



Porcher family papers, 1822-1964
SCHS 147.00

Creator: Porcher family

Description: 1.25 linear ft.

Note: Photographs from this collection have been catalogued separately.

Scope and content: These papers are composed principally of correspondence of the descendants of William Porcher (1800-1833) and his wife Isabella Sarah Peyre Porcher (1803-1890). The bulk of the 19th century letters are from their son, Charleston physician and naturalist Francis Peyre Porcher (1824-1895), to his mother and siblings, and later to his own children. Family matters form the main topic of these letters, but Francis's medical practice and Civil War service are also discussed. An 1863 letter from the author William Gilmore Simms congratulates Porcher on his botanical writings, and mentions the literary efforts of Henry Timrod and Paul Hamilton Hayne.

From the later decades of the 19th century into the 20th century, these letters are continued by children and grandchildren of Francis Peyre Porcher. His son Walter Peyre Porcher (1858-1919) and daughter Virginia Leigh Porcher (1866-1940) are the main correspondents, but many other family members are represented as well.

Other items include a commonplace book of Virginia Leigh Porcher (1835-1866) and numerous prose and verse writings by her daughter Virginia Leigh Porcher (1866-1940), several of which are inscribed with the pseudonym Claude Richbough. A typescript short story by Mary Alves Long, a contemporary and distant relative of the younger Virginia Leigh Porcher, is included among these papers. Miscellaneous newspaper clippings and ephemera are also included.

Preferred citation: Porcher family. Porcher family papers, 1822-1964. (147.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

Search terms:

Hayne, Paul Hamilton, 1830-1886.
Long, Mary Alves, 1864-
Porcher, Francis Peyre, 1824-1895.
Porcher, Isabella Sarah Peyre, 1803-1890.
Porcher, Virginia Leigh, 1835-1866.
Porcher, Virginia Leigh, 1866-1940.
Porcher, Walter Peyre, 1858-1919.
Porcher, William, 1800-1833.

Simms, William Gilmore, 1806-1870.
Timrod, Henry, 1828-1867.
Porch family.
Physicians -- South Carolina.
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Medical care.
Clippings.
Commonplace books.
Letters (correspondence)
Poems.
Short stories.

Container listing:

BOX 1

147.01(1822-1898)

BOX 2

147.01(1900-1964)

BOX 3

147.02: General family materials

147.02.01: Clippings, ephemera

147.02.02: Miscellaneous verse, unattributed and undated

147.03: Materials of individual family members

147.03.01: Virginia Leigh Porcher (1803-1890): Commonplace Book, ca. 1850.

147.03.02: Virginia Leigh Porcher (1866-1940)

147.03.02 (F): Financial account book, 1905-1917

147.03.02 (L) 01: Literary journal, ca. 1880

147.03.02 (L) 02: Verse, general

147.03.02 (L) 03: Literary materials, inscribed "Claude Richbourg" (also spelled "Richburgh" and "Richbourgh")

147.03.03: Mary Alves Long: Typescript, n. d.: "Just or Unjust?"