The STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY of MISSOURI

R1329 Rodney Family
Papers, 1854-1874
One folder (.1 cubic foot)

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

These are mostly legal papers regarding the probate of various estates within the inter-related families of Rodney, Garrett, Ramsey, Walls, and Whitelaw of Cape Girardeau and Mississippi Counties, Missouri. There is also a postwar letter from J. M. Brown at Charleston, Missouri to William F. Rodney about establishing Rodney’s loyalty to the Union during the Civil War.

DONOR INFORMATION

The University of Missouri Western Historical Manuscript Collection-Rolla purchased the Rodney family papers from Kathleen Dietrich, accession SHSMO-RA1150 on 24 June 2005, and SHSMO-RA1159 on 5 July 2005.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

The principals represented by these papers are:

John Penny Rodney (1788-1853) a native of Kentucky, was the son of Thomas Smith Rodney and Hannah Penny. The family came to Cape Girardeau about 1810, where John P. Rodney married Margaret Ramsey in 1820. Rodney became surveyor of Mississippi County, Missouri and laid out the county seat at Charleston in 1837. Rodney Ferry in Mississippi County is named after him.

John and Margaret (Ramsey) Rodney were the parents of five children. The sons were Thomas James “T. J.” Rodney (1824-1876), William “W. F.” Rodney (1825- ), and Martin Van Buren Rodney (1831-1897). From 1823 to 1859, Rodney and his sons were involved in multiple purchases of land in Cape Girardeau, Scott, Oregon, and Mississippi Counties.

John Penny Rodney was executor of Charles Walls estate, whose wife was Elizabeth (Garrett) Walls. When Rodney died in1853, his son Michael Rodney and G. W. Davis become administrators of his estate. The matter was complicated by Rodney’s involvement with the Walls estate. There are also items concerning issues between Garrett heirs and the heirs of James N. Whitelaw, whose mother-in-law was Marie Rodney.

Additional Rodney Family business items may be found in the Cape Girardeau Macadamized and Plank Road Company papers, SHSMO-R1133.
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PERFERRED CITATION

Rodney Family papers, State Historical Society of Missouri.

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FOLDER INVENTORY

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<td>William S. Sprey promissory note</td>
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<td>1856 Apr 14</td>
<td>Charles Wall/N. Albert</td>
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<td>1857 Dec 9</td>
<td>Ira Garrett, Charlottesville, VA</td>
<td>Wm. G. Garrett, Cape Girardeau</td>
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<td>1858 Feb 8</td>
<td>Unknown, Charlottesville, VA</td>
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<td>1871 Jul 20</td>
<td>Mrs Walls/Hoffmeister &amp; Brumike</td>
<td>(list of dry goods)</td>
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<td>1872 Aug 8</td>
<td>W. F. Rodney, Cape Girardeau</td>
<td>J. M. Brown, Probate Judge, Charleston, Mo</td>
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<td>1872 Sep 7</td>
<td>W. F. Rodney</td>
<td>M. V. Rodney, Superintendent of Schools, Birdville, Mississippi County Mo,</td>
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