

**Louisiana State Bank Records**

(Mss. 1785)

Inventory

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections

Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library

Louisiana State University Libraries

Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

Reformatted 2004

Updated 2006 by Neil Guilbeau

**Summary**

**Size.** 12 linear feet and 22 volumes

**Geographic locations.** Louisiana

**Inclusive dates.** 1817-1870, 1877-1888, 1909-1927

**Language.** English

**Summary.** These records contain documents pertaining to the construction of the Louisiana State Bank of New Orleans; the bank's correspondence; financial, legal, and administrative documents; and a few items of its successor in 1871, the State National Bank of New Orleans.

**Organization.** Described by series; arranged chronologically

**Restrictions on access.** Originals housed in the vault are restricted. Use photocopies at 79:8, Box 1, Folders 2 & 3.

**Copyright.** Copyright of the original materials is retained by descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. copyright law.

**Citation.** Charles C. Titcomb Collection, Mss. 1785, Louisiana State Bank Records, Mss. 1785, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.

**Stack location(s).** 79:8-21, Vault:13, Vault:21

### **Biographical/Historical Note**

The Louisiana legislature created the Louisiana State Bank in March 1818 after the charter of the Louisiana Bank was about to expire. This act also endowed the new bank with \$2 million of capital stock and created five branch offices, essentially doubling the state-chartered facilities overnight. These branches represented the first banks outside of New Orleans, and held \$100,000 each in capital, over which they were allowed complete autonomy. The Louisiana State Bank was administered by eighteen directors, six of whom were selected by the state. In addition to providing a source of capital for the agricultural industry in Louisiana during the 1820s, the state bank also participated in financing the railroad industry in the mid 1800s. Its operation during the better part of the 1800s coincided with a time period in which Louisiana experienced unprecedented growth, with state imports and exports rivaling that of the greatest in the nation. It became the State National Bank in 1871 and was eventually liquidated in 1908.

### **Scope and Content Note**

Part of the Charles C. Titcomb Collection, the Louisiana State Bank Records contain correspondence (1817-1927), both general and from the president and directors, pertaining to collections, credits, and elections of directors. It also contains documents of financial statements; speeches; lists of stockholders, officers, employees, and salaries; ballots; proxies; protest notices; minutes; counterfeit court cases; salary and expense vouchers; bills of lading; powers of attorney; insurance policies; bonds; confederate notes; canceled checks; bank books; vouchers and checks from other banks; and pamphlets. In relation to its bank-building documents, the collection includes a letter from Joseph Pilie; letters and contract by Fox; comparative estimates of different architects; letters to and from architect Benjamin Henry Bonaval Latrobe (1766-1820); and the original instructions (26 pages) for building the Louisiana State Bank signed by Latrobe. The soft cover manuscript volumes (1818-1856) have been placed in folders, and consist of check books, "scratch books," a ledger, a list of subscribers, check stubs, credits, a scrapbook containing statements from the Office of the Board of Currency, a "delinquent" book, a list of discounts statements, and a list of index balances. The hard cover manuscript volumes (1818-1923) contain a day book, checks and deposits, claims for adjustment record, cashier's checks, a letter book from the St. Martinsville Branch, a discount book, statement books, and a book recording stock transfers.

Note: Original inventory listed a Vol. 22 that was circled, "Ledger book"; this volume cannot be located and is believed to be non existent in light of contradictory notes by the original processor of this collection. Formerly Volume 23, "Stock transfer" is now labeled as Vol. 22.

## **Series Descriptions**

### **Series I. Correspondence – General, 1817-1927**

Letters from Benjamin Levy, F.X. Martin, and Stephen Gerard, 1824

Letters for collection, Mechanics' Bank of New York, 1824

Letters for collection, Mercantile Insurance Company, New York, 1824

Letters for collection, Bank of Pennsylvania, 1824-1825

Letters from Stephen Gerard, 1825

Letters from Thomas Butler, May 17, 1826

Letters from Philip Hickey, August 21, 1827

Letters for collection, Western Bank of Philadelphia, 1839, 1841

Baring Brother, London, and Reid, Irving and Co., London, 1847-1848

Letter of May 26, 1851, speaks of Bank coining California gold dust at a said rate.

Letters for Collection, Bank of Commerce, 1850

Letters for Collection, The Ocean Bank of the City of New York, 1850-1851

Letters for Collection, Page and Bacon, St. Louis, 1851

Letters for Collection, Southern Bank of Alabama, 1851

Copy of Act to establish a permanent fund in support of Public Schools, 1854

Bank of James Robb, 1853-1859, including Baton Rouge, Grosse Tete and Opelousas Railroad Company document, April 14, 1858

Letters for collection and credit, Banking House of Page, Bacon and Co., 1855; included newspaper clipping "Loss of Steamer Golden Age," reverse side of "General meeting of Page, Bacon, and Co."

Letters for collection and credit, Kinney, Espy and Co., Bankers, 1855-1856

**Louisiana State Bank Records**

**Mss. 1785**

1817-1870, 1877-1888, 1909-1927

Thomas Henderson and Co., 1859. Included requests to send bank notes to Natchez by steamers "Princess," "Charmer," "Natchez," "City of Memphis," "Lucy Holecomb," "Twilight," "Lafourch," "Mary T"

B. Toledano and Taylor, from Marcelin and Victor, Vercher, and E. Vienne, 1859

Merchant's Bank, 1859-1862

Telegrams – Andrew Buchanan and Company to Thomas Keeffe, 1859

Letters for collection, Farmers' and Exchange Bank, Charleston, South Carolina, 1859

Internal Revenue Bureau, 1863

Semi-Annual statement for State National Bank, 1880

Speech by Hon. S.V. White, New York, 1888 – printed pamphlets

Account of State Treasurer in accordance with Branch Louisiana State Bank at Baton Rouge, 1864

Letter to W.H. Avery Pres. of B.R. Branch, ca. 1860

Bank of Kentucky, 1850-1854

Letters for collection and credit, 1852-1854, 1857

Correspondence, Office Southern Bank of Kentucky, 1853-1854, 1857

Letters for collection, Farmers Bank of Kentucky, 1851-1854

Letters for credit, Mechanics Bank, Louisville, 1853-1854

Letters for collection, Shoe and Leather Dealers Bank, Boston, 1851-1854

Letters for collection, Bank of Southern Carolina, 1856-1857

Letters for collection and credit, Exchange and Banking House of Butler, Meeks and Co., 1856-1858, 1861

**Series II. Correspondence – President and Directors, 1835-1860**

Election of Directors, Ballots, February 5, 1849

Election of Directors, Proxies, February 5, 1849

**Louisiana State Bank Records**  
1817-1870, 1877-1888, 1909-1927

**Mss. 1785**

Election of Directors, List of stockholders, memorandum, protest, February 5, 1849

Financial statement of Branch at Baton Rouge, 1855

Minutes of the Board of Directors of the Branch of Baton Rouge, 1858

**Series III. Documents and Records, 1820-1869**

Certified copy of original plan...relating to the Batture in front of Faubourg St. Mary...September 20, 1820

Counterfeit Court Cases, 1840-1842

Protest Notices, Orleans Navigation Company, March 21, 1842, 1851-1859, 1861-1862

Financial Statements for various New Orleans Banks, 1859

List of officers and other employees, amount of salary, and securities, 1857-1869

Included protest notice of the Branch at Baton Rouge, July 3, 1861

**Series IV. Powers of Attorney, 1818-1862**

**Series V. Vouchers; 1823-1862, n.d.**

Salary Vouchers, 1823, 1840-1841, 1850-1857, 1862, n.d.

Expense Vouchers, 1840-1862, n.d.

Including Benjamin Levy voucher, 1841

Alexander Levy & Co. expense voucher signed by Benjamin Levy, January 6, 1857

Weekly statements, 1852-1854

**Series VI. Insurance Policies, 1840-1848**

**Series VII. Bonds, 1850-1861**

**Series VIII. Lists of Stockholders, 1851**

Includes number of shares and votes for each.

**Series IX. Bills of Lading, 1851**

Some shipments are issued by Lloyd's of London.

**Series X. Pamphlets**

Financial statements of various banks, 1834 (fragment)

**Series XI. Deposit Slips, 1850-1861**

**Series XII. Miscellaneous Items**

Confederate Notes

Blank forms

Louisiana State Bank, cancelled checks, 1822-1867

Voucher and checks other than Louisiana State Bank, 1831-1871

State National Bank, 1875-1897

Branch of Louisiana State Bank Checks; 1850-1862

Depositors' Bank Books

**Series XIII. Manuscript Volumes**

v.1, Check book, 1870-1871

v. 2, "Scratch #3" 1820

v. 3, "Canal Bank Receipt Book, 1854-1855

v. 4, Day book, checks and deposits, 1819-1923 (Benjamin Levy and Co. bookplate)

v. 5, Claims for Adjustment Record, 1826-1827

v. 6 "Cashier's Check #4,,", 1854-1856

v. 7, Scratch book #10, 1819

v. 8, Ledger (?)

v. 9, List of subscribers (?) [unbound], 1818

v. 10, Letter book, St. Martinsville Branch, 1818-1823

v. 11, Check stubs

**Louisiana State Bank Records**  
1817-1870, 1877-1888, 1909-1927

**Mss. 1785**

v. 12, Credits 8 and 9, 1838

v. 13, Scrapbook, Contains "Statement of the Banks in New Orleans," from the Office of the Board of Currency, New Orleans, 1851-1854

v. 14, Credit, 1839

v. 15, Crescent City Bank "Statement of Affairs," 1859

v. 16, Delinquent, Jefferson Parish "Carrollton," 1856

v. 17, Discount book, 1819-1821

v. 18, Statement book, 1818-1820

v. 19, Statement book, 1822-1824

v. 20, Statement book, 1824-1826

v. 21, Baton Rouge, statements, list of discounts statements, list of index balance, 1819

v. 22, Stock transfer, 1819-1831

**Container List**

<u>Stack</u>			
<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
79:8	1	1-25	1817-1825
79:9	2	26-45	1826-1838
79:10	3	46-68	1839-1848
79:11	4	69-93	1849-1853
79:12	5	94-120	1854-1859
79:13	6	121-141	1860-1927, n.d.
		142-154	Pamphlets, 1818-1877
79:14	7	155-187	1850-1862, 1864
79:15	8		Deposit Slips, 1850-1856 Dray Receipts, 1860-1861
79:16	9		Confederate Notes Bank Forms
79:17	10		Louisiana State Bank cancelled checks, 1822-1867 Vouchers and checks other than Louisiana State Bank, 1831-1871 State National Bank, 1875-1897
79:18	11		Branch of the Louisiana State Bank Checks, 1850-1862
79:21	12		Depositor's Bank Books
79:19	13	1-2	Manuscript Volumes 1-2
79:19	14	1-10	Manuscript Volumes 3, 7-9, 11-14, 16, 21
79:20			Manuscript Volumes 4-6, 10, 15, 17-20
79:21			Manuscript Volume 22
Vault:13			Building of the Louisiana State Bank, 1820
Vault:21		1	Building of the Louisiana State Bank, Contract, Comparative Estimate