

C Washburne Family, Papers, 1825-1900  
4047 .6 linear feet

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## INTRODUCTION

The papers of the Washburne family consist of personal and business correspondence concerning their wool business in Lockhart, Texas, advertisements, receipts, and account information. The correspondence deals extensively with family affairs, slavery, the Civil War, and politics. The collection also includes several slave bills of sale.

## DONOR INFORMATION

The Washburne family papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Mary Lou Boswell, on 12 July 1993 (Accession No. 2971).

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Lucius Washburne was born on 18 October 1819 in Randolph, Vermont. Cornelia Booton was born on 2 November 1820 in Madison County, Virginia.

Around 1845, Lucius moved to Saline County, Missouri, the same time Cornelia's family moved from Virginia to Lafayette County, Missouri, where Lucius and Cornelia met.

Lucius took a teaching position in Mississippi from 1848 to 1849, but returned to Missouri. He and Cornelia were married in December 1849. They settled in Texas in March 1860, where Lucius created a successful business raising sheep and selling wool.

In August 1879, Lucius died and Cornelia brought her brother, John Booton, to Texas to run the business. Cornelia also hired Joseph Bishop as an apprentice at the ranch and later made him an heir to her estate. Cornelia then moved into a house in Luling, Texas, after leaving the business to her brother. She died in 1903.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Washburne Family papers consist of personal and business correspondence and business records. The papers are arranged into two series: **Correspondence** and **Business**.

The **Correspondence** series consists of letters arranged chronologically. Included are personal letters from Cornelia and Lucius' family and friends. They mainly contain news of family matters and the events occurring at the time in both Texas and Missouri, including discussions of politics, slavery, and the Civil War. There is also a scrapbook containing letters, poems, and newspaper clippings that was given to Cornelia from her family and friends.

The business correspondence mainly consists of letters to Lucius concerning his business, lawsuits, and Lucius' conscription and exemption from service in the Civil War. The correspondence series may be of interest to those studying events and aspects of daily life during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Most letters in the correspondence series have typed transcripts that are placed either before or after the original letters.

Slave bills of sale are included in this series since they were not separated from the correspondence in the typescripts.

The **Business** series consists of receipts, sales transactions, and account information that are mainly from their wool business, arranged chronologically. It also includes Civil War tax

records, newspaper articles, and advertisements arranged chronologically. This series might be of interest to those interested in the economy of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

## FOLDER LIST

**Correspondence Series**

## f. 1-13 Correspondence

- f. 1 1825-1847 July 6
- f. 2 1847 July 10-1850
- f. 3 1851-1856 March
- f. 4 1856 June-1860 February 13
- f. 5 1860 February 16-1861
- f. 6 1862-1866
- f. 7 1867-1868 January 17
- f. 8 1868 January 25-1868 December
- f. 9 1869-1870 November
- f. 10 1870 December-1872
- f. 11 1873-1879 October
- f. 12 c. 1879-1892
- f. 13 1893-1900
- f. 14 Scrapbook, 1844

**Business Series**

- f. 15 1833-1874
- f. 16 1875-1884
- f. 17 Civil War tax claims and receipts, 1864-1865

## INDEX TERMS

Subject	Folders
Agriculture	3-12 , 15
Baylor College, Belton, Texas	13
Booton, John	4-6, 8-12
Booton, Pearla	13
Booton, R.C. "Dick"	3, 6-9, 12
Booton, Sallie	3, 8, 9, 11-13
Booton, Sallie Wood	2-4, 6, 8-10, 12, 13
Chandler, Turner and Carleton, Austin, Texas	8
Cincinnati Enquirer, Ohio	9
Civil War--Battle of Lexington, 1861	5
Civil War--Missouri	5, 6
Civil War--Texas	5, 6
Elections, 1840s-1860s	1, 2, 5, 7
Estes, E.C.	9, 10

Subject	Folders
Freemasons	4
Gold rush--California	2
Hallowell and Company, New York, New York	7, 8
Heyck and Helferich, Lavaca, Texas	9
Hunter, Evans and Company, East St. Louis, Illinois	12
J. H. Brower and Company, New York, New York	6-11, 15
James Buchan and Company, New York, New York	9
Koopmanschap and Company, San Francisco, California	9
Lincoln, Abraham (1809-1865)	5, 6, 8
Makeigh and Haggar, Galveston, Texas	7
Merchants	7, 9, 15
Mexican War, 1846-1848	2
Miller and Chamberlin, Belton, Texas	8
Missouri, Columbia	3, 4
Missouri, Dover	1, 2
Missouri, Lexington	1, 5
Missouri, Liberty	6
Missouri, St. Louis	1, 3
Nix and Storey, Lockhart, Texas	12
Politics, 19th century	1-3, 5, 7-9
Porter and Thayer, New York, New York	8
R.M. Forbes and Company, Lavaca, Texas	7, 9, 15
Reconstruction (1865-1876)	7, 8
S.P. Kindred, Galveston, Texas	12
Scrapbooks, 1844	14
Sheep industry--Texas	4, 5, 7-13
The Signal, Luling, Texas	11
Slave bills of sale	3-5
Slavery--Attitudes toward	2-4
Stuart and Mair, Houston, Texas	8
Tax assessments--Texas, 1864-1865	17
University of Missouri, 1850s	3
University of Texas, Austin	12
Virginia, Randolph	8
Warren, Talbort and Company, St. Louis, Missouri	7, 15
Washburn, Asa Ransom	1, 4-7, 9
Washburn, Cornelia Jane Booton (1820-1903)	1-13, 14
Washburn, Lucius (1819-1879)	1-11, 15-17

Subject	Folders
Wool industry--Texas	6-11, 13, 15