Joseph W. Barnwell papers, 1734-1930.
SCHS 1255.00
28/43-106

Creator: Barnwell, Joseph Walker, 1846-1930

Description: 25.75 linear ft.

Biographical/Historical Note: Beaufort and Charleston, S.C. attorney, politician, and historian. He was the son of William Hazzard Wigg Barnwell. He began the practice of law in Charleston in 1871 and was a law partner of William H. Brawley (Brawley & Barnwell) for ten years. Barnwell served in the South Carolina House of Representatives and Senate, and was chairman of the Charleston County Democratic Party. He was curator and president of the South Carolina Historical Society and published articles in its magazine.

Scope and content: Papers chiefly consist of the legal, political, and historical correspondence (ca. 1871-1930) of Joseph W. Barnwell. Also included are papers of Brawley & Barnwell, William H. Brawley (1841-1916), the Barnwell family, Edward Barnwell (1813-1885), Nathaniel B. Barnwell (1877-1950), Charles M. Barnwell (1852-1923), Richard S. Whaley (b. 1874), and Louis J. Barbot. In addition there is scattered personal and family correspondence (1861-1930) of Joseph W. Barnwell.

Political correspondence concerns Democratic Party business; Barnwell's congressional races; state legislative affairs; state and local politics, including Wade Hampton's gubernatorial campaign (1874-1876), prosecutions of Republican party members, Charleston mayoral elections, and Benjamin R. Tillman's gubernatorial campaign and governorship; congressional campaign of William H. Brawley; the Free Silver movement; political patronage and favors; state and local education issues; South Carolina Railroad Commission affairs; public health; and other matters.

Legal correspondence concerns business and legal affairs of the South Carolina & Georgia Railroad Co. and its successor the Southern Railway Co.; and other railroad litigation and business, estate and debt cases, bankruptcies, investments, criminal cases, and other cases and client business.

Historical correspondence concerns activities of the South Carolina Historical Society; Hutson family history; various aspects of South Carolina politics and history including the colonial and Revolutionary periods, the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the Tillman era; Barnwell family plantations; and other matters. Correspondents include A.S. Salley, Johnson Hagood, and others.
Other items include a typewritten manuscript of Barnwell's autobiography (1929); his diaries (1867-1869); and speeches.

**Preferred Citation:** Barnwell, Joseph Walker, 1846-1930. Papers, 1734-1930. (1255.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

**Detailed collection Inventory:**

**28/43-84** Barnwell, Joseph W. 1846-1930

*Family Correspondence, 1861-1930*

Charleston lawyer and historian. Scattered family correspondence between Joseph W. Barnwell and C.C. Barnwell, Charles Barnwell, Mary E. Barnwell, Harriett Phelps, Allard Barnwell, Emily H. Barnwell, Eliza A. Barnwell, Harriett c. Barnwell, Langdon Cheves III, Elizabeth Barnwell Flanders, Allester G. Furman, Joseph Barnwell Jr., Leila Barnwell, Singleton Barnwell, Stephen Barnwell, Woodward Barnwell, Charlotte Barnwell, George Barnwell and many other family members and business or personal acquaintances. Correspondence regarding Joseph W. Barnwell’s family, personal concerns, and many general business matters.

**28/44-62** Barnwell, Joseph W. 1846-1930

*Historical Correspondence, 1878-1910*

Charleston historian, President SCHS. Historical correspondence (1878-1910) of Joseph W. Barnwell with historians and others regarding SCHS activities and history, Frederick Bancroft and U.B. Philip’s research in Charleston, yellow fever 1854-1877 in Savannah GA; the Shaftsbury Papers (1898), Charleston Library Society (1905-1910) A.S. Salley’s historical research; 1783 British Evacuation of Charleston and other Revolutionary and Civil War matters. Also includes letters of C.W. Hutson (1906) regarding secessionist William F. Hutson and Hutson family, B.R. Tillman regarding 1876 election riots, H.A.M. Smith, Mabel Webber. Arranged chronologically with Joseph W. Barnwell’s general correspondence.

**28/43-46** Barnwell, Joseph W. 1846-1930

*Political and Legal Letters, 1874-1881*

28/47-49  
**Barnwell, Joseph W., 1846-1930**  
Political and Legal Letters, 1882-1889  
Charleston politician. Political letters (1882-1889) to Joseph W. Barnwell regarding Congressional campaigns, disputed election returns for the 1886 Berkeley Co. Sheriff’s race; Charleston mayoral elections, tax legislation for property confiscated during the Civil War; Charleston’s jetties (1887); Charleston co. Democratic Party’s Constitution (1888); reconstruction memories, Johnson Hagood’s views of 1865 SC Black Code; prosecution (1888) of a Republican who assaulted a Black democrat in Beaufort (from Vertier & Howe) and other matters. Other correspondents include William A. Courtenay, William Elliott, B.D. Greene, John J. Hemphill, J.H. Heyward, Edmund Mazyck, J. Adger Smythe, Augustine T. Smythe and others. Arranged chronologically within Joseph W. Barnwell’s general correspondence.

28/50/1  
**Barnwell, Joseph W., 1846-1930**  
Political letters, 1890. Approx 20 items.  

28/50-53  
**Barnwell, Joseph W., 1846-1930**  
Political letters, 1891-1898.  

28/54-55  
**Barnwell, Joseph W., 1846-1930**  
Political Letters, 1898

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>28/55-57</th>
<th>Barnwell, Joseph W., 1846-1930</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Congressional campaign letters, 1899-1900</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>28/55-58</th>
<th>Barnwell, Joseph W., 1846-1930</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Legislative letters, 1899-1903</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>28/62-76</th>
<th>Barnwell, Joseph W. 1846-1930</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Historical and Political correspondence, 1911-1922</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

28/76-84 Barnwell, Joseph W., 1846-1930
Historical correspondence, 1923-1930
Charleston writer and President of SCHS. Historical correspondence (1923-1930) of Joseph W. Barnwell regarding the SCHS, historical interests of AS Salley, Jr. and Barnwell in the Revolutionary and Colonial periods, SC and Charleston politicians during the 1870’s, locations of Spanish forts on Parris Island, Historical Commission of SC, Charles Garth, 1886 earthquake, (1923) jetties constructed by Q.A. Abbott, Wade Hampton’s Red Shirt Campaign of 1876 (1929), Republican and Tillmanite politicians, Joseph W. Barnwell’s SC House of Representatives. Other correspondents include Worthingtonford regarding historical collections and a letter regarding Robert Barnwell’s political relations with Jefferson Davis and Christophe Memminger (1929) and with Mary Jane Ross (1923-1929).

28/85-86 Barnwell, Joseph W., 1846-1930
Legal Correspondence, 1871-1880, ½ ft.
Hayne, Archibald E. Smith, J.F. Townsend, elections of 1876, Theodore G.
Barker, William H. Brawley, James B. Heyward, Richard Aldrich, F.M. Burdell,
C.S. Gadsden, Julius H. Heyward and the US Dept of Justice. Correspondence
from Charleston, Beaufort, Georgetown, Columbia, Savannah GA, Greenville,
Washington DC, New York NY, Barnwell, Yemassee station, Gillisonville, New
Orleans, LA and elsewhere. Chronologically arranged.

28/86/10-17  Brawley & Barnwell, 1881-1883
Legal letters, 1881-1883. Approx 130 items.
Charleston law firm of William H. Brawley and Joseph W. Barnwell. Legal letters
(1881-1883) of B & B regarding finances, reorganization or litigation of various
railroad companies including the Greenville & Columbia RR Co., Charleston &
Savannah RR Co., Georgetown & Lanes RR Co., Clydes Coastwise and West
India Steam lines of Philadelphia PA. Also letters regarding stock fraud concerns
of the Charleston Water Works Co. confiscated land claim in Beaufort Co., debt
collections, property transactions, City of Columbia debt (1882), client work with
lawyers, realtors, and railroad company officials and other matters.
Correspondents include F.M. Burdell, James B. Campbell, Zimmerman Davis,
William Elliott, B. Elliott Guerard, James Lowndes, H.B. Plant, Harriett H.

28/87-89  Brawley, William H. 1841-1916
Political and personal correspondence, 1884-1886
Charleston politician letterpress book (1884-1885) of Brawley and letters (1884-
1886) to Brawley regarding SC politics, government, social activities, personal
expenses, furniture, agrarian demagoguery, and Benjamin Tillman, farmers tax
grievances, banking laws, demands for a state agriculture college, Tillman’s
criticisms of SC College, the Citadel, state political conventions, state census,
patronage, Charleston County Sheriff’s office (1885), insurance and pornography
legislation, Lt. governor election (1886), Charleston taxes, European travel plans
(1885). Letters from John J. Hemphell regarding social life in Washington, DC;
Johnson Hagood regarding cattle raising, William A. Courtenay, Daniel H.
Chamberlain, John B. Reeves, A.T. Smythe, William A. Williams and others.
Letters also regarding St. Cecilia Society and 1886 earthquake. Chronologically
arranged except for letterpress book.

28/89-90  Brawley, William H. 1841-1916
Political and personal letters, 1887-1889. ¾ ft.
Political, legal, and personal letters (1887-1889) and WHB and his law firm
Brawley & Barnwell. Letters regarding insurance legislation (1887), Clemson
College, SC and Charleston elections, Charleston Democratic Committee, SC
Railroad Commission, Ohio Election (1889), SC College Board of Trustees, USC
Alumni Association, literary, historical, social and family interests, poor academic
career of Brawley’s son at the Virginia Military Institute and USC, Columbia’s
hotels, the Charleston Club, Confederate Survivors Association, the Calhoun
Monument, F.W. Dawson and other matters. Correspondents include Joseph W.
Barnwell, the Charleston Board of Fire Underwriters, C. Woodward Hutson regarding a colleague’s suicide and faculty politics at Univ. of Mississippi, Zimmerman Davis, John J. Hemphill and others. Chronologically arranged.

28/91-13  Brawley, William H., 1841-1916
Political, legal, personal letters. 1890. Approx 150 items.

28/91-93  Brawley, William H. 1841-1916
Political, personal and legal letters. 1891-1894. 1 ft.
Political, personal, and legal letters (1891-1894) to Brawley and letter book (1902) regarding railroad litigation, including injury claims, land disputes, labor disputes, settlements and many other matters. Railroad litigants include the SC & GA RR, Southern Railway Co., Charleston & Savannah Railway Co., SC RR Co., August Southern RR, the Sumter & Wateree River RR, and others. Correspondents include lawyers, engineers, agents and others including Theodore Barker, Daniel H. Chamberlain, CS Gadsden, Smythe, Lee & Frost, Henderson Brothers, Aiken; N.B. Dial, Laurens; Mordecai & Gadsden, Edward Parsons, NY, NY; Leonard Phinizy; John T. Sloan, Joseph H. Sand, Laurie T. Izlar, Blackville; William H. Brawley, J. Adger Smythe; C.S. Phelps, LA Emerson; James H. McKenney, Washington DC; T.M. Raysor, Fraser & Cooper, Sumter; Robert Aldrich; Henry McIver, John A. Hiers, St. George (1908) and others.

28/94-97  Barnwell, Joseph W.
Legal letters, 1894-1922. 1 ¼ ft.
Charleston lawyer for the South Carolina and Georgia Railroad and its successor the Southern Railway Co. Letters (1894-1922) to Barnwell and letter book (1902) regarding railroad litigation, including injury claims, land disputes, labor disputes, settlements and many other matters. Railroad litigants include the SC & GA RR, Southern Railway Co., Charleston & Savannah Railway Co., SC RR Co., August Southern RR, the Sumter & Wateree River RR, and others. Correspondents include lawyers, engineers, agents and others including Theodore Barker, Daniel H. Chamberlain, CS Gadsden, Smythe, Lee & Frost, Henderson Brothers, Aiken; N.B. Dial, Laurens; Mordecai & Gadsden, Edward Parsons, NY, NY; Leonard Phinizy; John T. Sloan, Joseph H. Sand, Laurie T. Izlar, Blackville; William H. Brawley, J. Adger Smythe; C.S. Phelps, LA Emerson; James H. McKenney, Washington DC; T.M. Raysor, Fraser & Cooper, Sumter; Robert Aldrich; Henry McIver, John A. Hiers, St. George (1908) and others.
28/98/1-8  Brawley & Barnwell, 1871-1888
Railroad Case Papers: 1871-1881. Approx 100 items.
Charleston law firm of William H. Brawley and Joseph W. Barnwell. Letters, accounts, court documents, lists of securities, briefs, regarding litigation, land ownership disputes, and accident or property claims of the Savannah & Charleston Railroad Co. (1871-1883) including Daniel Hand vs. S&C RR Co. and a contract for mail service (1871); the Charleston City Railroad Co. (1873-1897), the Greenville & Columbia Railroad Co. (1878-1880); and the Georgetown & Western Railroad Co. (1887-1888). Arranged by railroad company.

28/98-99  Barnwell, Joseph W. 1846-1930
Railroad Case Papers: 1894-1913. Approx 170 items.
Letters, accounts, exhibits and other legal papers regarding various cases of the SC & GA railroad Co. (1894-1899); Southern Railroad (1899-1913) and the Atlantic Coastline Railroad Co. (1908-1911). Cases regarding injury claims, property litigation, and other railroad litigation including Sloss Iron & Steel vs. SC & GA RR Co. over prices for coal; Edward Deas vs. SC & GA; Walter Singleton vs. SC & GA involving injury to black wagon driver in Williston, complaints against SC & GA freight rates; unloading of sulfuric acid by Southern RR Co., labor violence near Charleston, personal injury case of Elko black woman Mary Hagan vs. Southern RR Co., including a discussion of her husband’s political activities 1876; Isaac Edwards vs. Southern RR over leasing railroad lines (1897), Farmers and Spinners Cotton Co. vs. Southern RR Co over damage for delays; CH Parler vs. Atlantic Coast Line RR. Arranged by railroad company.

28/99/13-18  Barnwell, Joseph W., 1846-1930
Admiralty case papers, 1870-1893. Approx 50 items.
Letters and legal case papers in admiralty cases (1870-1893). Included is Penny vs. Lehlback regarding Port Royal Railroad delay case; Also letters to Brawley & Barnwell (1890-1893) regarding John Conroy & Co. vs. E.L. Cain and another admiralty case regarding efforts to stop creditors from seizing tugboats in Charleston.

28/99/19-23  Barnwell, Joseph W., 1846-1930
French & American Claims Commission Case Papers 1881-1883. Approx 60 items.
28/99/24-25  Barnwell, Joseph W. 1846-1930  
Land case papers, 1907-1911. Approx 40 items.  
Letters to Joseph W. Barnwell from A.H. Heyward and others regarding Heyward vs. the US in case over land in Beaufort Co. damaged by a federal water project including conflicts over land ownership and the legal ethics of various attorneys. Chronologically arranged.

28/100/1-28  Barnwell, Joseph W. 1846-1930  
Misc. legal papers, 1870-1921. ½ ft.  
Letters & legal papers regarding misc. debt, land, criminal, business, and other litigation. Cases include debt litigation case (1870), Champion and Freeman, Savannah GA vs. McDowell & Callahan, Charleston; Savannah City Securities Case (1878-1879); DeTreville vs. Small regarding land confiscation; Julius H. Heyward, Greenville phosphate land litigation, misc. notes on criminal cases of rape, burglarly, accidental shooting and negligence and institutionalizing cost of an inmate of the SC Lunatic Asylum (1860-1874); Farmers Loan and Trust Co. vs. Ferris & Co. over charitable trusts of St. John’s Hotel, Charleston by Cecilia Lawton and others; and estates of Ann M. Hanckel, A.H. Heyward, William H. Brawley and Harriett C. Barnwell. Arranged by cases.

28/101/1-8  Barnwell, Joseph W., 1846-1930  
Legislative bills, memorials, petitions, and complaints (ca. 1878-1902). Subjects included are capitol stock, state rights to phosphate in navigable waters, other phosphate issues, Charleston’s municipal debt limits, tenure of Charleston Police Court recorders, Charleston City Utilities, regulation of Charleston elections, lumber inspection, redemption of land, possible turnpike of Charleston neck, state stock and many other issues.

28/101/9-12  Barnwell, Joseph W. 1846-1930  
Writings, 1867-1929. 8 mss.  
Writings (1867-1929) of Joseph W. Barnwell including manuscript of full length autobiography regarding his youth, the Civil War reconstruction, legal and political matters; Joseph W. Barnwell’s diaries 1867-1869, Joseph W. Barnwell’s memo book regarding clothes (1883); a partial draft of Civil War memories; addresses regarding railroads and other matters.

28/101/13-15  Barnwell, Joseph W. 1846-1930  
Genealogy notes, 1840s-1920s, ¼ ft.  
Genealogies and family history notes and mss of Barnwell regarding the Barnwell and related families. Also copies of family letters (1840s-1870s)

28/102/1-7  Barnwell, Joseph W.  
Family photographs, ca. 1880s-ca.1920s. Approx 100 items.
Photographs (ca. 1880s-ca. 1920s) of the Barnwell family and others collected by Joseph W. Barnwell.

28/102/7-15  Barnwell, Edward, 1785-1860
Estate and other papers, 1833-1875. Approx 70 items.
Beaufort planter. Land conveyance, bond, letters, plat right of way, accounts for plantations and business and many estate papers of Edward Barnwell. Included are estate accounts and letters regarding the estate from Edward Barnwell Jr. and others.

28/102/8-17  Barnwell family, 1861-1875
Family Estate papers, 1857-1875. Approx. 40 items.
Charleston, Beaufort family. Estate papers (1857-1871) regarding estate of Robert W. Barnwell with letters of George Williamson of Shreveport, LA, Wade Hampton, E. Barnwell and others. Also estate papers (ca. 1861-1875) of Martha Ann Mathews with letters from McCrady & Son and Arthur Middleton.

28/103/1-2  Barnwell family
Misc. family correspondence, 1834, 1863-1922. Approx 40 items.
Charleston, Beaufort family. Misc. family correspondence (1834, 1863-1922) of Barnwell family members including William W. Barnwell to James B. Heyward (1834) regarding trip to Washington DC with mention of politicians and speeches in the Senate; Letter (1863) regarding Civil War; letters to Edward Barnwell Jr., Hettie H. Barnwell, Harriett K. Barnwell, I.H. Barnwell, Yazoo City, MS, Charles M. Barnwell and others. Chronologically arranged.

28/103/3-4  Whaley, Richard S.
Correspondence, 1896-1916. Approx 50 items.
Charleston lawyer, Congressman. Correspondence (1896-1916) of Richard S. Whaley from his mother regarding family matters, to a “Miss Martha” regarding personal love matters; Letters from William Way, Ellison Capers, A.M. Whaley and others regarding business and political matters.

28/103/5  Barbot, Louis J.
Letters, 1879-1880. 5 items.
Charleston City Civil Engineer. Letters of Barbot regarding various Charleston City contracts for water and other engineering projects.

28/103/6-20  Misc. Muniments, 1734-1882. Approx 50 items.
Misc. Muniments from the Joseph W. Barnwell papers. Included are land sale (1734) of Jordan Roche to Richard Woodward in Beaufort; will extract, lease, bond (1785-1844) of John Ashe; leases (1792-1794) of John Barnwell to Isaac Wright and will of Isaac Wright; sale of land in Colleton Co. near Pon-Pon River (1793) to Thomas Martin from James Clark; Conveyances and leases 1820-1856 between the Manigault and Barnwell families; conveyance, mortgage and will
(1825-1841) of Lewis Morris and misc. Morris family litigation; sale of slaves (1829) to Allston L. White from Abbott Brisbane; conveyance of land in St. Paul’s Parish (1841) of Catherine Osborn; decree regarding land of Ann McQueen, of unsound mind (1842); deed (1845) of Nathan Nathans to John Stienmeyer; plat (1853) of Smiths Wharf; bankruptcy papers (1863) of Ephraim M. Seabrook; wills of Richard O. Barnwell; Harriett M. Richardson; Elizabeth Barnwell and John Joyner; Commissions (1877) for trial justice to John G. Barnwell and other misc. Muniments.

28/104-105  Barnwell, Nathaniel B.  
Papers, 1905-1930. ¾ ft.
Charleston lawyer. Correspondence and legal case papers (ca. 1905-1930) of Nathaniel B. Barnwell. Correspondence regarding legal cases and personal matters with H.L. Lawton, Grays HM, R.M. Lofton, McClellanville, Richard S. Whaley, W.T. Logan and many others. Legal case papers include Charleston Lighterage & Transfer Co. Vs. USS Pinellas (1921) regarding claims by a number of Charleston ships including the “Josephine” which help put out a fire on the “Pineallas;” Henry Hick damage case regarding claims of relatives of a black man who was killed in Charleston Freight yard (1917); Farmers and Spinners Cotton Co. vs. Southern Railway Co. (1926) regarding sale shipments; case paper regarding the Commercial National Bank of Charleston (1926); Nathaniel B. Barnwell vs. Jacob Woodward (1912); case papers regarding boundary lines in Dillon township (1907); case regarding damage claims of black man who was thrown off a train (1917); transcript of trial regarding a stabbing between black women (n.d.); papers regarding accounts of the Charleston fidelity Corp. (1921-1922).

28/106/1-16  Barnwell, Charles M.  
Correspondence, 1901-1919. ½ ft.
Baconton, Georgia & Charleston pecan planter. Correspondence (1901-1919) of Charles M. Barnwell, John S. Horlbbeck, E.M. Mathews, Nephew Dr. Charles Barnwell, J.P. Cooper, W.C. Fripp, Frank Hayne, and others. Correspondence regarding Charles M. Barnwell’s pecan farm in Baconton Georgia including the sale of the farm seed purchases, financial arrangement, personal and family papers. Chronologically arranged.