

**MILES TERRELL AND FAMILY PAPERS**

Mss. 843

Inventory

By Luana Henderson

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections

Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library

Louisiana State University Libraries

Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

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**Summary**

**Size** 317 items.

**Geographic Locations** Louisiana, Texas, Alabama, New Mexico.

**Inclusive Dates** 1859-1929.

**Languages** English.

**Summary** Financial papers, personal correspondence, legal documents and printed material of the Miles Terrell family of Rapides Parish, La.

**Access Restrictions** No restrictions on access.

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**Citation** Miles Terrell and Family Papers, Mss. 843, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

**Stack Location** B:25

**Biographical/Historical Note**

Miles Terrell (d. 1879) was a free African American planter of Rapides Parish, La. He married Sarah Metoyer, a free woman of color and the daughter of Joseph J. Metoyer. Their children included Frank, Gloucester (b. 1872), Marion (b. 1875), Effie and Amos.

### Scope and Content Note

Financial papers compose most of the early papers (1859-1891) and personal correspondence comprises a large portion of the later papers (1892-1929, undated). Financial papers include promissory notes, bills, receipts for merchandise, receipts for loan payments, tax receipts and accounts for merchandise. Collection also contains legal documents and printed material.

Early papers (1859-1879) are those of Miles Terrell and include a petition submitted by Terrell's creditors to the 13<sup>th</sup> District Court of Rapides Parish for nonpayment of debt (Oct. 15, 1860) and subpoenas issued by the Clerk of Court concerning his failure to pay judgments ordered by the court (Oct. 20, 1860; Jan. 27, 1875). Papers also contain a letter fragment concerning the seizure of property (Oct. 6, 1873) and voter registration certificates (Oct. 13, 17, 1868; Oct. 3, 1870; Sept. 14, 1874).

Papers after 1880 are those of Sarah Terrell, and they consist of financial papers, correspondence and printed material. Personal correspondence from family members begins in 1892 and continues through the remainder of the collection. Letters discuss family activities, farming and the health of family members and friends. In 1894, Frank Terrell was indicted for murder. During that period, his letters concern his legal and financial problems. A letter to John Blackwell of Rapides Parish discusses Frank's bail; it also reports that both Frank and his wife have been jailed (May 4, 1894). Sarah's father, Joseph Metoyer, comments on the occurrence of smallpox in Henryville and Provencal, La. (March 22, 1896). Her sister, Agnes, mentions picking cotton (Aug. 8, 1905). Josephine Morgan describes the landscape surrounding her home near Mobile, Ala. Her widowed son-in-law writes from New Mexico about the benefits of traveling (Sept. 22, 1922) and a partial letter comments on unmarried young adults (undated). Correspondence from federal and state land offices relate to the availability of public land in Section 18 in T. 3. N. R. 4. W. N. W. District of Louisiana (Aug. 11, Sept. 19, 1899). Correspondence also includes references to malaria (Aug. 23, 1906), measles (March 24, 1907), and a child's death caused by worms (July 5, 1908). Additionally, a land conveyance relates to land purchased by Sarah Terrell (March 21, 1901). Advertisement booklets and flyers for medical remedies comprise the printed material. Booklets are entitled: *Dr. Granger's health guide: a Plain and Practical Statement...* (1899) and *Yankee Eating* (ca. 1899).

## Index Terms

<b>Terms</b>	<b>Dates</b>
African Americans--History--19 <sup>th</sup> century.	1859-1899.
African Americans--History--20 <sup>th</sup> century.	1900-1929.
Free African Americans--Louisiana.	1859-1865.
Helminths--Louisiana.	Correspondence, July 5, 1908.
Louisiana--Social life and customs.	1892-1929.
Malaria--Louisiana.	Correspondence, Aug. 23, 1906.
Measles--Louisiana.	Correspondence, March 24, 1907.
Metoyer, Joseph J.	Correspondence, March 22, 1896.
Mobile (Ala.)--Description and travel--19 <sup>th</sup> century.	Correspondence, undated.
Murder--Texas.	Correspondence, 1894.
Public lands--Louisiana.	Correspondence, Aug. 11, Sept. 19, 1899.
Rapides Parish (La.)--History.	1859-1899.
Small pox--Louisiana.	Letter, March 22, 1896.
Taxes--Louisiana--Rapides Parish.	1869-1916
Terrell family.	1892-1929.
Terrell, Frank.	Correspondence, 1892-1909.
Terrell, Miles.	1859-1879.
Terrell, Sarah Metoyer.	1879-1929.
Voter registration--Louisiana--Rapides Parish.	Certificates, Oct. 13, 17, 1968; Oct. 3, 1870; Sept. 14, 1874.

**CONTAINER LIST**

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folders</u>	<u>Contents</u>
<b>B:25</b>	1	1-15	1859-1899.
	2	16-28	1900-1929, undated.