

**See also UPA microfilm:**

MF:5322, Series I, part 3, Reels 11-12

**Joseph Vidal and Family Papers**

(Mss. 432)

Inventory

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections  
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library  
Louisiana State University Libraries  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

Reformatted 2007

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Proper acknowledgement of LLMVC materials must be made in any resulting writing or publications. The correct form of citation for this manuscript group is given on the summary page. Copies of scholarly publications based on research in the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections are welcomed.

**Summary**

<b>Size.</b>	666 items and 3 manuscript volumes
<b>Geographic locations.</b>	Natchez, Miss.; Chocchuma, Miss.; Concordia Parish, La.; New Orleans, La.; Opelousas, La.; Baton Rouge, La.; Little Rock, Ark.; Fayetteville, Ark.; Montgomery, Ala.; Amelia County, Va.; Liverpool, England
<b>Inclusive dates.</b>	1797-1936
<b>Bulk dates.</b>	1797-1869
<b>Language.</b>	English, Spanish
<b>Summary.</b>	Business and legal papers of Joseph (José) Vidal, secretary to Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, and commandant of the Post of Concordia, in Spanish Louisiana.
<b>Organization.</b>	Arranged chronologically
<b>Restrictions on access.</b>	Philip Nolan document restricted access due to fragility. Copy of letter can be found A:68, Box 1:Folder 2 or Mf. 5322, Series I, pt.3, reel 12. If microfilm is available, photocopies must be made from microfilm.
<b>Related collections.</b>	Manuel Gayoso de Lemos Papers, Mss. 859, 157, 1673, 3099 Francis Surget Estate Papers, Mss. 12, 749
<b>Copyright.</b>	Copyright of the original materials is retained by descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. copyright law.
<b>Citation.</b>	Joseph Vidal and Family Papers, Mss. 432, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
<b>Stack location(s).</b>	A:68-69; Vault:1; Vault: MRDF 6
<b>Also available on:</b>	Microfilm:5322, Series I, part 3, Reels 11-12

### **Biographical/Historical Note**

Joseph (José) Vidal was secretary to Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, the Spanish Governor of the Natchez District, 1792-1797. Vidal later became commandant of the Post of Concordia, in Spanish Louisiana. Vidal's daughter, Maria Vidal, married Samuel Davis, a planter, banker, and land speculator in Louisiana. Davis, in possible partnership with Vidal, owned Lake, Vidalia, Pittsfield, and Mirvin plantations in Concordia Parish, Louisiana. At one time, Davis was a director of the Planters' Bank in Natchez. Alfred, son of Maria Vidal and Samuel Davis, married a woman of the Surget family, while Pauline, a daughter of Vidal and Davis, married Robert Carter. Both the Surget and Carter families appear in the collection.

### **Scope and Content Note**

Francis Surget was a planter and land speculator whose extensive holdings in Louisiana and Arkansas and whose ownership of over 10,000 slaves made him one of the largest planters and slaveholders in the antebellum South. Dr. Robert Carter, Samuel Davis' son-in-law, owned Lake and Vidalia plantations in the 1860s.

Legal documents relate to land grants or conveyances in Louisiana. The papers of Samuel Davis comprise the bulk of the collection and are largely land documents, slave bills of sale, promissory notes, bills and receipts, and items related to his banking position. Francis Surget's testamentary documents are included, as are papers related to his estate. Papers of Dr. Robert Carter primarily consist of statements of accounts, bills, and receipts. The correspondence dates largely from the 1860s.

Manuscript volumes include Samuel Davis' journal, 1843-1858, with memoranda of slaves purchased; Francis Surget's journal, 1837-1856, listing slaves and property owned and given to his children; and Surget's passport book, 1838-1839.

**Collection Description**

<u>Stack</u> <u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Contents</u>
A:68	1	1	1795-1799	<p>7 items:</p> <p>Plat no. 1026-Natchez, 1795- Carlos Trudeau, Royal and Special Surveyor of the Province of Louisiana...signed by Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, Governor of Louisiana (1797-99) in New Orleans- Dec. 1797- torn with seal.</p> <p>Plat No. 1027- Natchez, 1795- Carlos Trudeau, Royal and Special Surveyor of the Spanish Province of Louisiana...Signed Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, Spanish Governor of Louisiana (1797-99) in New Orleans- Dec. 1797- with seal.</p> <p>Transfer of land to José Vidal by Manuel Gayoso de Lemos, 1798.</p> <p>State of South Carolina, 1798- Copy 1820. Obligation of John Willis.</p> <p>Copy of John Girault, Keeper and Translator of the Spanish records pertaining to a document of John Minor (Nov. 8, 1797), 1829.</p> <p>Deposition of Lyman Harding in regard to land claim of José Vidal, late Commandant of the Post of Concordia, 1799.</p>
	1	2	1800-1803	<p>9 items:</p> <p>Copy of Philip Nolan letter, Oct. 4, 1800: Letter of Vidal to Winthrop Sargent, Governor of Mississippi Territory refers to impending expedition by Nolan into Spanish territory.</p> <p>Conveyance of land from Joseph Tenhada to Samuel Davis, State of Louisiana, Feb. 5, 1818. Land purchased Aug. 19, 1801.</p> <p>Copy of plat and survey made by William Atchinson, one of the Adjutant Surveyors of the Province of</p>

Louisiana for Matilda Gillespie, Feb. 3, 1802, copied Oct. 14, 1811.

Petition to Intendant by Matilda Gillespie stating that she was born in Natchez during Spanish period, is 18 years old, and wishes to establish herself where she now lives and asks for a grant of 400 arpents. Vidal certifies that she has many dependents and states that it would help her if the Governor General would grant her solicitation, Feb. 9, 1802.

Petition of Edmund Ambury to the Intendant for a grant of land. He contributed his every effort to fighting the last fire and saved a government building from flames under the authorization of the Baron de Carondelet...petition referred to Morales, May 8, 1802

List of land signed by Gilbert Leonard and Carlos Ximenes, New Orleans, May 17, 1802.

Petition to José Gillespie, stating that he was born in Natchez...and wants a grant of land. Vidal granted, Feb. 9, 1802.

1            3            1802-1810    16 items:  
Certificate by Carlos Ximenes, Aug. 6, 1802 (Morales),  
New Orleans.

Receipt for five hundred dollars accountable in six months, A. Hunt; Fort Adams, Mississippi Territory, Jan. 29, 1803.

Two copies of transfers of land from Jacinta Gallagher to John Minor, Oct. 8, 1803 and subsequent transfer to Samuel Davis, May 30, 1829.

Transfer of three acres of land from John Ramires to Elisa Middleton at Concordia, Oct. 8, 1803, signed by Joseph Vidal.

Copy of transfer of land from Thomas Thompson to John Minor, Oct. 8, 1803 and subsequent transfer to Samuel Davis, May 30, 1829.

Copy of transfer of land at Natchez from Margaret Gallagher to John Minor, Oct. 1, 1803, and subsequent

transfer of same to Samuel Davis, May 30, 1829.

Copy of a plat of survey of land in District of Concordia in favor of Joseph Gillespie, Feb. 1, 1802, mand at land office, Opelousas, Oct. 17, 1811.

Conveyance of land in Concordia. Edmund Hanbury to Laurence Mulligan, Mar. 6, 1805 (copy)

2 conveyances of land from Eliza Middleton to Joseph Vidal, Jan. 20, 1807.

Donation by Mary Stuart of Concordia County and Orleans Parish of a partial lot to her daughter Elizabeth, Apr. 10, 1809, copy Mar. 31, 1838.

Conveyance of land from George Overacker to Jonathan Thompson, Sept. 18, 1809.

Conveyance of land from Jonathan Thompson of Natchez to James and Hannal Huston, Feb. 22, 1810.

Note signed by Isaac and Sam Parkins of Natchez for \$2,573.85. Sept. 11, 1810. Several endorsements on back.

Indenture of George Overacker (Adams county, Mississippi Territory) to Jonathan Thompson, Oct. 1, 1810, copy 1811.

1        4        1811-1814    32 items:  
Memorandum of Lands confirmed to Joseph Vidal in the St. Helena District, 1811.

Commissioner's certificate of confirmation of settlement claim of two "free negresses," Hannah and Victoria, to land in Concordia Parish, Apr. 24, 1811 and May 6, 1811. Printed documents accomplished by hand. (Territory of Louisiana)

Commissioner's certificates of confirmation of settlement of claim (5 certificates and 1 copy) of Matilda, John, and William Gillespie, Sarah Milligan, and John Perkins to land in Concordia Parish, Apr., May, and Oct., 1811.

Commissioner's certificate of confirmation of claim to land in Concordia Parish, May 3, 1811.

Notices of claims filed in Land Office at Opelousas, Sept. 24, 1812, by various persons for land in Concordia Parish.

Receipt for Claims to Lots in Concordia, Sept. 24, 1812.

Deed of Conveyance for 320 acres of land, Dec. 17, 1813.

Acknowledgment of sale to Manuel Garcia Texada by Vidal. Jan. 3, 1814.

Commissioner's certificate of confirmation of claim of Joseph Gillespie to land in Concordia Parish, May 3, 1811.

Indenture, Robert Cochran to Jonathan Thompson, conveyance of land, Mar. 15, 1811.

Indenture, Conveyance of land from James and Hannah Huston, Concordia, Territory of Orleans, Mar. 25, 1811.

Indenture, Conveyance of land from William and John Gillespie to Joseph Vidal.

Indenture, Conveyance of land from William and Joseph Gillespie to Joseph Vidal.

Indenture, Conveyance of land from Patrick and Matilda Vaughan to Joseph Vidal, Concordia, Feb. 25 and 26, 1812.

Indenture, conveyance of land, William Gillespie to Joseph Vidal, Nov. 1, 1811.

Indenture, conveyance of land, Patrick Vaughan and Matilda Gillespie to Joseph Vidal, Mar. 21, 1812 (copy)

Indenture, conveyance, Duncan McMillan to C. McLean, Nov. 30, 1812. Sealed.

Indenture, Conveyance, William Jennings to Jonathan Thompson. Mar. 1, 1813.

Indenture and conveyance, James Dunlap to Jonathan Thompson, May 8, 1813.

Indenture and conveyance, Andrew and Mary Simmons to Samuel Davis, Feb. 2, 1814. Mississippi Territory.

1            5            1812-1822    35 items:

Commissioner's Certificate of confirmation of claim of Vissente Irnandos filed in land office at Opelousas, Sept. 24, 1812.

Article of agreement between Thomas Humberson and Joseph Vidal to purchase a lot in Vidalia with plan of payment, Mar. 20, 1812.

Agreement between Jacob Pool and Thomas Humberson, June 8, 1812.

Agreement (memorandum) of mortgage of Joseph Vidal to secure notes, Dec. 13, 1813 with Thomas H. Williams.

2 cancelled notes

The agreement of mortgage is with Indenture of the same date, a conveyance (condition) of Vidal's plantation and slaves saves for life. (This agreement incomplete). Lists 20 slaves by age and name.

Letter from William Lattimore to Charles Green telling him that he was unable to present Vidal's petition to the committee on Public Lands, Mar. 16, 1815. Amelia County, Virginia- with frank.

Letter, William Gillespie to Vidal offering to sell him his farm, undated

Undated draft of a petition of Joseph Vidal to the "Senate and House of Representatives of the state of Louisiana" asking that his rights to operate a ferry between Natchez, Miss., and Vidalia, La., be protected, 8 pages with corrections, 1813.

Indenture, Conveyance of land in the town of Vidalia by the Sheriff Benjamin R. Reagan to James Dunlap. At auction the said Dunlap bid the sum of \$3.73...Printed document accomplished by hand- Jan. 30, 1816.

Indenture, Conveyance of lands in Concordia, Louisiana, Curator of the McClain estate Thomas Alexander, May 5, 1817.

Indenture, conveyance of land, James Dunlap to Samuel Davis, Parish of Concordia, State of Louisiana, Jan. 1, 1818.

Indenture, Conveyance of land, James Dunlap to Samuel Davis, Parish of Concordia, State of Louisiana, Jan. 1, 1818 – dry seal.

Conveyance of land, Joseph Texada to Samuel Davis, State of Louisiana, Feb. 20, 1818.

Conveyance of land, Parish of Concordia, Samuel Davis and Joseph Vidal are held and firmly bound by Walter S. Parker, Sheriff...May 1, 1820.

Power of attorney from Joseph Vidal to his son-in-law Samuel Davis, May 16, 1818.

Agreement between Samuel Davis and Joseph Vidal, Oct. 5, 1818.

Indenture, Edward and Elizabeth Turner to Jonathan Thompson, Mar. 22, 1819.

Indenture, Jonathan Thompson to William Parker, Feb. 11, 1820. Printed document accomplished by hand.

Indenture, William Parker to Samuel Davis, Aug. 8, 1820.

Bond of David Smith to Samuel Davis for payment of debt based on receiving expected compensation from state for life imprisonment of 2 slaves, Parish of Concordia, Nov. 16, 1820.

Receipt of Turner Metcalfe to Samuel Davis for notes received for collection, Nov. 3, 1820.

Walter S. Parker, Sheriff of the parish of Concordia, Joseph A. Vidal, Jr., and Samuel Davis, about public sale.

Receipt for claim of James Dunlap of land in the Parish of Concordia from Land Office, Ouachita, Oct. 21, 1820.

Instrument of Protest, State of Mississippi, Adams County, Henry W. Huntington, Notary Public and the Bank of the State of Mississippi. Mar. 28, 1820.

2 notes, Natchez, Mar. 11, 1820 and Natchez, Feb. 16, 1820.

Statement of settlement between Luke Tiernan and Samuel Davis, Baltimore, June 10 and 12, 1817.

Statement of account of Joseph Vidal with Samuel Davis from Nov. 14, 1817, to Mar., 1822, n.p.

2 conveyances, Peter Little and Eliza Little to Samuel Davis, Feb. 15, 1821.

Conveyance, William Parker to Samuel Davis and Ganaliel Pease (Deed), Dec. 10, 1821.

Power of attorney, Joseph Labadie to Le Blanc, copy, May 7, 1822.

Conveyance and procuration from Joseph Vidal, Jr. to Joseph Vidal, copy May 7, 1822.

1            6            1822-1825    32 items:

Deed, Joseph Vidal to Joseph Labadie, May 24, 1822, copy 1834.

Indenture, Victoria Colomb, a free woman of color, to Samuel Davis. Aug. 30, 1822, a true copy Apr. 2, 1838.

Note protested Mar. 10, 1823, Natchez Bank of the State of Mississippi.

Conveyance, W. S. Parker, sheriff, to Samuel Davis,

Dec. 27, 1823, copy 1834.

Memorandum of lands in Concordia belonging to the estate of Joseph Thompson, Apr. 20, 1824.

A just and faithful inventory and appraisement of the estate of Jonathan Thompson, Mar. 29, 1824.

Process Verbal of the landed property belonging to the Estate and Succession of Jonathan Thompson, decd. Feb. 22, 1825, copy Oct. 1, 1825.

Curatorship of Samuel Davis for the estate of Jonathan Thompson, deceased, with seal, Sept. 16, 1824.

Statement of bonds and cash received at sale of Thompson estate, Feb. 22, 1825.

Certification of sundry land claims in the town of Concordia, made at Land Office, Opelousas, June 25, 1825.

Receipt of statement of claim against estate of Thompson, Jan. 28, 1825.

Memo of the state of J. Thompson's estate in Mississippi, Nov. 30, 1825.

Demand of Samuel Davis for payment of McGillican tuition at Clerical Seminary in Barrens Parry, Mo., Oct. 10, 1822.

Receipt from Land Office at Ouachita for pre-emption right to a tract of land.

Promissory note of Morris to Jonathan Thompson, Mar. 10, 1823.

4 promissory notes, 1823 and 1825.

1 receipts, Parish of Concordia 1823 and n.p., 1828.

List of accounts, Capt. Joseph Vidal, 1822-1824.

Note for the purchase of four slaves, Dick, Charity, Bob, and Hannah, sold at public sale, Parish of Concordia,

Jan. 6, 1825.

Account of Capt. Joseph Vidal to Samuel Davis,  
Vidalia, May 7, 1825.

The Estate of Jonathan Thompson to the Estate of John  
D. Cochran, Sept. 28, 1824.

Draught note; signed P. Yarnall pertaining to Horse-  
Boats, Oct. 5, 1822.

Titles to Barnaby Langdon's patent for Horse-Boat for  
Louisiana given to Samuel Davis by Peter Yarnall,  
agent, Mar. 10, 1823.

Bill from Evan Young to Mr. Samuel Davis of Natchez  
for horse-ferry boat and four horses, Dec. 20, 1823.

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| 1 | 7 | 1826-1829 | 22 items:<br>Receipt of Samuel Davis of 2 claims against Thompson<br>estate, Feb. 1, 1826, Natchez.<br><br>Deed, William Hill to David Wood. Tracts and 14<br>slaves (two of them being small children at the breast),<br>May 1, 1826. Copy, Aug. 25, 1827. Appointment of<br>Samuel Davis as attorney.<br><br>5 Tax Sales by Francis Garderre, Treasurer of The State<br>of Louisiana, of land in Concordia: to various<br>individuals for unpaid state taxes – 4 dated 1828.<br><br>Sale of Pew 34 in Trinity Church, Natchez, to James<br>Moore, Jan. 1829.<br><br>Letter from William Wilson to Samuel Davis, Natchez,<br>about financial matters, Nov. 25, 1829.<br><br>David Wood to William Hill, statement cotton crop sold,<br>copy July 29, 1826.<br><br>Letters testamentary to William Hill, Feb. 23, 1827, with<br>seal, printed form accomplished by hand. Parish of<br>Orleans.<br><br>C. Smith and J. Morris estate, note to him. Jan. 18,<br>1828, Concordia. |
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Mortgage, Adam Bower and wife to Joseph Vidal, May 6, 1828.

Statement, Estate in account with S. Vidal, June 10, 1828.

Statement to J. Thompson estate. Jan. 6, 1827 with estimate.

4 items, notes about notes, one 1826, 1827, two 1829.

Fee bill, Estate of Josiah Morris Robert Ogden, June 10, 1828.

Exposé of the affairs of the Bank of the State of Mississippi. May 1, 1829.

Note-Protest of David Wood. Hill-Adams County, Mississippi, May 1, 1826.

A:68      2      8      1830-1836    51 items:  
Copy of a memorandum of Joseph Vidal's lands in Baton Rouge and Bayou Sarah to Samuel Davis, May 7, 1830.

22 receipts for purchase price of lands entered at Land Office, Chocchuma, Mississippi, 1833-1836.

4 receipts for purchase price of land entered at Land Office. Ouachita, 1830.

4 receipts of Samuel Davis, 1831-1833.

Receipt of Samuel Davis for 600 dollars for a slave, John, Dec. 18, 1833.

Receipt of Samuel Davis for Moses, a mulatto man and Charles, an African American for \$1,060, Dec. 23, 1833.

Alphabetic List of 150 slave with age, men on one page and women on another, 1831, n.p.

Succession of Jonathan Thompson, State of Louisiana Parish of Concordia, printed form accomplished by hand, 2 manuscripts, 1833-1835.

9 deeds of land to Samuel Davis, 1831-1833, parish of Concordia, La.

Copy of land sale from John D. Bien to Samuel Davis, Mar. 19, 1833. State of Louisiana, City of New Orleans.

Sale of Pew No. 34 to Samuel Davis by estate of James Moore in Trinity church in Natchez, May 28, 1830.

Exposé of the affairs of the Bank State of Mississippi, Mar. 31, 1831.

Mortgage of Joseph Vidal to Thomas H. Williams, Dec. 10, 1830.

Letter from John Ker to Samuel Davis relating to land in Lake Concordia, Natchez.

Letter from Ewing, explanation respecting land on Lake Concordia, to Samuel Davis, May 23, 1831.

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| 2 | 9 | 1834-1835 | 39 items:<br>16 receipts for purchase price of lands entered at Land Office, Chocoma, Mi., transferred to Samuel Davis, 1834.<br><br>Copy of survey of land of William Gillespie from Opelousas Land Office, Mar. 14, 1834.<br><br>Renunciation of C. A. Parker in favor of Samuel Davis (title of land), Mar. 14, 1834.<br><br>Copy of a mortgage of Samuel Davis to the Merchants' and Traders' Bank of New Orleans, May 2, 1834, Parish of Concordia, State of La.<br><br>Indenture, Francis A. Newcomb and Eliza, his wife, to Samuel Davis, Natchez, May, 1834.<br><br>Land sale, Samuel Davis to Edward Sparrow, near Natchez, July 8, 1834.<br><br>Copy Transfer of land, Henry Chotard to Samuel Davis, Dec. 1834. |
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Agreement between Davis and others, and Bell and Cordon to purchase Chickasaw Reservation lands; 18 articles of agreement, Davis, to furnish funds for parties of second part to do the exploration, City of Natchez, Dec. 20, 1834.

Sale of Sarah, slave, for \$650. John Whiting to Thomas Blackey, Jan. 20, 1835.

An agreement between Samuel Davis and Edward Sparrow about land, July 8, 1834, Parish of Concordia, State of La.

Sale of 10 slaves for \$7,250, Dec. 18, 1834.

2 promissory notes, Natchez, 1834; Russelville, 1835.

8 bills and receipts, 1835.

Indenture between Mary L. Ross, wife of A. B. Ross, and Samuel Davis, for a parcel of land in the Parish of Concordia, June 14, 1835.

Resolution making Samuel Davis agent of Planters' Bank to transact business with banks in New York and Philadelphia, June 18, 1835.

Sale of 8 slaves for \$4,430 to Samuel Davis, Natchez, Nov. 25, 1835.

A:68	2	10	1835-1837	71 items: Cheque from Planters Bank of Natchez to Samuel Davis for \$300, Apr. 9, 1835.  16 bills of exchange: Helena, Natchez, Little Rock, and Fayetteville, Arkansas, 1836.  Letter, A. V. J. Dennistonn to Samuel Davis regarding land speculation, New Orleans, Apr. 17, 1836.  Bill and receipt, Henry Vidal, Apr. 23, 1836.  Confirmation of land sale to Samuel Davis by William Beal, 38 parcels of land, 4,810 28/100 acres in all for \$4
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per acre, notarized Apr. 27, 1836.

Letter, A. V. J. Dennistonn (and Co.) to Samuel Davis regarding land speculation, New Orleans, May 5, 1836.

Agreement among William Gwin, Samuel Davis, William Mylne, and George Milligan, and William C. Mylne of New Orleans, and Robert H. Stirling of Tallehatchee Count for purposes of land speculation, May 11, 1837.

Document appointing Samuel Davis as guardian of Bullett family children, May 12, 1836.

2 miscellaneous bills and receipts, June 15 and Oct. 14, 1836.

Promissory note, June 19, 1836, owed to Gwin, Milligan, Mylne, and Davis, \$10,775.41, due 12 months hence, with attached protest, June 19, 1837, when note not paid.

Promissory note to Samuel Davis, Vidalia, Mar. 1, 1836.

Letter from Samuel Gwin to Hon. E. A. Brown, regarding transfer of land certificates, New Orleans, Aug. 20, 1836.

Copy of conveyance from Ayre D. Marrill to Samuel Davis of the Pittsfield Plantation and 35 slaves (ages and names listed), Parish of Concordia, State of La., Sept. 22, 1836.

11 bills of sale of slaves, 7 dated 1836, 4 dated 1837.

Bill to H. B. Vidal, Philadelphia, Nov. 17, 1836.

2 envelopes or cover, 1836.

Promissory note, Joseph Davis to Samuel Davis, \$1,500 (no interest), 1836.

Note of lawyer, H. S. Eustis, that he has received 4 notes for collection, Jan. 9, 1837.

Certification signed by Charles Lynch, Secretary of

State for Miss., Jan. 20, 1837, certifies that Nicholas McDougal was a Justice of the Peace for Claiborne County.

Bill of exchange, Henry Vidal to Lane Davis, \$17. Feb. 5, 1837.

Receipt of \$100 for information of a valuable Cypress swamp, Feb. 28, 1837.

Deed, heirs of James Moore to Samuel Davis, Mar. 1, 1837.

3 receipts for purchase price of lands entered at Land Office, Chocchuma, 1837.

Note on debts, Mar. 24, 1837.

Enclosure of receipts, Apr. 1837.

Resolved that Samuel Davis, one of the Directors of the (Planters Bank) be authorized to contract for a quantity not exceeding two thousand bales of cotton, May 22, 1837.

Sale of slaves after advertising in the *Courier and Journal*, Natchez, Aug. 5, 1837.

2 promissory notes, printed forms, Natchez, Dec. 5, 1836 and Dec. 8, 1837, signed by Samuel Davis and John Quitman.

9 land grants to Samuel Davis, et al, 1837, signed by Martin Van Buren.

Original and copies of slave bills of sale of slaves purchased by Samuel Davis from Richardson and Franklin, Co., Natchez, May 13, 1835 and Feb. 19, 1839.

Bill of sale of 2 slaves, Joe, aged about 14, and Catherine, aged about 14. Slave for Life to Samuel Davis. Printed bill of Sale of Slave.

10 bills issued by the Mississippi and Alabama Railroad co., 1837-1838.

Land plat and subsequent survey of land, Donaldsonville, and letter from surveyor relating to land owned by Samuel Davis in Lake Concordia region. 5 items, 1838-1839.

Bill, Henry Vidal, Natchez, for clothing. Jan., 1839.

Promissory note, Henry Vidal, for clothing, \$184. June 14, 1839.

Bill of sale of 18 year old slave girl, Yazoo County, Miss., Mar. 7, 1839.

Bill of sale of light yellow man, 22 years old, named John Harry. Purchased by Samuel Davis from William Parker, Apr. 5, 1839.

Bill of sale and receipt of two slaves, Jim, 35 years old, and Larry, 26, Mar. 11, 1839. Benjamin Osborn of Kentucky to Samuel Davis, Natchez.

Deed, James R. Perkins and wife, to Mary B. Perkins to Samuel Davis, Concordia Parish, May 13, 1839.

Deed of trust of Frederick Stanton to Adolphe A. Lacoste, copy, May 13, 1839.

Deed of exchange of Frederick Stanton to George Winchester, trustee for Frances E., June 30, 1839.

Letter, detailing \$2 million loan to be negotiated by Samuel Davis from Planters Bank of Natchez, June 15 and July 7, 1838.

Authorization for William Parker to sell slaves on behalf of William Gwin, Apr. 4, 1839.

Cheque drawn on Planters Bank of Natchez by J. D. Mandeville payable to Samuel Davis in the amount of \$300, July 9, 1838.

Planters Bank of Natchez, letters of resolutions regarding sale of bonds to Bank of America, June 7,

1838.

Extract from Minutes/ Planters Bank of Natchez, regarding engraving of official signature. June 20, 1838.

Extracts from Minutes, Planters Bank, authorizes Samuel Davis to effect a loan of \$500,000 on one and two years, Aug. 21, 1838. Also an authorization to effect loan in England or other foreign markets if necessary.

Letter authorizing Samuel Davis as trustee to transfer stocks from Planters to Commercial Bank, both at Natchez, signed by C. L. Wilkins, Feb. 16, 1839.

Certificate of Deposit from The Brandon Bank, May 13, 1839.

Note cosigned by Samuel Davis in the amount of \$3,300. Apr. 19, 1839.

Request for Samuel Davis to pay debt of \$50 for "it." Vidal, Jan. 15, 1839.

Statement regarding loan owed by William Parker, et al. Apr. 5, 1839.

Receipt of \$8,000 for Certificate of Deposit on The Brandon Bank, property of Samuel Davis, Dec. 3, 1839.

Promissory note to Samuel Davis in the amount of \$1,150, Natchez, Jan. 25, 1838.

Promissory note, Feb. 28, 1838, by Henry Vidal to E. W. Thomas in the amount of \$212.

Written cheque for \$200 to Henry Vidal, signed Samuel Davis.

Promissory note, Natchez, June 13, 1838.

Promissory note, Henry Vidal, Sept. 25, 1839.

Memorandum of Lands, regarding William and Mary Gwin, Oct. 26, 1838.

2        12        1840-1841    24 items:

Deed, William M. Gwin and Thomas Henderson, trustees to Samuel Davis attached printed statement of publication in Natchez Courier, 1841.

Promissory note, Horace B. Barbon, Vidalia, Sept. 22, 1840.

Promissory note, Henry Vidal, Feb. 24, 1840.

Bills of exchange, Samuel Davis, Feb. 12, Mar. 27, Feb. 24, 1840.

Note to King and Wilson regarding \$1,200, in Brandon Bank Stock certificates.

Demand against estate of James H. Claiborne by Samuel Davis in the amount of \$23,750.

Memorandum of lands, Samuel Davis, Feb. 12, Mar. 27, Feb. 24, 1840.

Letter, Denniston to Davis, New Orleans, Dec. 3, 1841, give 4 transfers of Arkansas Lands to Trustees (John Slidell, Thomas Slidell, and William Byrd Pagee.)

Statement of Lands in Arkansas and Mississippi on account with S. Davis and W. Gwin, Nov. 30, 1841.

Bill of sale of 4 slaves to Samuel Davis for \$3,200. Natchez, Apr. 29, 1841.

Bill of sale of 5 slaves, Edmund (30), Edmonia (11), Ann (4), George (2), and Simeon (50) to Samuel Davis, May 1, 1841.

Stock certificate, The Commercial Bank of Natchez, Mar. 25, 1840.

Stock certificate, Agricultural Bank of Mississippi, Natchez, Nov. 25, 1841.

Land grant to Samuel Davis signed by John Tyler, Nov. 25, 1841.

Fiver land grants to Samuel Davis signed by Martin Van Buren, 1840.

2 letters from General Land Office, Solicitors Bureau, Jan. 9, 13, 1840, pertaining to old Spanish claim of Joseph Vidal.

Memo to Samuel Davis of power of attorney for Eliza Gill, Natchez, Jan. 5, 1840.

A:68      3      13      1842-1848

26 items:

Letter from A. Denniston to Samuel Davis regarding land speculation in Arkansas. New Orleans, Jan. 11, 1842.

Receipt from Samuel Davis by Stephen Duncan, \$19,233.33 as executor of an estate.

11 promissory notes dated Sept. 1, 1842, from L. Julienne to Samuel Davis.

2 land grants signed by John Tyler on behalf of Ayres P. Merrill of Concordia Parish, Dec. 30, 1842.

Receipt of J. Lewis from S. Duncan, Apr. 20, 1843.

Receipt for Julienne's notes by A. Tucker, July 25, 1843.

Miscellaneous receipt, J. F. Lewis, May, 1843.

Receipt, Samuel Davis, on behalf of J. H. Claiborne, to Montgomery Boyd for \$23,750. Natchez, June 19, 1843.

Bill of sale of Washington, slave, by James A. Tucker, Vidalia, May 17, 1843.

Deed, John Ker, Trustee to Anna M. Linton, with receipt of *Courier and Journal* attached, Natchez, 1844.

Receipt, Samuel Davis, two notes for collection, notes made by William Parker and William M. Gwin, Feb. 22, 1845.

Miscellaneous report, Samuel Davis, for \$50, Natchez, Mar. 27, 1846.

Deed, Anna M. Linton to Samuel M. Davis, May 20, 1846.

Deed, Sheriff of Concordia Parish to Samuel Davis, June 10, 1846 (copy).

Sale of land by Judah T. Benjamin to Samuel Davis, Aug. 5, 1846.

Sale of land by Gabriel B. Shields to Samuel Davis, June 23, 1847.

3 miscellaneous notes, Feb. 1, 1848 to Nov. 21, 1849.

Agreement, "Atlantic, Lake, and Mississippi Telegram Range" "Louisville, Nashville, and New Orleans Telegraph," two shares. Samuel Davis, Original copy deposited with James Robb, Jan. 25, 1848.

3        14        1850-1859    48 items:

Deed of gift from Stephen Duncan and his wife of Adams County, Mississippi, of a plantation "Holly Ridge" and about 100 slaves, June 6, 1850.

Miscellaneous receipt, June 5, 1850, Baton Rouge, for \$50.

Deed from Stephen Duncan and his wife to Samuel Davis, Jan. 30, 1852.

Deed from sheriff to Samuel Davis, Concordia Parish, La., Apr. 1, 1852.

Miscellaneous receipt, May 10, 1852. (H. S. Custis)

Letter from Hermitage Plantation, signed by James Foster, Sept. 24, 1852. Discusses cotton, cholera, slaves, etc.

Receipt for Samuel Davis in the amount of \$40,000 from A. F. Wood, Natchez, Dec. 13, 1852.

Sale of plantation, "Lake Place" and 50 slaves by James Brown to Samuel Davis for \$67,400. Jan., 1853. Lists slaves with names, ages, and defects.

Miscellaneous calculations, Jan. 1, 1853.

Letter authorizing Eustace Surget to accept a deed for Palestine Plantation in Concordia Parish, Jan. 3, 1854. Signed "Francis Surget"

Last will and testament of Francis Surget, Sr., of Adams County, Mississippi. June 6, 1854.

Last will and testament of H. B. Shaw, Vidalia, La., June 6, 1852. Notes his desire to emancipate all his slaves.

Letter, Shaw to (?), Jan. 25, 1855, regarding litigation about a bicycle.

Letter, Jonathan Gilmore, June 1, 1855, regarding land location.

Letter, H. B. Shaw to F. Surget, Vidalia, La., June 11, 1855, regarding a loan of \$4,000.

Land transfer, Stephen Duncan to Samuel Davis, May 14, 1856.

Last will and testament of Francis Surget, May 29, 1856.

Certificate stating that a full and final settlement has been made of all business and pecuniary transactions between H. B. Shaw on account of D. Lattimore with Francis Surget, Sr., Natchez, Sept. 9, 1856.

Note from L. Blackburn proclaiming his willingness to return to the heirs of Francis Surget, slaves or compensation demanded, Dec. 23, 1856.

Check, executor of Surget estate to A. C. Holt, Natchez, Mar. 15, 1857.

Letter, Brinton to F. Surget regarding land, 1856.

Report to the Commissioners appointed by the Trustees

of Francis Surget to examine and appraise the lands belonging to the estate in Arkansas, Dec. 2, 1847, also contains misc. receipt for \$1,530.

12 lists and descriptions of land in various Arkansas counties owned by Surget and Ker.

Note from H. Hams noting that E. Surget got 5 plows and 4 sets of mules, Feb. 1858.

Note to Samuel Davis, lists of various requisitions, May 3, 1858.

Letter to Samuel Davis from L. Rehaushaer (?) enclosing \$5,000 in \$1,000 certificates each payable in 1859, 60, 61, 62, and 63. July 1, 1858.

Report on land sales by George Hancock, agent in Arkansas, Jan. 15, 1859.

Bill from surveyors office for \$28.

Bill and receipt for Surget's estate for \$43.

Account of sales of Surget lands, Mar. 25, 1859.

Memo of notes to Surget that were destroyed by the destruction of the Clerk's Office in Monroe County, Feb. 2, 1859.

List of lands sold for levee taxes in 1858. Apr. 4, 1859.

Boyd Bailey, Miles Knowlton, and Thomas Hawkins swear to appraise the lands fairly belonging to the heirs of Francis Surget, May 7, 1859.

Tax receipts of heirs of Surget estate (Francis and Eustace), Oct. 11, 1859.

Deed, transfer of land from Pete and Martha Halloran to Surget estate heirs, Nov. 8, 1859.

Tax receipt, Sheriff's Office, for Surget's heirs for payment of \$401.50 for state, county, etc., belongings. Phillips County, Ark. For \$220 from Surget heirs Nov. 26, 1859.

- 3        15        1860-1862    112 items:
- Tax notice from Sheriff's Office, Vidalia, for "Pittsfield" owned by Samuel Davis. 2,325 acres valued at \$84,000 and 164 slaves valued at \$80,400. Taxes \$2,485.20, paid Jan. 1860.
- Tax notice from Sheriff's Office, Vidalia, for "Mirven," owned by Samuel Davis, 1,545 acres valued at \$84,000 and 168 slaves valued at \$189,400. Taxes \$2,342.35. Paid, Jan. 1860.
- Statement of sales by George Hancock, agent of Francis and Eustace Surget, Jan. 31, 1860.
- Receipt for \$1,100 from Executors of Francis Surget estate, July 12, 1860.
- Miscellaneous receipt, Dr. Carter, Nov. 1860.
- Statement of account of Francis Surget, Esq., with Washington Jackson Co., Nov. 10, 1860.
- Miscellaneous receipt, Natchez, Dec. 30, 1860, regarding loans by executors of Surget estate.
- Levee Scrip to Dr. R. Carter, Concordia Parish, 1860, 5 certificates for \$392.
- Envelope, James Jackson of Liverpool, undated
- Statement of account of Vidalia Plantation (Carter) with William H. Fox, Wholesale and Retail Dealer and Importer of Drugs, Jan. 1, 1861, paid.
- Deed of sale by James H. Moore and wife to Samuel Davis, Jan. 2, 1861.
- Statement of account of Lake Plantation with A. L. Wilson and Co., Jan. 3, 1861.
- Statement of account of Vidalia Plantation with A. L. Wilson and Co., Jan. 3, 1861.
- Miscellaneous receipt, Natchez, Jan. 9, 1861, from Henry S. L. Charles (?).

Statement of account of Vidalia, Dr. Robert Carter with I. S. Meng. Co., Jan. 14, 1861.

Statement of account of Lake Plantation, Dr. Robert Carter with I. S. Meng. Co., Jan. 14, 1861.

Statement of account, Francis Surget with Washington, Jackson, and Co., Jan. 15, 1861.

Statement of account, Surget with Wash. Jack. Co., Jan. 16, 1861.

Transfer of deed from Stephen Duncan to Charlotte B. Davis.

Statement of Acct., Surget with W. J. Co., Mar. 25, 1861.

Statement of Acct., Dr. Robert Carter with A. L. Wilson and co, Apr. 17, 1861, paid.

Statement of Acct., Surget with W. J. Co., Apr. 23, 1861.

Statement of Acct., Surget with W. J. Co., June 5, 1861.

Letter, James Jackson to Dr. Robert Carter, Liverpool, June 15, 1861.

Statement, Carter with Jackson Co., Liverpool, June 15, 1861.

Miscellaneous bill for lumber, Carter, Natchez, July 2, 1861.

Statement, Dr. Carter with William H. Fox, July 15, 1861.

Statement, W. J. and Co. with R. G. Latting and Co., New Orleans, Sept. 1, 1861.

Statement, W. J. and Co. with W. L. Lanier and Co., Sept. 16, 1861.

Statement, Surget with W. J. and Co., Sept. 17, 1861.

Receipt for \$600 wages paid by Dr. Carter, Oct. 1, 1861.

Miscellaneous receipt, Dr. Carter, Natchez, Oct. 23, 1861.

Receipt for Dr. Carter of partial payment for a small carriage, Oct. 23, 1861.

Miscellaneous promissory note signed by Carter, Natchez, Oct. 23, 1861.

Letter, Elijah Suitre to Dr. Carter, Oct. 27, 1861.

Miscellaneous receipt for \$600, Carter from William Thamos.

Miscellaneous receipt, \$300, Carter, Natchez, Nov. 6, 1861.

Statement of acct., Dr. Carter with Thomas C. Redd (dry goods), Natchez, Nov. 18, 1861.

Statement of acct., Dr. Carter with W. J. and Co., Nov. 15, 1861.

Letter, J. Jackson to Dr. Carter regarding Austrian consul (?), New Orleans, Nov. 1861.

Statement of Acct., Robert Carter with I. Norman Jackson, Nov. 16, 1861.

Statement of I. Norman Jackson with W. L. Lanier and Co., Nov. 21, 1861.

Promissory note, Robert Carter to Eugene David, Nov. 23, 1861.

Miscellaneous receipt, Mrs. Carter, Dec. 4, 1861.

Miscellaneous receipt, Dr. Carter, Dec. 14, 1861.

Statement of taxes due by Samuel Davis on land and personal property in Issaquena County, Miss., for 1861.

Promissory note to Samuel Davis, July 20, 1861.

Empty envelope, 1861.

Receipt from Robert Carter, \$180 for 15 sows and 90 pigs, Jan. 25, 1862.

Tax notice, sheriff's office, Vidalia, Dr. Robert Carter, noting taxes owed for property on "Vidalia" and "Lake."

Sale of 262 bales of cotton, Dr. Robert Carter, Feb. 6, 1862.

Statement of Acct. with Chas Green and Co., Dr. Robert Carter, for coal \$244.25, Feb. 7, 1862, paid.

Statement of Acct., Robert Carter with J. B. Baker, Feb. 10, 1862, paid.

Receipt, Carter from I. S. Meng and Co., Feb. 10, 1862.

Miscellaneous receipt, Carter from Elizabeth Marks, Feb. 10, 1862.

Miscellaneous receipt, Carter from B. A. Barker, Natchez, Feb. 11, 1862.

Statement, Dr. Carter with E. Kibble, Feb. 11, 1862.

Statement, J. N. Jackson with Eaton and Betterton, Feb. 13, 1862.

Statement, J. N. Jackson with J. A. Haggerty and Co., dealers in Begging and Rope, New Orleans, Feb. 13, 1862.

Statement, Vidalia Plantation (Carter) with William Fox, Feb. 17, 1862.

Miscellaneous receipt, Carter, Feb. 17, 1862

Statement, Robert Carter with AJWC Wheelock, Feb. 17, 1862.

Miscellaneous receipt, Carter from William Fox, Feb.

17, 1862.

Statement, Vidalia Plantation (Carter) with William H. Fox (?), Feb. 17, 1862.

Statement, Robert Carter with Thomas C. Reddy, Natchez, Feb. 18, 1862.

Statement, Carter with G. B. Churchill and Co., The Natchez Iron Foundry, Feb. 18, 1862.

Receipt to Carter from Parker, Feb. 18, 1862.

Statement, Carter with Walker and Collins, Feb. 18, 1862.

Miscellaneous receipt, Carter, Feb. 22, 1862.

Miscellaneous receipt, Carter from Boyd, Feb. 24, 1862.

Misc. receipt, Vidalia, Feb. 28, 1862.

Misc. receipt, Carter from Wheelock, Mar. 5, 1862.

Misc. receipt, Robert Carter, Mar. 5, 1862.

3 misc. receipts, Mar. 6, 1862.

Statement, Carter with Thomas C. Reddy and Co., Natchez, Mar. 18, 1862.

Statement, Carter with J. Mayer and Son.

Misc. torn receipt, Mar. 16, 1862.

Misc. receipt, Carter, Mar. 26, 1862.

Certificate of Proof of payment of taxes, Mar. 29, 1862.

Statement, Carter with Hewit and Coulson, Mar. 29, 1862.

Receipt from Robert Carter, \$200 to buy beef in Texas.

Misc. receipt, Natchez, Apr. 6, 1862, Carter.

Statement of account, Carter with Postlethwaite, Dealer in Fancy and Dry Goods, Apr. 12, 1862.

Misc. receipt, Carter, Apr. 22, 1862.

Misc. receipt, Carter from Wheelock, Apr. 26, 1862.

Misc. note, Apr. 26, 1862.

Statement, Carter with George MacPherson, dealer in fine watches, jewelry, plated ware, and cutlery. Apr. 30, 1862.

Statement, Carter with Forbes, May 10, 1862.

Note declaring sum of \$100 for Samuel Davis from Public interstate.

Promissory note of S. Davis from Wm. S. Lyle, June 3, 1862.

Misc. paper in silver mining, June 13, 1862.

War Tax receipt, in the amount of \$630, June 25, 1862.

Misc. statement, Carter with E. B. Mezeix, July 18, 1828.

Misc. receipt, Carter, 1862.

Misc. receipt for soda, Mrs. Carter, Oct. 14, 1862.

Statement, Robert Carter with James A. Jackson.

Memorandum of an agreement between Robert Carter and Frederick Scheuber to act as a substitute in the Confederate service, Oct. 23, 1862.

2 newspaper clippings, one on the army and the other on substitutes.

Statement in account with W. T. Welden, Robert Carter, Natchez, Nov. 15, 1862. Paid.

Statement with James Canadine, Robert, Carter, Nov.

17, 1862, paid.

Misc. receipt for beef cattle, Robert Carter, Nov. 17, 1862.

Statement of Carter with William H. Fox, Nov., 1862.

4 Misc. receipts, Carter, Dec. 11 and 12, 1862.

Misc. receipt for wages on Lake Plantation, Carter, Dec. 12, 1862.

Misc. receipt, Carter, Dec. 16, 1862.

Statement, Fleivitt and Coulson with Robert Carter, Dec. 21, 1862. Paid.

3        16        1863-1866

60 items:

Deed, Samuel M. Davis to Charlotte B. Davis, also includes transfer of slaves and livestock, Jan. 1, 1863.

Receipt for payment of \$3,000 to Frank Reilly to act as a substitute in the Confederate army, Jan. 2, 1863.

Statement, Robert Carter with Jason A. Coulson and co., Manufacturers and Dealers in Fashionable, Ready-Made Clothing for Wesley, 1 suit, Jan. 9, 1863.

Statement, Robert Carter with Clark, Feb. 7, 1863.

Letter to Samuel Davis regarding loan of \$3,300, Mar. 2, 1863.

Misc. receipt, Mrs. Carter, Mar. 5, 1863.

Misc. receipt, Robert Carter, Mar. 6, 1863.

2 statements, Carter, A. L. Wilson and Co., Mar. 12 and 16, 1863.

Letter, Mar. 16, 1863, signed Gal B. Shilot (?)

Statement, A. L. Wilson and Co. with Robert Carter, Mar. 23, 1863.

Statement, Livingston and Routree with Robert Carter,

Natchez, Mar. 28, 1863.

Receipt from *Richard Enquirer* for a year subscription from Apr. 8, 1863 to Apr. 8, 1864.

Statement, P. Walsh with Robert Carter, Apr. 16, 1863.

Misc. receipt, signature indecipherable, Apr. 18, 1863.

Letter to Samuel Davis from G. G. Stevens, Montgomery, Al., Apr. 25, 1863. Notes that Louisiana is almost entirely lost to the Confederacy.

Statement, S. A. Junkins with Mrs. R. Carter, Natchez, Apr. 27, 1863.

Statement, Dr. F. E. Lewis with Dr. Carter, Natchez, May 25, 1863.

Bill of exchange transferred three times, Apr. 26, 1863, from Capt. Powell, Quartermaster at Natchez.

3 statements, Lake and Vidalia Plantation, (Dr. Carter) with William A. Fox, Apr. 27, 1863.

Receipt from P. Walsh for Robert Carter, Natchez, Apr. 30, 1863.

Letter to Samuel Davis, Montgomery, Al., May 12, 1863. Writer comments on the nature of the war.

Receipt, Robert Carter with A. L. Wilson Co., May 14, 1863.

Misc. statement and receipt, Dr. Carter, May 16, 1863.

Receipt for 1 month's subscription to the *Natchez Daily Courier*, May 16, 1863 to June 16, 1863.

2 statements and receipts, A. L. Wilson Co. with Dr. Carter, May 21, 1863.

4 misc. receipts, May 31, June 1, 5, 13, 18, 1863, Dr. Carter.

Order directing Carter to send 1/3 of his male slaves

between the ages of 18 and 50 equipped for working on public defenses to Harrisonburg, La., Natchez, June 17, 1863

Statement, Sara e. O'Donnell with Carter for clothing alterations and supplies, July 1, 1863.

Statement, David Turner with Dr. Carter for shoes and sharpening of ploughs, July 1, 1863.

Statement, N. Douman (?) with Mr. Carter for making and icing cakes, Natchez, Aug. 7, 1863.

Two fragmentary statements about amount of cotton shipped, New Orleans, Oct. 24, 1863.

Three receipts attached, Nov. 15, 22, and Dec. 2, 1863, Christierne Scheuber, from Robert Carter.

Statement, John Mayer and Son with Robert Carter, Jan. 1, 1864, paid.

Agreement between Samuel M. Davis of Natchez and John S. Harris of Milwaukee for the latter to lease Pittsfield Plantation together with livestock and implements for one year for rent of \$15,000 in two payments \$10,000 to be paid no later than Dec. 1, 1864. Dated Jan. 18, 1864.

2 misc. receipts, Jan. 8, 1866, signed by Robert Ribers (clerk for Robert Carter).

Memorandum of collections, Jan. 1866, partly illegible, letter to F. Surget Esq. from George Hancock, Memphis, Tenn., Feb. 1, 1866. Notes the terrible devastation brought by the war and the abundance of collectors seeking to foreclose.

Real Estate Bank extract from Gordon W. Peays letter of Feb. 15, 1866.

Memo of collection by George Hancock for F. Surget, Esq., Apr. 12, 1866.

Letter, George Hancock to F. Surget, Esq. notes that Jackson is underwater due to recent flooding and that he

his encountering considerable difficulty in getting payment on notes.

Receipt for repairs made at Vidalia Plantation by Eliza Smith, signed by John Lockwood, May 7, 1866.

2 letters from Elijah Smith, one of July 4, 1866, other Oct. 18, 1866, relating to land sales in Natchez and a trip upriver from New Orleans to Natchez.

Note from Robert Carter relating to taxes, 1866.

2 empty envelopes, one dated 1866 and another undated.

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|---|----|-----------|---|
| 3 | 17 | 1867-1869 | 20 items:<br>Tax notice, Concordia Parish for Samuel M. Davis for Pittsfield and Mirven Plantations, Jan., 1867.<br><br>Empty envelope with notation about settlement with Elijah Smith (agent in the South), inscribed January, 1867.<br><br>Letter from Elijah Smith to Magna (?) discussing depressed conditions on the plantations, small cotton crop and extremely cold weather, notes unwillingness of slaves to work or work for shares, Natchez, Jan. 5, 1861.<br><br>Letter from Elijah Smith to Magna on letterhead of Office of Elliot and McKeeber, Commission Merchants, New Orleans, Jan. 21, 1864. |
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|---|----|---------|--|
| 3 | 18 | undated | 28 items:<br>Business papers, account sheets |
|---|----|---------|--|

**Manuscript Volumes**

Vol.1 1837-1856

Francis Surget Journal

Vol.2 1843-1853

Samuel Davis Journal

Vol.3 1838-1839

Francis Surget Passport

**Cross References**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description of relevant documents</b>
Carter, Robert.	1860s	owner of Lake and Vidalia Plantations in the 1860s, his papers concern his cotton planting activities, during and after the war.
Confederate States of America. Army-- Recruiting, enlistment, etc.	Oct. 23, 1863	memorandum of an agreement between Robert Carter and Frederick Scheuber to act as a substitute in the Confederate service.
Davis, Samuel.	1814-ca. 1860s	papers of the son-in-law of Joseph Vidal. Davis was a planter, banker, and land speculator and these papers refer to his plantations near Vidalia.
Land speculation-- Arkansas.	1835-1860	miscellaneous papers pertaining to the land speculations of Francis Surget in various counties in Arkansas.
Land speculation-- Louisiana--Concordia Parish.	1797-1869	papers of Joseph Vidal, Samuel Davis, and Francis Surget, planters, bankers, and speculators in Concordia Parish, near Vidalia
Natchez (Miss.)--History.	1797-1869	papers of Joseph Vidal, Samuel Davis, and Francis Surget, planters, bankers, and speculators in Concordia Parish, near Vidalia
Nolan, Philip, 1771-1801.	Oct. 4, 1800	letter of Josef Vidal to Winthrop Sargent, governor of Mississippi Territory refers to impending expedition by Nolan into Spanish territory (Nolan is not the subject of "The Man Without a Country," best known tale of Edward Everett Halle)
Plantations--Louisiana-- Concordia Parish.	1797-1869	papers of Samuel Davis and Joseph Vidal, owners of the Lake and Vidalia Plantations. Also included are the papers of Francis Surget who was a planter and large land speculator.
Slaves--Employment-- Louisiana.	June 17, 1863	order directing Dr. Robert Carter to send 1/3 of his male slaves between the ages of 18 and 50, equipped for working on public defenses at Harrisonburg, Louisiana.

**JOSEPH VIDAL AND FAMILY PAPERS**  
(1797-1869)-1936

**Mss. 432**  
**LSU Libraries Special Collections**

Slaves--Louisiana-- Concordia Parish.	1835-1860	numerous slave sales and purchases made by Samuel Davis and Francis Surget.
Slaves--Mississippi-- Natchez.	1835-1860	numerous slave sales and purchases made by Samuel Davis and Francis Surget.
Surget, Francis, d. 1856.	1837- ca. 1860s	papers and journal of a planter and land speculator whose extensive holdings in Louisiana and Arkansas and more than 10,000 slaves made him one of the largest slaveholders and planters in the ante-bellum South.
United States. Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands.	Dec. 1, 1867	letter of Elijah Smith reports unfavorably on the Bureau and suggests that the difficulty in finding labor may force him to convert from growing cotton to hay.
Vidal, José.	1795-ca. 1830	papers of the secretary to the Governor of Spanish Natchez, Manuel Gayoso de Lemos. Vidal was later Commandant of the Post of Concordia and in later life, a planter.

**Container List**

<b><u>Stack</u></b> <b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Box</u></b>	<b><u>Folder(s)</u></b>	<b><u>Contents (with dates)</u></b>
A:68	1	1-7	1797-1829
	2	8-12	1830-1841
A:69	3	13-18	[1842-1869]-1936, undated
	4	--	Vols.1-3, 1837-1856
Vault: MRDF 6			1 computer disk
Vault 1		1	Phillip Nolan document (restricted)
Microfilm:5322, Series I, part 3,		Reels 11- 12	