

See also UPA Microfilm:

MF 5322, Series I, Part 2, Reels 13-14

Nancy Pinson Papers

(Mss. 828, 1255)

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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Use of manuscript materials. If you wish to examine items in the manuscript group, please fill out a call slip specifying the materials you wish to see. Consult the Container List for location information needed on the call slip.

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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

Size.	606 items
Geographic locations.	Wilkinson County, Miss.; Columbia, Tenn.; New Orleans, La.; Jackson, La.
Inclusive dates.	1820-1890
Bulk dates.	1835-1871
Language.	English
Summary.	Correspondence and business papers of the Pinson family, planters of Woodville, Mississippi, including bills, receipts, and letters referring to slave riots, the cotton trade, cholera, and family matters. Also included are statements from cotton brokers in New Orleans, contracts with freedmen, and a slave list. The papers reflect a plantation economy managed by a woman planter.
Organization.	Chronological.
Restrictions on access.	If microfilm is available, photocopies must be made from microfilm.
Related collections.	N/A
Copyright.	Copyright of the original materials is retained by descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. copyright law.
Citation.	Nancy Pinson Papers, Mss. 828, 1255, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Stack location(s).	C:62
Also available on:	Microfilm 5322, Series I, Part 2, Reels 13-14 Omission: 1866-1872

Biographical/Historical Note

Mrs. Nancy Williams Pinson was a planter in Woodville, Wilkinson County, Mississippi. Her children include David V., Elizabeth, and Daniel B. Pinson.

Scope and Content Note

The collection contains correspondence, financial, legal, and other personal papers of the Pinsons, a planter family of Woodville, Mississippi, headed by Nancy Pinson. Personal papers consist mostly of correspondence relating family news, and a number of letters are to Nancy Pinson from her son David V. Pinson at school in Columbia, Tennessee. One letter from Daniel B. Pinson tells of his possible departure from New Orleans for California in 1849. Bills for merchandise and letters and statements from cotton brokers in New Orleans comprise the majority of financial papers and deal with prices and sales of cotton. Legal papers consist of sales of slaves, sales of land, contracts, including with freedmen, and various documents pertaining to the settlement of estates.

Series Descriptions

[The collection is arranged chronologically, but like items are described in groups below.
See the Container List for description reflecting physical arrangement]

Series I, Personal Papers, 1840-1890, undated

Personal papers consist mostly of family correspondence. A number of letters are written to Nancy Pinson from her son David V. Pinson at school in Columbia, Tennessee. In the letters, he expresses his homesickness, enquires about friends and family at home, and discusses his classes (1840). Later letters to Nancy Pinson from her nephew D.V. Williams discuss money issues and the education of Sarah Jane (1847), and a letter from Daniel B. Pinson to Elizabeth discusses the hiring of his slave for levee work in New Orleans, and of his own possible departure to California (1849). Other family correspondence includes a letter from Laura to her aunt Sarah in which she describes her Christmas gifts that year and her health and that of her sister (1858), letters to S.A. Pinson from her sister Mollie discussing the health of various family members (1871, undated), and from her other sister Jennie discussing the same (undated). Finally a letter from Nellie C. Adams in Illinois to her cousin Flora asks about news from family members in New Orleans (1890).

Also included in the collection are an unsigned and untitled poem (undated) and a list of newly purchased slaves (undated).

Series II, Financial Papers, 1820-1890, undated

The majority of financial papers deals with prices and sales of cotton and is addressed to Nancy or Daniel B. Pinson. These papers include a promissory note signed by Daniel Pinson (1820), a number of letters to Nancy Pinson discussing shipments and sales of cotton from Williams & Lee (1834) and Lee & Hardy (1836-1843), and various account sheets (1835-1847). A receipt of David V. Pinson comes from a barber in Wilkinson County (1847), while doctor and dentist bills of Elizabeth Pinson and list the number of visits and charges made (1847-1850). Receipts from blacksmiths in Wilkinson County record payments for buggy and carriage repairs (1845-1852). Other documents such as bank statements, lists of cotton prices, and receipts from New Orleans merchants are included, as are a number of business letters to Daniel B. Pinson from cotton factors around Louisiana, in particular Gallagher, Wailes, & Co. (1844-1865). Receipts also come from Turnbull's Depot in West Feliciana Parish for the storage of sugar, pork, cotton, salt and other items (1868-1870). Other similar receipts, invoices, and business letters are addressed to Mrs. S.A. Pinson (1866-1890). Business cards from various cotton factors and commission merchants around Louisiana are also included (undated).

Series III, Legal Papers, 1833-1871, undated

Legal papers consist of sales of slaves, sales of land, contracts, and various documents pertaining to estates. A bill of sale records the purchase of ten slaves by Nancy Pinson from R.D. Williams (1833) and a labor contract between Nancy and S.A. Pinson and African-American men states salary and compensation for work (1867). Legal correspondence includes letters between Daniel Pinson and William K. Poston which discuss legal issues over land (1855-1858), letters to Daniel Pinson from D.O. Williams concerning his children (1850-1854), and letters to N. and S.A. Pinson from H.S. Van Eaton discussing a legal case with Judge McGehee (1869-1871). Legal documents such as a bill of sale of land to Nancy Pinson from the heirs of Isaac Williams are included (1838), as is a copy of the settlement of Nancy Pinson and J.O. Williams, administer of D.B. Pinson, deceased (1840). A number of documents as well as some correspondence pertain to a case between the Williams heirs and Pinson heirs (1845), including a statement of compromise among the heirs in which funds are divided (1848-1849).

Cross References

Subject	Date	Description of relevant documents
Banks and banking-- Louisiana--New Orleans.	1839	Suspension of specie payments caused decline in cotton prices. G. M. Lee, Oct. 26, 1839. New Orleans.
Banks and banking-- Mississippi--Woodville.	1871	Payment of taxes offered at liberal discount by Keller and Cohen. Oct. 18, 1871. Woodville.
Barbers--Mississippi-- Wilkinson County.	1847	Receipted bill of David V. Pinson for hair cut, shaves, and cigars.
Blacksmiths--Mississippi-- Wilkinson County.	1845, 1847, 1852	Receipts for payments for buggy and carriage repairs to wheel from Alexander Johnston, Crambert and Co., and John G. Reinhard.
California--Gold discoveries.	1849	Intention of Daniel B. Pinson to leave New Orleans within 10 to 15 days. March 10.
Carriage manufacturers and dealers--Louisiana--Baton Rouge.	1850	Bill to estate of D. B. Pinson for iron railing.
Carriage manufacturers and dealers--Louisiana--New Orleans.	1858, 1867	Receipt for payment of \$275 for buggy with harness and whip. J. A. Lum and Co., Dec. 16, 1858; carriage shipped by R. March Denman and Co., Apr. [27], 1867.
Children--Correspondence.	1858	Mentions family news and Christmas gifts to aunt. Dec. 28.
Cholera--Kentucky-- Louisville.	1849	Promptness of citizens and city authorities to cleanse city checked disease. 15 th of [no month].
Commercial products-- Louisiana.	1835-1874, 1890, undated	Miscellaneous bills and receipts for purchases of groceries, meat, hardware, cutlery, cloth, clothing, drugs, notions, candles, books, rope, whiskey, tobacco, shoes, seed, guns, and other items.
Commercial products-- Mississippi.	1835-1874, 1890, undated	Miscellaneous bills and receipts for purchases of groceries, meat, hardware, cutlery, cloth, clothing, drugs, notions, candles, books, rope, whiskey, tobacco, shoes, seed, guns, and other items.

Subject	Date	Description of relevant documents
Commission merchants-- Louisiana--New Orleans.	1826-1873, undated	<p>Lee and Williams. 1826. 1 item. J. O. Williams. 1834. 1 item. J. Leblanc and Co. 1835. 1 item. Lee and Hardy. 1836-1838. 35 items. G. M. Lee. 1839-1841. 19 items. Curtis and Wailes. 1841. 1 item. Schmidt and Co. 1842. 1 item. Payne, Marrison, and Co. 1842-1843. 3 items. P. A Hardy and Co. 1842-1843. 5 items. Backus, Gobb, and co. 1843. 1 item. W. H. Haynes. 1844. 1 item. J. P. Overton. 1844-1845. 3 items. J. Bonners. 1845. 1 item. Ward, Jonas, and Co. 1847-1849. 4 items. McKee, Buckley, and Co. 1847. 1 item. Wright, Williams, and Co. 1848-1852. 8 items. A. W. Ballard. 1853. 1 item. John M. Lee. 1853-1854. 3 items. John L. Lee. 1855. 2 items. N. Scudder. 1858. 1 item. Wailes and Dyer. 1859. 9 items. Gallagher, Wailes, and Co. 1859-1861. 26 items. Jurey and Harris. 1859, 1866-1871, undated 142 items. Gallagher and Dyer. 1860-1861. 3 items. Jurey and Co. 1866. 5 items. J. L. Harris. 1872-1873. 2 items. Charles Gallagher. undated 1 item.</p>
Commission merchants-- Mississippi--Woodville.	1825, 1843- 1846	Black and Mure. 18 items.
Cottonseed--Mississippi-- Wilkinson County.	1858	Receipt for payment of \$20 for 1 bushel. May 10.
Dentistry--Mississippi-- Wilkinson County.	1847, 1850	<p>Receipted bill for cleaning, filling, inserting pivot, and making separation. O. H. Brocklebank, Apr. 26, 1847; Receipted bill for extraction and blistering ointment. John B. Draughon, Mar. 6, 1850.</p>

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Drugs--Mississippi--Wilkinson County.	1842-1870	Received bills from the following: C. H. Stone. 1842-1845. 4 items. W. W. Ives. 1844. 1 item. Wright and Elder. 1853, 1866. 2 items. J. R. Verry. 1870. 1 item. Robinson and Cresswell. 1870. 1 item.
Dunlan, E. H.	1845	Received bill for payment by D. V. Pinson for room, meals, and horse. Nov. 17.
Freedmen--Mississippi--Wilkinson County.	1867, 1869, undated	Contracts with N. and S. A. Pinson, Jan. 100 and Feb. 1, 1867; and Jan. 18, 1869; and with Mrs. R. S. Brown, undated
Gunsmiths--Mississippi--Wilkinson County.	1853	Received bill for double barrel gun, rod scraper, percussion caps, and canister powder, Jan. 1.
Hides and skins--Mississippi--Wilkinson County.	1844, 1849, 1865	Received bills for payment of skins, Oct. 25, 1844; Feb. 20, 1849; Credit on account for payments in hides, Apr. 21, 1865.
Hotelkeepers.	1845	Received bill for payment by D. V. Pinson for room, meals, and horse. Nov. 17.
Louisiana National Bank of New Orleans.	1880	Account of R. K. Howell of Bayou Sara. July 1.
McGehee, Edward.	1851-1871	Accounts with Pinson family; Pinson correspondence with Van Eaton concerns legal matter involving Judge McGehee, Wilkinson County, Woodville.
Medical fees--Louisiana--Whiteville.	1847	Itemized bill for medical services including prescriptions, cupping, drugs, injections, and medical visits. Mar. 10.
Merchants--Louisiana--New Orleans.	1841, 1858-1874, undated	Received bills for purchases of dry goods, shoes, and clothing from the following: Cordeviolle and Lacroix. 1841. 1 item. Taylor, Knapp, and Co. 1858. 1 item. F. Malard and Co. 1858. 1 item. Meyer, Hofman, and Co. 1859. 1 item. D. H. Holmes. 1874. J. Levois and Jamison. 1874. 1 item. E. Reily and Co. undated

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Merchants--Louisiana-- Turnbull's Depot.	1868-1870	Receipted bills for storage of sugar, pork, saddle, oats, cotton, salt, and other items. 14 items.
Merchants--Louisiana--West Feliciana Parish.	1835, 1874-1890 undated	Receipted bills for payment of groceries, dry goods, and other items. Robinson Mumford. 1835, 1838. 2 items. Barrow and Wilson. 1842. 1 item. James Blackburn. 1845. 1 item. D. Hirsch. 1865. 1 item. S. Meyers. 1866. 1 item. Whitman Bros. 1866-1870. 21 items. E. H. Whitman. 1874. 1 item. Julius Freyhan and Co. 1890. 1 item. C. H. Russel and Co. undated 1 item.
Merchants--Mississippi-- Woodville.	1842-1870	C. A. Balkley. 1842. 1 item. A. Leffingwill. 1843-1846; 1860-1862. 6 items. Goodrich. 1844-1845. 2 items. McKee and Iles. 1845. 2 items. M. R. Wendell. 1846. 1 item. John McKeel. 1846-1847. 2 items. Charles Ourey and Bro. 1859. 1 item. Cohen and Newell. 1860. 1 item. Jacob Cohen. 1860. 1 item. Kaiser and Bryan. 1860, 1862. 2 items. D. L. Phares. 1862. 2 items. K. Mandell. 1866-1867. 2 items. Mrs. R. S. Brown. 1867. 1 item. Karl Kothe. 1870. 1 item.
Mississippi. Superior Court of Chancery.	ca. 1834, 1845.	D. O. Williams v. Nancy Pinson. Hinds County (?), ca. 1834. Daniel Williams et al v. Nancy Pinson et al. Wilkinson County, Nov. 16, 1845.
New Orleans (La.)-- Economic conditions--19th century.	1837-1870	Factors' comments on tight money market and personal hardships, Apr. 24 and May 18, 1837, Aug. 3, 1870; effect on European news, advance in foreign freight rates and decline in exchange on cotton market, Aug. 27, 1839, May 7, 1840, Nov. 22, 1845, Aug. 28, 1848, June 3, 1859, and Nov. 18, 1870; demand for cotton, July 3, Sept. 30, Oct. 25, and Nov. 22, 1837; Apr. 9, 1838; Sept. 13 and 30, Nov. 16 and 28, and Dec. 24, 1839; Jan. 26, 1841; Apr. 8 and 12, 1859.

Subject	Date	Description of relevant documents
Norwood, A. T.	1870	Agreement with freeman for use of mule. Feb. 28.
Piano--Louisiana--New Orleans.	1853	Comments on present supply of pianos and yearly arrival in September and October, July 18; mentions ability to ship one of "fine American manufacture," Dec. 29. 2 letters by Lee and Hardy.
Pinson, David V.-- Correspondence.	1840	Comments on homesickness, need for money, financial hardships, desire to return home, and willingness to work. Mar. 18, Apr. 16, June 24, July 3, and Nov. 14.
Plantation owners-- Mississippi--Wilkinson County.	1820-1890, undated	Correspondence and business papers of Daniel B. Pinson family contain bills for merchandise, freight, and medical services; letters and statements of account from New Orleans factors; freedmen's contracts; and a few family letters.
Pleasant Grove Plantation (Miss.)	1820-1890, undated	Correspondence and business papers of Daniel B. Pinson family contain bills for merchandise, freight, and medical services; letters and statements of account from New Orleans factors; freedmen's contracts; and a few family letters; Receipt for \$400 for payment of services from December 8, 1863 to June 8, 1865, signed by A. D. Thomas.
Schwarz and Lehman.	1853	Receipted bill for double barrel gun, rod scraper, percussion caps, and canister powder, Jan. 1.
Slave trade--Mississippi--Wilkinson County.	1833, 1837	Purchase of 10 slaves for \$5,000 from R. D. Williams by Nancy Pinson. Jan. 14, 1833; Sale of 2 women for \$1,800 signed by Daniel Williams. Mar. 25, 1837.
Slaves.	undated	List of recently purchased slaves and "increase."
Slaves--Employment-- Louisiana--New Orleans.	1849	Slave hired for levee work at \$1.50 a day; services of slave partially engaged to steamboat, "Mohawk." Daniel B. Pinson, Mar. 10.
St. Charles Hotel (New Orleans, La.)	1848	Receipted bill for board, tea, and breakfast. Apr. 23.

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Subject	Date	Description of relevant documents
Taxation--Mississippi--Wilkinson County.	1867	Receipts signed by M. M. Phares, Sheriff and Tax Collector, for charges on 1,250 acres and 20 heads of cattle, June 5, and on 5 freedmen, June 26.
Tunnard, W. F.	1850	Bill to estate of D. B. Pinson for iron railing.
Turnbull, A. M.	1868-1870	Receipted bills for storage of sugar, pork, saddle, oats, cotton, salt, and other items. 14 items.
Van Eaton, H. S.	1868-1869, 1870-1871	Comments on collection of funds due K. Mandell and compromise offered. Nov. 17 and Dec. 19, 1868. 2 items; Comments on progress of legal case against Judge McGehee, decision of court, and compromise offered by him. Dec. 19, 1868, Jan. 4, Sept. 25, Nov. 20, 1859; Jan. 31, Feb. 4, and June 27, 1870; Apr. 20 and May 30, 1871.
West Feliciana Railroad Company.	1847-1870	Freight bills to estate of D. B. Pinson, and N. and S. A. Pinson, July 31, 1847; Nov. 22, 1848; May 31, 1851; Apr. 6, 1859; Mar. 25, 1861; Jan. 28, 30, 31, Feb. 8-9, 28; Mar. 4, 31; Apr. 1, 8; May 18, 23; June 22; July 8, 16; Aug. 21; Sept. 1867; Mar. 8, 1869; and 1870 (4 items).
Women plantation owners--Mississippi--Wilkinson County.	1825-1872	Correspondence and business papers include bills for merchandise, letters and statements of account from New Orleans factors, freedmen's contracts, and a few family letters.
Woodville Manufacturing Co.	1860-1861	Receipts for wool and bales of cotton sent to factory. Feb. 27, 1860 and Mar. 6, 1861.

Container List

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
C:62	1	1-8	1820-1845
	2	9-16	1846-1866
	3	17-24	1867-1890, undated
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