



Fraser family papers, 1755-1872
SCHS 1029.00
Containers 11/135-136

Creator: Fraser Family.

Description: 0.75 linear ft.

Biographical/Historical Note: John Fraser (d. 1754), a native of Scotland, settled in South Carolina around 1700. His children included Susan Fraser (d. 1785), who married Charles Lorimer, and Alexander Fraser (1722-1791), a plantation owner and S.C. state legislator. Alexander Fraser's children included Alexander Fraser (1758-1798), Frederick Fraser (1762-1816), and Charles Fraser (1782-1860), a Charleston, S.C. attorney and artist. Frederick Fraser (1762-1816) was a Beaufort, S.C. factor and a plantation owner (Bellevue, near the Pocataligo River); his only son was Frederick Grimke Fraser (d. 1852). John Fraser (1777-1854), also a native of Scotland, became a merchant in Charleston, S.C., where he established the mercantile and factorage firm of John Fraser & Company, a business which continued under the same name long after his death.

Scope and Content: Papers consist of correspondence, receipts, estate records, and other items.

Included is the correspondence (1774-1791) of Alexander Fraser (1722-1791). Correspondence (1792-1850) chiefly consists of letters to Frederick Fraser and Frederick G. Fraser at Charleston (S.C.) and Pocataligo (S.C.) from James A. Winthrop, James H. Ladson, Coit & Fraser, and others mostly concerning business (cotton and rice trade) but also family matters. A letter (1815) to Frederick Fraser from his nephew Joseph A. Winthrop comments on the possibility of another war in Europe now that "Bonaparte is again on the throne of France," and its effects on the price of cotton. There are also photocopies of two letters (1834, 1850) to Robert C. Winthrop from Charles Fraser regarding politics, nullification, and other matters. Estate records are mostly trust estate papers (1869-1872) of John Fraser & Company, including tax receipts, correspondence, accounts, and legal documents. Estate records (1791-1806) of Alexander Fraser (1722-1791) include accounts and receipts. Estate records of John Cowand (d. 1785) consist of a bill and receipt for medicines he purchased (1786), a power of attorney, letters of administration (1785) naming Alexander Fraser (1722-1791) as estate administrator, and accounts.

Receipts of Frederick Fraser, William Fraser, and others are for taxes, interest payments, pew rent, and other expenses and transactions, and include a receipt book (1793-1816) of Frederick Fraser. Other items include a release (1774) of Charles Lorimer for debts owed him by the estate of John Fraser; a protest (1778) for the non-payment of a note to John Cowand (with attached letter, promissory note, and receipt); cotton sales accounts; a conveyance (1838) of a

house and lot on Sullivan's Island (S.C.) to Francis C. Black; printed advertisements; and a drawing (1844) of a steam-powered pump by William H. Smith.

Preferred Citation: Fraser family. Fraser family papers, 1755-1872. (1029.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

Search terms:

Cowand, John, d. 1785 -- Estate.

Fraser, Alexander, 1722-1791.

Fraser, Charles, 1782-1860.

Fraser, Frederick, 1762-1816.

Fraser, Frederick Grimke, d. 1852.

Ladson, James Henry, 1795-1868.

Lorimer, Charles.

Winthrop, Joseph Augustus, 1791-1864.

Fraser family.

John Fraser & Co. (Charleston, S.C.) -- Records and correspondence.

Cotton trade -- South Carolina.

Decedents' estates -- South Carolina.

Nullification (States' rights)

South Carolina -- History.

Genre Drawing.

Estate records.

Legal documents.

Letters (correspondence).

Receipts.

11/135/1-5 Fraser, Alexander, 1722-1791

Letters, 1774-1791. 27 items

Charleston merchant. Letters (1774-1791) to AF from William Nicholson, James Cowand, Mary Cowand, and others regarding disputes over the estate of Dr. John Cowand, Charleston with JC's relatives in England and properties cared for by AF in SC. Also letters to AF from Charles Lorimer, England regarding financial affairs and rice crops in SC. Letters also contain some mention of the political situation in France (1789-1791).

11/135/6-10 Fraser, Frederick, 1763-1816

Family letters, 1792-1850. 29 items

Beaufort planter. Letters to FF and Frederick G. Fraser 9d. 1852). Pocotaligo planter from Coit & Fraser (regarding cotton sales) and John Riley (regarding Beaufort District Society). Many letters to FGF from James H. Ladson, Charleston, regarding bond payments, cotton crops and accounts, family matters, include mentions of indigo (9/12/1823) and nullification. Letters regarding a dispute over an order of glass from overseas; Letters from Jos. A. Winthrop regarding cotton; J. Temple Winthrop, Boston, regarding social matters and Charles Winthrop, Charleston, regarding business and health. Also two copies of letters (1834, 1850) from Charles Fraser regarding his art and nullification.

11/135/11-22 Fraser, Frederick, 1763-1816

Receipts and Muniments, 1755-1854. Approx 100 items.

Beaufort and Charleston Co. planter and merchant. Receipts, bond accounts, vouchers, estate accounts, and other material of Frederick Fraser (1763-1816), Frederick G. Fraser (d. 1852), Alexander Fraser (1722-1791), and William Fraser (1760-1814). Receipts for rice and cotton sales, bacon, wood, corn, spices, sundries, wine, flour, medical services, slave sales and taxes on horse carriages. Estate accounts of John Cowand and Alexander Fraser. Also receipt book (1792-1816) of FF, with receipts of artist Thomas Coram, the Firm of DeSaussure & Verdier, as well as notes of payment for houses built at Beaufort (1803) and elsewhere and many other receipts. Misc. material (1844-1854), including a list of wines, as well as a mortgage, a conveyance, and advertisements for produce.

11/135-136 Fraser (John) & Co. 1869-1872

Trust estate papers, 1869-1872. ½ ft

Charleston factorage business. Trust estate papers (1869-1872) of John Fraser & Co., Charleston. Accounts, bond payments, indentures, tax receipts, petitions, statements, judgments, bank notes, business and legal correspondence (including many letters from Judge A.G. Magrath and C.T. Lowndes); litigation regarding US vs. John Fraser & Co., and other material.