear ft.

**Biographical/historical note:** South Carolina family. Robert Wilson (1838-1924) was a physician who served as a surgeon in the C.S.A. Army during the Civil War and afterwards became an Episcopal minister. He was born in Charleston, S.C., the son of James Mazyck Wilson (1814-1887) and Ann Isabel Gibbes Wilson. His second wife was Ann Jane Shand. His son, Robert Wilson, Jr. (1867-1946), was a distinguished physician and educator. John Knox emigrated from Ireland in the 1850s, settled in Charleston as a merchant, and married Elizabeth Condry Wilson, daughter of William H. and Mary E. Wilson.

**Scope and content:** Papers consist of estate records; papers of Robert Wilson (1838-1924) including journals, sermons, letters, and writings; papers of John Knox including correspondence and legal documents; and a group of miscellaneous Wilson family papers.

Estate records (1854-1875) consist of receipts and accounts for the estate of Robert W. Mazyck; James M. Wilson executor.

Papers (1862-1924) of Robert Wilson (1838-1924) consist of journals (1866-1924) concerning daily ministerial activities, the weather, and other matters; sermons (1866-1893) preached in Charleston (S.C.), Stateburg (S.C.), Easton (Md.), and elsewhere; letters (1868-1875) from his wife "Nanna" describing home and church affairs during his absences; a Wilson family history (1877); and manuscripts of writings (ca. 1870-ca. 1910) including a poem, speeches, a novel "Cobwebs in White Hall," and essays and articles about birds, wildlife, South Carolina colonial art, and other topics; and other items. His correspondence includes a typewritten transcription of a letter (1865) by Robert Wilson concerning the burning of Columbia (S.C.) by Sherman's troops. There are additional transcriptions of Wilson family letters (1865-1868) about the burning of Columbia, including a detailed letter (1868) from Rev. Peter J. Shand (Robert Wilson's father-in-law) attesting to the culpability of Sherman and his army. Also included is a letter (March 1865) from Henrietta M. Ravenel to her cousin James M. Wilson in which she writes, from Pooshee Plantation in Berkeley County (S.C.), of harsh treatment and pillage by black troops, destruction of Pineville (S.C.), and the conduct of the Ravenel family slaves including Sandy, butler of Dr. Henry W. Ravenel. (The black troops were probably with the 55th Massachusetts under the command of Gen. A.S. Hartwell, whose forces were attached to Gen. E.E. Potter's division.)

Papers (1850-1899) of John Knox include correspondence and legal documents concerning his French spoliation claims (1880s); a bound volume (1850) containing speeches by

Knox, his diary of a voyage across the Atlantic to Charleston (S.C.), and genealogical information about the Reid, Knox, Mazyck, and Conde families; bonds; certificates; and other items.

Wilson family series (1815-1928) includes genealogical information; legal documents; photographs of Charleston chimney sweeps, survivors of the Charleston earthquake camped out in Wragg Square (1886), Mazyck family portraits, and the Gibbes plantation on Barbados; and other items.

**Note:** Formerly in Miscellaneous Manuscripts Series I.

**Preferred citation:** Wilson family. Wilson family papers, 1815-1938. (1300.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

**Search terms:**

Knox, John, 1824-1898.  
Mazyck, Robert W. -- Estate.  
Ravenel, Henrietta Mary, 1835-1888.  
Shand, Peter Johnson, 1800-1886.  
Wilson, James Mazyck.  
Wilson, Robert, 1838-1924.  
Wilson, Robert, 1867-1946.  
Conde family.  
Gibbs family.  
Gibbes family.  
Knox family.  
Mazyck family.  
Reed family.  
Reid family.  
Wilson family.  
United States. Army. Massachusetts Infantry Regiment, 55th (1863-1865)  
Chimney sweeps -- South Carolina -- Charleston.  
Episcopalians -- South Carolina.  
French spoliation claims.  
Irish Americans -- South Carolina -- Charleston.  
Slaves -- South Carolina -- Berkeley County.  
Charleston (S.C.) -- Earthquake, 1886.  
Charleston (S.C.) -- History.  
Columbia (S.C.) -- History -- Burning, 1865.  
Easton (Md.)  
Pineville (S.C.)  
Pooshee Plantation (Berkeley County, S.C.)  
South Carolina -- History.  
Stateburg (S.C.)  
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865.  
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Destruction and pillage.  
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Participation, African American.

Estate records.  
Journals (accounts)  
Legal documents.  
Letters (correspondence)  
Photographs.  
Sermons.  
Writings.  
Clergy.

**Series and container listing:**

*1300.01 Family document series*

1300.01.01 Wilson family papers, 1815-1928.  
28/687/08-09 Miscellaneous papers.

*1300.02 Papers of individual Wilson family members*

1300.02.01 Robert Wilson (1838-1924) papers, 1866-1924.  
28/682/02 Journals, 1866, 1869-1871.  
28/682/03 Journals, 1872-1874.  
28/682/04 Journals, 1875-1877.  
28/682/05 Journals, 1878-1880.  
28/682/06 Journals, 1881-1883.  
28/682/07 Journals, 1884-1886.  
28/683/01 Journals, 1887-1889.  
28/683/02 Journals, 1890-1892.  
28/683/03 Journals, 1893-1895.  
28/683/04 Journals, 1896-1897, 1899.  
28/683/05 Journals, 1900-1902.  
28/683/06 Journals, 1903-1905.  
28/684/01 Journals, 1906-1908.  
28/684/02 Journals, 1909-1911.  
28/684/03 Journals, 1912-1914.  
28/684/04 Journals, 1915-1917.  
28/684/05 Journals, 1918-1920.  
28/684/06 Journals, 1921-1923.  
28/684/07 Journal, 1924; church accounts, 1900-1913.  
28/685 Sermons, 1862-1893, undated.  
28/686/01 Letters, 1868 May-Sept.  
28/686/02 Letters, 1868 Sept.  
28/686/03 Letters, 1871 Nov., 1872 Sept.  
28/686/04 Letters, 1874 Oct.  
28/686/05 Letters, 1875 April-Dec.  
28/686/06-24 Writings.  
28/687/01 Novel: Cobwebs in White Hall.  
28/687/02 Family history.  
28/687/03 Miscellaneous papers.

*1300.03 Wilson family allied family papers*

- 1300.03.01 John Knox (1824-1898) papers, 1850-1899.
- 28/687/04 Letters, 1874-1899 (bulk 1880s)
- 28/687/05 Journal, 1850.
- 28/687/06 Financial and legal documents, 1861?-1885.
- 28/687/07 Miscellaneous papers.

*1300.04 Wilson family related papers*

- 1300.04.01 Robert W. Mazyck estate records, 1854-1875.
- 28/682/01 Estate records, 1854-1875.