



Winthrop University  
**Digital Commons @ Winthrop  
University**

---

Manuscript Collection

Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections

---

2019

## Ida Jane Dacus Collection - Accession 1658

Ida Jane Dacus

American Civil War

Slavery

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/  
manuscriptcollection\\_findingaids](https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/manuscriptcollection_findingaids)

---

### Finding Aid Citation

Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections, Winthrop University, "Ida Jane Dacus Collection - Accession 1658". Finding Aid 1137.  
[https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/manuscriptcollection\\_findingaids/1137](https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/manuscriptcollection_findingaids/1137)

This Finding Aid is brought to you for free and open access by the Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections at Digital Commons @ Winthrop University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Manuscript Collection by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Winthrop University. For more information, please contact [bramed@winthrop.edu](mailto:bramed@winthrop.edu).



**WINTHROP UNIVERSITY  
LOUISE PETTUS ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

**MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION**

**ACCESSION 1658**

**IDA JANE DACUS COLLECTION**

**1795-1902, 1927**

**1 Box**

**WINTHROP UNIVERSITY**

**LOUISE PETTUS ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

**MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION**

ACC. NO.: 1658

ADDITIONS: \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_

PROCESSED BY: Abby B. Hieber

DATE: July 11, 2019

NO. OF SECTIONS: 11

**IDA JANE DACUS COLLECTION**

**I**

Provenance: The Ida Jane Dacus Collection was transferred from the Ida Jane Dacus Library.

Linear feet of shelf space occupied: .25

Approximate number of pieces: 2000

Restrictions: Open to researchers under the rules and regulations of the Louise Pettus Archives & Special Collections at Winthrop University.

Literary Rights: For information concerning literary rights please contact the Louise Pettus Archives & Special Collections at Winthrop University.

Scope and Content Note: **This collection consists of letters and autographs Miss Ida Jane Dacus collected from famous authors and politicians. There are also photographs, deeds and land records, financial records, poems and sonnets, notices, memorabilia mostly from the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Most of these documents are related to South Carolina during the American Civil War and in particular to the Confederate States of America, however some are pre-Civil War. The deeds and land records all relate to property in Wake County, NC. Some of this material may have been on display in the museum that was in the Tillman Science Building which was razed in 1962, at which point they may have been brought to the library and mixed with Ida Jane Dacus' collection of Autographs and letters.**

**Ida Jane Dacus (1875-1964) was the first professionally trained librarian in the State of South Carolina, was a member of the Winthrop College Class of 1898, and Winthrop librarian for 45 years retiring in 1945.**

Transfer of items:

## II

### BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

#### **IDA JANE DACUS, LIBRARIAN by Louise Pettus**

Winthrop University's first library was nothing more than a study hall with a few books donated and some bought with a \$50 gift from Robert C. Winthrop who chaired the Peabody Fund that provided Winthrop's first financial assistance.

The need for books was keenly felt by the young president, D. B. Johnson, who was destined to serve Winthrop as its head for the next 42 years. Johnson seized every opportunity to acquire books. Since 1896 the Winthrop library has been a depository of government documents.

Ida Jane Dacus enrolled as a student in 1896, one year after Winthrop moved to Rock Hill. There was provision for three service scholarships for students to keep the study hall-library. Ida Jane was given one of the scholarships. At the end of her junior year, Dr. Johnson asked her to take over the library full time. The library had only about 200 books.

Three years later, following a competitive examination, Miss Dacus had won a scholarship to Drexel Institute in Philadelphia to study library science. Only 20 applicants from across the nation were accepted by Drexel.

When Miss Dacus received her certificate from Drexel she became the first professionally trained librarian in South Carolina. She returned to a library holding of 5,184 books and 5,000 volumes of government publications.

Three years later, in 1905, Carnegie Library (now Rutledge Building) was completed. The building was enlarged in 1928, greatly expanding its book capacity.

As time passed, Miss Dacus' tall, regal figure became well-known to generations of Winthrop students. Students recognized her as mistress of two distinct domains. In the library, she governed by raising her fingers to her lips and with two "sh-h-hes" all would be quiet.

Behind the library, when her day's work was done, she was likely to be seen wearing an apron and carrying pruning snips. The beautiful garden with flowers of every hue became "Miss Dacus' garden." A student heard exclaiming over the beauty was likely to have Miss Dacus ask, "Do you have a vase or glass in your room?" Miss Dacus would then swoop down and cut a rosebud or peony, or whatever was in bloom, for the lucky girl.

Miss Dacus retired in 1945 after 45 years of service to Winthrop College. She returned to Williamston, S. C. where she managed a farm she had inherited. The library holdings were then 62,500 volumes and 15,000 pamphlets and documents, or roughly 33 books per student.



By the late 1960s the Carnegie Library no longer had enough space for the books, documents, bound newspapers, etc. along with reading room space for students. A new library was built across the street in front of the Winthrop Training School.

The books were transported across Oakland Avenue from the old library to the new by Winthrop workers and students in the fashion of a “bucket brigade.”

On October 18, 1969 the Dacus Library was dedicated. As for the name, there could have been no other choice. (The name is correctly pronounced “Day-cus,” and not “Dack-us” as current students often mispronounce it.)

### III

#### DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>		<u>Year(s)</u>
1	1-22	<b>AUTOGRAPHS</b> This collection consists of autographs that Ms. Dacus requested. Signatures include those from politicians such as Wade Hampton & Robert Winthrop as well as writers & poets such as Mary Eleanor Wilkins Freeman & Mark Twain. These autographs span numerous dates from the eighteenth century to the nineteenth century. <i>*See Appendix I for a detailed list of the autographs.</i>	1851-1902
1	23-44	<b>LETTERS</b> This series consists of letters that were addressed to Ms. Dacus as well as those to various recipients. Letters include a conversation Ms. Dacus had with Robert A. Thompson regarding library matters. Ms. Dacus also saved correspondences between individuals such as Jon F. Massey & Frank Morrison during the Civil War. <i>*See Appendix II for a detailed list of the letters.</i>	1856-1922
1	45-47	<b>PHOTOGRAPHS</b> This series consists of three photographs. One photograph is of Edward Biggers Mobley (1840-1904) and his body servant and former slave, Hampton Stratford (born ca. 1824). The other two photographs are of Confederate monuments, one if Camden, SC and the other in Newberry, SC. <i>*See Appendix III for a detailed list of the photographs.</i>	ca1890s, 1902
1	48-53	<b>DEEDS OF SALE AND LAND RECORDS</b> This series consists of indentures, deeds, and articles of agreements related to land in Wake County, NC. There is also a deed of sale for a slave woman named Nice (?) in Wake County, NC. <i>*See Appendix IV for a detailed list of the deeds.</i>	1795-1848
1	54-62	<b>FINANCIAL RECORDS</b> The financial records consists of purchase lists, stock certificates, promissory notes, tax receipts and Confederate States of America War bonds mostly from the American Civil War era. <i>*see Appendix V for a detailed list of the financial records.</i>	1820-1865
1	63-64	<b>POEMS AND SONNETS</b> This series consists of a Margaret Junkin Preston (1820-1897) poem and a sonnet by Henry Timrod (1829-1867). Both were considered to unofficial poet laureates of the Confederacy. <i>*See Appendix VI for a detailed list of the poems and sonnets.</i>	nd

### III

#### DESCRIPTION OF SERIES (cont.)

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
1	65-67 NOTICES This series consists of notices regarding patrol duty in the Town of Aiken. Two of the notices are in regards to the failure of persons to perform their duty. <i>*See Appendix VII for a detailed list of the notices.</i>	1843, 1844, 1855
1	68-69 CIVIL WAR MEMORABILIA This series consists of a fragment of the Palmetto Flag that flew over Fort Moultrie during the bombardment of Fort Sumter that marked the beginning of the American Civil War and a typescript copy of Confederate General Robert E. Lee's Farewell Speech after the South's surrender at Appomattox Courthouse. <i>*See Appendix VIII for a detailed list of the civil war memorabilia.</i>	1861, 1927

**APPENDIX I**

**AUTOGRAPH INDEX**

<b><u>From</u></b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>
W.D. Howells American Novelist 1837-1920 New York.	1	Oct. 21 <sup>st</sup> , 1900
Varina Jefferson Davis Jefferson Davis's wife 1826-1906 New York.	2	Mar. 30 <sup>th</sup> , 1900
Wade Hampton Confederate General & politician 1818-1902 North Carolina.	3	Aug. 18 <sup>th</sup> , 1876
William Jennings Bryan Lawyer & Politician 1860-1925 No address.	4	nd
Edgar Lee Masters Attorney, poet, & biographer. 1868-1950 No address.	5	Nov. 8 <sup>th</sup> , 1920.
Mark Twain Author 1835-1910 No address.	6	nd
William Cullen Bryant Poet 1794-1878 New York.	7	Dec. 5 <sup>th</sup> , 1851
Joel Chandler Harris Author 1848-1908 Atlanta, GA.	8	Mar. 19 <sup>th</sup> , 1900



**APPENDIX I**

**AUTOGRAPH INDEX (cont.)**

<b><u>From</u></b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>
Robert Winthrop Speaker of the United States House of Representatives 1809-1894 Autographed portrait No address.	9	nd
Charles Henry Smith "Bill Arp" Writer 1826-1903 No address.	10	Nov. 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 1900
Robert Charles Winthrop Former Speaker for the House of Representatives 1809-1894 Signed poem, "Ode." No address.	11	June, 21 <sup>st</sup> 1887
William Gilmore Sims American writer 1806-1870 Yonkers, N.Y.	12	Sep. 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1867
Wade Hampton Military Officer 1818-1902 No address.	13	nd
Paul Hamilton Hayne American Poet 1830-1886 No address.	14	nd
Archibald Rutledge American Poet 1883-1973 McClellanville, S.C.	15	nd

**APPENDIX I**

**AUTOGRAPH INDEX (cont.)**

<b><u>From</u></b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>
Mary Johnston Novelist 1870-1936 No address.	16	Nov. 1900
John Brown Gordon American General 1832-1904 Georgia.	17	nd
Francis Hopkinson Smith United States author, artist, and engineer. 1838-1915 No address.	18	Nov. 19 <sup>th</sup> , 1900
Hamilton Wright Mabie American essayist, editor, critic, and lecturer. 1846-1916 Rock Hill, S.C.	19	Nov. 4 <sup>th</sup> , 1902
Ruth McEnergy Stuart American author 1849-1917 No address.	20	nd
Edward Southey Joynes University Professor 1834-1917 No address.	21	nd
Mary Eleanor Wilkins Freeman American author 1852-1930 Randolph, MA.	22	Nov. 18 <sup>th</sup> , 1900
W.H. Cogswell President of Walker Evans & Cogswell Co. 1922-1994 Charleston, S.C.	23	July 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 1912

**APPENDIX I**

**AUTOGRAPH INDEX (cont.)**

<b><u>From</u></b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>
W.D. Porter Opinion of Mr. Porter on the taxing Power of the City Council in S.C. Charleston, S.C.	24	Feb. 2nd, 1848
Robert C. Winthrop Former Speaker of the House of Representatives 1809-1894 Boston, MA.	25	Oct. 26th, 1864
Robert C. Winthrop Former Speaker of the House of Representatives 1809-1894 Boston, MA.	26	Feb. 11 <sup>th</sup> , 1871
Robert C. Winthrop Former Speaker of the House of Representatives 1809-1894 Boston, MA.	27	Aug. 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 1876
Robert C. Winthrop Former Speaker of the House of Representatives 1809-1894 Boston, MA.	28	Nov. 12 <sup>th</sup> , 1858

## APPENDIX II

### LETTER INDEX

<u>From</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Date</u>
Unidentified Secretary of Queen Victoria A letter to George Peabody expressing appreciation for Mr. Peabody's assistance to the poor. Letter and accompanying envelope are edged in black. Winsor Castle.	29	Mar. 28 <sup>th</sup> , 1886
Robert A. Thompson. Thompson writes to Ms. Dacus in regards to "The Ordinance of Secession" in Winthrop's library. Walhalla, S.C.	30	June, 1912
Unidentified Author A letter addressed to "My dear Maenaughton." Shrewsbury, England.	31	Oct. 30 <sup>th</sup> , 1896
Ben F. Vanmetre. Civil War letter. Ellicott's Mills, Maryland.	32	Oct. 11 <sup>th</sup> , 1862
Josiah Gilbert Holland. New York.	33	Dec. 29 <sup>th</sup> , 1879
Mrs. Benjamin Franklin Letter from Perry concerning books written about Governor Benjamin Franklin Perry. The Governors wife also included a photograph of her husband. Greenville, S.C.	34	Apr. 12 <sup>th</sup> , 1890
John C. Van Dyke Letter to professor Breazeale expressing regret that he cannot lecture at a college Art Club. An envelope from the Hotel Almada is included. Guaymas, Sonora, Mexico.	35	Feb. 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 1900
William H. Hayne Letter to Ms. Dacus. Envelope included. Grovetown, GA.	36	Nov. 20 <sup>th</sup> , 1900

**APPENDIX II**

**LETTER INDEX (cont.)**

<b><u>From</u></b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>
William A. Courtenay Oconee County, S.C.	37	Nov. 18 <sup>th</sup> , 1903
Unidentified Author Letter addressed to “my dear Brother,” from “your ever affectionate sister.” Lancaster, S.C.	38	July 15 <sup>th</sup> , 1861
George Armstrong Wauchope Letter to Ms. Dacus and including a poem titled, “Wade Hampton Rides Today.” Columbia, S.C.	39	Nov. 14 <sup>th</sup> , 1922
Harry Stillwell Edwards Letter to Ms. Dacus with portrait pasted on the lower Right corner. Macon, GA.	40	Apr. 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 1900
E. L. Baxter Davidson Letter to Winthrop College. Inside, there is a photocopy of a Certificate of Learning issued to John Graham, who had been a student at Liberty Hall in Charlotte, N.C. in the year 1778.	41	Nov. 15 <sup>th</sup> , 1931
Mrs. Madeleine Henry A series of four letters to the “librarian” (Ms. Dacus) of Winthrop University. Calvados, France.	42	May 12 <sup>th</sup> , 1972
Jon F. Massey Letter written during the Civil War to Frank Morrison. Richmond (VA?).	43	May 6 <sup>th</sup> , 1861
Thomas Nelson Pope No address.	44	nd

**APPENDIX III**

**PHOTOGRAPH INDEX**

<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>
Photograph Edward Biggers Mobley (1840-1904) & his body servant and former slave, Hampton Stratford (born ca. 1824). Mobley served in the Calhoun Guards of Chester County, SC during the American Civil War with the 6th South Carolina Volunteers, Company A and the 6th South Carolina Volunteers, Company F. The description on the reverse side states: "E. B. Mobley, age 62 years, Co. F. 6 <sup>th</sup> S.C. Infantry, and Hampton Stratford, age 78 years, who was his faithful body-servant during the entire Civil War. Photographed Dec. 4 <sup>th</sup> 1902, 34 years and seven months after the surrender at Appomattox CH."	45	Dec. 4th, 1902.
Photograph Photograph of a Confederate Monument at Camden, S.C.	46	ca1890s
Photograph Photograph of a Confederate Monument at Newberry, S.C.	47	ca1890s

**APPENDIX IV**

**DEEDS OF SALE AND LAND RECORDS**

<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>
Indenture John Olive to Frederick Jackson concerning a 140 acre tract of land in Wake County, NC.	48	Aug. 3, 1795
Indenture Deed of the sale of land in Wake County, NC by Joseph and Willis Regan to Molly Kellum. Re-sale of land by Mary Kellum in October 22, 1822. Appears to be witnessed by James Olive.	49	Dec. 11, 1807
Deed Sale for land between Jacob Rich, of Wake County, NC and Henry Howell of Wake County, NC.	50	June, 25 <sup>th</sup> 1808
Deed Deed of sale of 140 acres of land in Wake County, NC between Henry Howell and John Howell, both of Wake County, NC. Addressed by Henry Howell. John Howell	51	Feb. 19 <sup>th</sup> , 1813
Deed Deed of the notice of sale of a 21 year old "Negro Woman Slave," named Nice (sp.) by Joseph Gales to Joseph Howell in Wake County, NC for \$325.00.	52	Mar. 2, 1824
Land Lease Articles of Agreement between Cadan Olive and William Collins allowing Collins to build a log house on his property beginning on January 1, 1848 through December 31, 1852. Wake County, N.C.	53	Jan. 1, 1848

**APPENDIX V**

**FINANCIAL RECORDS**

<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>
List of Purchases. Fragmented piece of paper with a list of purchases.	54	Mar. 13 <sup>th</sup> , 1820
Promissory Note Promissory Note by George Emerich with a value of \$205.79. Philadelphia.	55	Mar. 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 1832
Promissory Note Document is in regard to non-payment of a promissory note by George Emerich (from folder 55) for the Value of \$205.79. Consists of four double-sided pages with stamped seal on the first page. Philadelphia.	56	July 5 <sup>th</sup> , 1832
Stock Certificate Three shares at \$20.00 each for the Greenville & Columbia Railroad, CO. Issued to T. P. Gary of Columbia, S.C.	57	May 1 <sup>st</sup> , 1862
War Tax Receipt Receipt of war tax for \$18.77 of the Confederate States to S. J. Willard. Signed by Jason A. Wardlaw.	58	July 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 1862
Bond \$600 receipt for registered bond of the Confederate States of America to Nancy and Anna Clark. John Wilcox is listed as the Depository. Marion, S.C.	59	Mar. 26 <sup>th</sup> , 1864
Bond \$100 receipt of registered bond of the Confederate States of America to S. J. Willard. R. J. Wardlaw is listed as the Depository Abbeville, S.C.	60	Mar. 28 <sup>th</sup> , 1864
Bonds \$200.00 receipt for Registered Bonds of the Confederate States of America to Southern Mutual Life Insurance. Macon, Georgia. With William Butler Johnston (1809-1887) as the depository.	61	June 4 <sup>th</sup> , 1864
Estimate and tax assessment Estimate and tax assessment form of agricultural products of Biggers Mobley to be paid to the Confederate States in Chester, S.C. The taxes were on Corn, Cured Fodder, Molasses, and peas.	62	Jan. 27 <sup>th</sup> 1865



**APPENDIX VI**

**POEMS AND SONNETS**

<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>
Margaret Junkin Preston Poem Handwritten poem by Margaret Junkin Preston (1820-1897) unofficial Poet Laureate of the Confederacy. The opening lines read: “Lying this side God’s dwelling place, Catching the whispered word which faith Both will be yonder –Side by side...”	63	nd
Henry Timrod Sonnet Sonnet from author Henry Timrod (1829-1867), unofficial Poet Laureate of the Confederacy, who lived in Columbia, S.C. The poem is titled, “Oh, Have Graced No Single Song of Mine,” though the handwritten document is unsigned and it is unknown if he penned it himself.	64	nd

## APPENDIX VII

### NOTICES

<u>Description</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Date</u>
Notice Document from the Council Chamber of Aiken, S.C. to Captain A. H. Martin who was appointed Leader of Patrol No. 1. The patrol included W. R. Poag, J. Lee Allison, W. J. McBryde, and F. W. Rambout. This document is signed by Clerk of Council, James Tupper.	65	Apr. 10 <sup>th</sup> , 1843
Notice Notice from H. H. Randall, Marshall of the Town of Aiken to John Britton for the neglect of Patrol Duty. Britton was fined \$6.00 for neglect of patrol duty on May 20, 1844 and \$1.52 for the "Costs of this Process." This document is signed by Clerk of Council, L. Hobson and Witnessed by James Tupper.	66	May 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 1844
Notice Letter from leader B.W. Mosely, member of the Town Council of Aiken, S.C. informing that I. M. Perice (price?) missed patrol duty on April 9, 185, April 19, 1855, April 29, 1855, May 9, 1855, May 19, 1855, May 29 1855, June 9, 1855, June 19, 1855, and June 29 1855. Also N. Mullin also missed June 29, 1855. The document is dated July 2, 1855.	67	July 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 1855

## APPENDIX VIII

### CIVIL WAR MEMORABILIA

<u>Description</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Date</u>
Fort Moultrie Flag Fragment Fragment of the Palmetto flag flown over Fort Moultrie at the time of bombardment of Fort Sumter on April 12 and 13, 1861 at the commencement of the American Civil War.	68	Apr. 12 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> , 1861
Robert E. Lee's Farewell Address. Consists of a typescript copy of General Order No. 9 Headquarters, Army Northern Virginia, April 9 <sup>th</sup> , 1865 which is Confederate General Robert E. Lee's farewell address at the closing of American Civil War. It was copied by Rev. C. L. Norman September 28, 1927 at Pleasant Hill, SC and presented by W. A. Marshall, Co. 2, 12 <sup>th</sup> SC of Pleasant Grove, SC.	69	Apr. 9 <sup>th</sup> , 1885