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Manuscripts
 Department of Library Special Collections
 Kentucky Building
 Western Kentucky University
 Bowling Green, KY 42101

Descriptive Inventory

MSS 38 LEWIS-Starling Collection

11 1/2 boxes. 103 folders. 1,254 items. Originals. 1784-1970.

1966.24.1

BIOGRAPHY

Gabriel Jones Lewis (1775-1864), son of John and Elizabeth (Jones) Lewis, came to Kentucky in the late 1700s to survey his father's land holdings and those of Fielding Lewis, Hugh Mercer, George Washington, and others. He secured land in Henderson County, but decided around 1807 to settle in Logan County. About the same time, Gabriel married Mary Bibb, the daughter of Richard and Lucy (Booker) Bibb. Gabriel and Mary had five children: John Gabriel (1809-1874), Richard Bibb (1811-1823), Elizabeth Ann Gabriella (1813-1862), Fielding Warner (1816-1891), and Mary Bibb (1819-1842). John Lewis, Gabriel's father, later moved to Logan County and lived there the rest of his life.

Samuel McDowell Starling (1807-1890), son of William and Mary "Polly" (McDowell) Starling, was born near Danville, Kentucky. The Starlings moved to Frankfort when Samuel was four years old. Samuel received his education locally, studying under the renowned teachers Charles and Kean O'Hara. In 1821, William Starling moved his family to Logan County, and subsequently Samuel married Elizabeth Lewis in 1831. They were the parents of seven children: Mary (1832-1896), Gabriel Lewis (1833-1863), Thomas Lyne (1835-1884), George B. (1837-1918), Fielding William (1839-1863), Anna Irvine (1842-1877), and Lyne (1850-1852). Mary Starling married William Richardson Payne in 1861. Payne died shortly after their marriage, therefore Mary continued to live at the homeplace in Hopkinsville and to function as "the woman of the house". She reared the children of her brother Thomas, following his wife's death in 1870. Mary was extremely interested in genealogy and compiled records of the Lewis, Starling, and other related families for future genealogists and historians.

Samuel engaged in farming until 1836, when he moved to Hopkinsville. He and his father established the mercantile business S. M. Starling & Co. in 1836. Following his father's death in 1840, Samuel dissolved the unprofitable business and afterwards listed his occupation as being that of a "Gentleman". He joined the Union army in 1862 with the rank of second lieutenant, was at the Battle of Perryville, and engaged in the pursuit and capture of Confederate General John Hunt Morgan. Two of Samuel's sons died while serving on opposing sides during the Civil War.

Bibliographical Notes

The Collection.

- Green, Thomas Marshall. *Historic Families of Kentucky*, 1889.
- Meacham, Charles Mayfield. *A History of Christian County, Kentucky from Oxcart to Airplane*, 1930.
- Perrin, W. H. *History of Christian County, Kentucky*, 1884.

THE COLLECTION

The collection is comprised chiefly of correspondence of the Lewis, Bibb, and Starling families. Additionally, there are Civil War military and personal papers, business papers, account books, newspaper clippings, genealogical data, and seven scrapbooks that are indexed and which contain much family and topical information.

Arrangement of the collection is by families and individuals. Within the boxes the arrangement chiefly is chronological, yet it is subdivided either chronologically or alphabetically or both as is deemed best in each particular situation. The Civil War papers are organized separately from other correspondence because of their importance and in order to assist the researcher in locating these materials more readily.

Other materials relating to the collection can be found in various repositories as Mary Payne gave items to different historical societies and associations as well as to relatives and friends. The Filson Club in Louisville, Kentucky, and The Virginia Historical Society in Richmond, Virginia, have relevant documents among their holdings.

CORRESPONDENTS

Bibb, John Booker, 1789-1884
 Buckner, Delia (Claiborne), 1857-1932
 Green, Thomas Marshall, 1837-1904
 Lewis, Gabriel Jones, 1775-1864
 Lewis, Henry Howell, 1818-1893
 Lewis, John, 1747-1825
 McAllister, John Meriwether
 McDowell, Alexander Keith Marshall, 1806-1892
 Payne, Mary (Starling), 1832-1896
 Slaughter, Thomas J. (b.1821)
 Starling, George B. (1837-1918)
 Starling, Samuel McDowell, 1807-1890

SHELF LIST

BOX 1	LEWIS-Lyne Papers	1784-1862	142 items
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Folder 1	John Lewis - Incoming letters	1784-1831	5 items
Folder 2	Gabriel Jones - Outgoing letter to Francis Thornton and deed of Gabriel Jones	1795; 1804	2 items
Folder 3	Gabriel Lewis - Letters from his father John	1799-1818	21 items
Folder 4	Gabriel Lewis - Incoming letters	1801-1856	57 items
	4a - Warner Washington - Letters to	1801-1830	16 items
	4b - George Madison - Letters to	1802	1 item
	4c - Llewellyn C. Griffith - Letters to	1804-1805	2 items
	4d - Peter F. Armistead - Letters to	1806-1807	3 items
	4e - George M. Bibb - Letter to	1808	1 item
	4f - Richard Bibb, Jr. - Letters to	1808-1809	5 items
	4g - Robert Gilchrist - Letters to (Includes agreement)	1808-1810	6 items
	4h - Mary Bibb (daughter) - Letter to	1837	1 item
	4i - John Payne - Letter from	1840	1 item
	4j - John Jordan Crittenden - Letters from	1849	2 items
	4k - G. Lewis Starling (grandson) - Letters from	1852; 1856	2 items
	4l - Miscellaneous and partial letters - (also receipt, 1807)	1800-1852	17 items
Folder 5	Gabriel Lewis - Outgoing letters	1806?- 1852	15 items
	5a - Gabriel - Letter to Peter	1806	1 item
	5b - Mary Bibb Lewis - Letters to	1808-1809	9 items
	5c - Warner Washington - Letter to	1827	1 item
	5d - Elizabeth A. G. Starling - Letters to	1832;1847	2 items
	5e - Mary Starling - Letters to	1847;1852	2 items
Folder 6	Edmund Lyne - Papers about the settlement of his estate	1791-1793	4 items
Folder 7	Lawrence Lewis - Letter to brother and slave bill of sale	1803;1805	2 items
Folder 8	Richard Bibb - Letter to Mary Bibb Lewis	1808	1 item
Folder 9	Kanawha lands in Virginia - Letters and	1804;1805	5 items

memorandums about surveying

Folder 10	Warner Washington Lewis - Papers	1826-1829	8 items
	10a - Incoming letters	1826-1829	4 items
	10b - Union County, Kentucky lands - Survey	n.d.	1 item
	10c - Missouri lands - Map and plat	n.d.	3 items
Folder 11	W. W. Lewis to Gabriel Lewis - Power of attorney	1830	1 item
Folder 12	W. W. Lewis - Letters about his disappearance	1833	4 items
Folder 13	Elizabeth Lewis Starling (Mrs. S. M.) - Correspondence	1841-1861 or 1862	14 items
Folder 14	Mary Lewis - Account book	1802-1816	1 item
Folder 15	Gabriel Lewis and Mary Bibb - Marriage license	1807	1 item
Folder 16	Lewis family - Bible record	n.d.	1 item, 1p.
BOX 2	BIBB, John Booker - Papers	1808-1883	81 items
Folder 1	John B. Bibb - Correspondence	1808-1882	35 items
	1a - Gabriel Lewis - Letters to	1808; 1819	2 items
	1b - Richard (father) - Letter about Battle of Raisin	1813	1 item
	1c - Samuel M. Starling - Letters to	1841-1882	27 items
	1d - Thomas Slaughter (nephew) - Letter from	1870	1 item
	1e - Bibb - Undated letters	n.d.	4 items
Folder 2	John B. Bibb - Letter to Mary Starling Payne	1869-1883	44 items
Folder 3	John B. Bibb - Will	1883	2 items
BOX 3	PAYNE, Mary Starling - Incoming letters	1844-1896	154 items

Folder 1	Parents - Letters from	1844-1879	17 items
Folder 2	Relatives - Letters from	1852-1889	33 items
Folder 3	Relatives - Letters from	1890-1895	23 items
Folder 4	Friends and relatives (B-J) - Letters from	1874-1894	29 items
	4a - Warner Lewis Baylor	1887-1890	6 items
	4b - William Vincent Byars	1887-1892	5 items
	4c - Lewis and John Harvie	1874-1890	10 items
	4d - Carrie E. L. Johnson	1894	8 items
Folder 5	Friends and relatives (L-S) - Letters from	1862-1896	33 items
	5a - John C. Lewis - Letters from	1894-1896	6 items
	5b - Thomas Waring Lewis - Letters from	1887-1889	10 items
	5c - M. S. Slaughter - Letter about John Bibb's will	1882-1884	11 items
	5d - Edmund Lyne Starling - Letters from	1862-1863	7 items
Folder 6	George B. (brother) - Letters from	1874-1875; 1893-1895	18 items
BOX 4	PAYNE, Mary Starling - Incoming letters	1857-1895	203 items
Folder 1	Charles Anderson - Letters from	1887-1891	8 items
Folder 2	Benjamin Helm Bristow - Letter from	1890	1 item
Folder 3	Mrs. Delia (Claiborne) Buckner - Letters from	1888-1892	16 items
Folder 4	Moncure D. Conway - Letters from	1892	2 items
Folder 5	Theo L. DeVinne - Letter from	1893	1 item
Folder 6	Lyman C. Draper - Letters from	1885-1886	3 items
Folder 7	Reuben T. Durrett - Letters from	1888-1890	6 items
Folder 8	Harvey L. Eads and ward - Letters from	1884-1886	7 items
Folder 9	Henry Howell Lewis - Letters from	1885-1893	18 items

	9a - Virginia Tayloe Lewis - Letters from	1892-1893	4 items
Folder 10	John Meriwether McAllister - Letters from	1892-1895	21 items
	10a - Regarding Cotton States and International Expositions	1895	2 items
Folder 11	Alexander M. McDowell - Letters from	1887-1892	11 items
Folder 12	Crittenden Marriott - Letter from	1894	1 item
Folder 13	William H. Perrin - Letters from	1884-1886	3 items
Folder 14	Thomas J. Slaughter - Letters from	1884-1894	18 items
Folder 15	George F. White - Letters from	1884-1892	5 items
Folder 16	Letters - Miscellaneous	1857-1895	65 items
Folder 17	Letters - Partial, undated, or unsigned	n.d.	17 items
BOX 5	PAYNE, Mary Starling - Correspondence of Thomas M. Green	1880-1895	91 items
Folder 1	Green - Letter about genealogy	1887-1895	44 items
Folder 2	Green - Letters from	1889-1895	18 items
Folder 3	Green - Letters about Green vs. Hargis libel suit	1889-1894	12 items
Folder 4	Green vs. Hargis libel suit - Wadsworth's speech	1880	1 item
Folder 5	Green - Letters to Mary S. Payne about Jessamine County politics, 1887	1887; n.d.	3 items
Folder 6	Thomas E. Pickett - Printed brochure of letter entitled "The Genesis of a Pioneer Commonwealth"	1885	1 item
Folder 7	Green - Letters to	1889	2 items
	7a - Henry Howe	1889	1 item

	7b - David Forbes	1889	1 item
Folder 8	Green - Letters (partial) and envelope embossed with American Revolution commemoration	1892	10 items
BOX 6	STARLING Family Papers - Miscellaneous	1831-1935	156 items
Folder 1	Mary S. Payne - Letters of	1840s-1886	6 items
Folder 2	Mary S. Payne - Letter book containing names, dates, and addresses of correspondents	1887-1896	1 item
Folder 3	Mary S. Payne - Obituary in pamphlet <u>Lewisiana</u>	July 1896	2 items
Folder 4	William and S. M. Starling - Business papers	1836-1843	9 items
Folder 5	Samuel M. Starling - Outgoing letters	1839-1851	8 items
Folder 6	Samuel M. Starling - Letters to	1841-1890	36 items
	6a - Polly (mother) - Letter from	1841	1 item
	6b - Elizabeth (wife) and Mary (daughter) - Letter from	1842	1 item
	6c - Lyne (brother) - Letters from	1851-1872	6 items
	6d - John (brother) - Letters from	1853	1 item
	6e - Lewis (son) - Letters from	1857	2 items
	6f - George (son) - Letters from	1857-1875	7 items
	6g - H. C. Williams - Letters from	1875	6 items
	6h - Letters - Miscellaneous	1857-1890	12 items
Folder 7	Samuel M. Starling - Incoming letters	1888-1890	3 items
	7a - John Sherman - Letter from	1888	1 item
	7b - Benjamin Helm Bristow - Letter from	1889	1 item
	7c - W. O. Bradley - Letter from	1890	1 item
Folder 8	Letters and papers - Societies and associations	1888-1893	13 items
Folder 9	Anna Starling - Incoming letters	1859-1875	15 items
Folder 10	Tom Starling - Letters to and a	1855-1891	11 items

	personal note		
Folder 11	George B. Starling - Incoming letter	1892	1 item
Folder 12	Killebrew family - Letters	1852-1897	10 items
	12a - J. B. Killebrew - To mother	1852-1853	2 items
	12b - J. B. Killebrew - To sister Nannie	1854-1859(?)	5 items
	12c - Kate and Ruby Killebrew - To Mrs. H. W. Breathitt	1896-1897	3 items
Folder 13	Nannie K. Starling - Letters to	1913-1935	12 items
Folder 14	Elizabeth Lewis and Samuel Starling - Marriage license	1831	1 item
Folder 15	Slave contract	1856	1 item
Folder 16	Funeral notices	1862-1895	5 items
Folder 17	Invitations - Weddings, etc.	1878-1895	10 items
Folder 18	Strother Genealogy - Letters, etc.	1887-1890	11 items
Folder 19	Civil War envelope (cloth) - Manuscript	n.d.	1 item
BOX 7	LEWIS-Starling Papers - Miscellaneous	1792-1970	106 items
Folder 1	Papers - Miscellaneous	1792-1916; n.d.	58 items
	1a - Papers, recipes, and partial items	1802-1916	14 items
	1b - Receipts	1792-1888	11 items
	1c - Genealogical material	n.d.	18 items
	1d - Poems - Unsigned	n.d.	10 items
	1e - Printed items	1889;1895; n.d.	5 items
Folder 2	Clippings	1892-1970	33 items
	2a - Early Kentucky history	n.d.	1 item
	2b - George Washington	1894	8 items
	2c - Brown-Gordon murder	1895	10 items
	2d - Clippings - Miscellaneous	1892-1970	14 items
Folder 3	Photographs - Also list of photographs in scrapbooks		8 items

Folder 4	Family data and genealogical charts		7 items
BOX 8	STARLING, Samuel M. - Civil War Papers	1862-1864	187 items
Folder 1	Anna and Mary - Letters from father	1862-1863	33 items
Folder 2	Anna and Mary - Letters from father	1863-1864	49 items
Folder 3	Anna and Mary - Letters from father about Pursuit and capture of John Hunt Morgan	July 1863	11 items
Folder 4	S. M. Starling - Incoming letters and Civil War military papers	1862-1863	13 items
	4a - Benjamin Helm Bristow - Letters from	1862-1863	4 items
	4b - Garrett Davis - Letter from	1862	1 item
	4c - R. S. Granger - Letters from	1863	2 items
	4d - John A. Logan - Circular letter from	1863	1 item
	4e - M. D. Manson - Letter from	1863	1 item
	4f - J. M. Shackelford - Letters from	1862-1863	4 items
Folder 5	S. M. Starling - Civil War military papers	1862-1864	5 items
	5a - J. A. Nash - Parole	1862	1 item
	5b - J. T. Boyle - Letters to	1862	2 items
	5c - Discharge papers and statement of payment	1863	2 items
Folder 6	Samuel M. Starling - Letters from his children	1862-1864	12 items
	6a - Anna - Letters from	1864	4 items
	6b - Fielding - Letters from	1862	2 items
	6c - George - Letters from	1864	4 items
	6d - Lewis - Letters from	1862	2 items
Folder 7	Mary S. Payne - Letters from	1862-1864	32 items
	7a - Partial, undated, or unsigned letters		5 items
Folder 8	Photocopies of letters in Folder 7	1862-1864	32 items
BOX 9	STARLING Family - Civil War Papers	1861-1866	112 items

Folder 1	Samuel M. Starling - Letters to Starling during the Civil War	1861-1864	12 items
	1a - E. Rumsey Wing - Letter from	1864	1 item
Folder 2	S. M. Starling - War experiences related	n.d.	2 items
Folder 3	Family pictures - Letters about disposition	1863; 1866	18 items
	3a - S. M. Starling - Letters from Mary Payne	1863	8 items
	3b - S. M. Starling - Letters to Anna and Mary	1863; 1866	9 items
	3c - S. M. Starling - Letter from Lyne	1863	1 item
Folder 4	Mary S. Payne - Letters to	1861-1864	49 items
	4a - Sarah P. Bibb (Mrs. John) - Letters from	1862	4 items
	4b - Benjamin Helm Bristow - Letter from	1863	1 item
	4c - E. H. Murray - Letters from	1863-1864	3 items
	4d - Anna Starling - Letters from	1863	3 items
	4e - Fielding Starling - Letters from	1861-1862	4 items
	4f - George Starling - Letter from	1862	1 item
	4g - S. M. Starling - Letters from	1863	8 items
Folder 5	D. M. Claggett - Letters to Mary S. Payne	1863-1864	6 items
Folder 6	Albert G. Sloo - Letters to Mary S. Payne	1864-1865	5 items
Folder 7	Thomas Speed - Letters to Mary S. Payne	1863-1865	10 items
Folder 8	Anna Starling - Incoming letters	1862-1864	7 items
Folder 9	Kentucky - List of volunteer militia for U. S. Army	1862	1 item
Folder 10	Employment of negroes - Papers	1862	2 items
BOX 10	PAYNE, Mary S. - Scrapbooks - 1, 5, 6, & 7		5 items
Folder 1	Index to scrapbook # 1		1 item
Folder 2	Scrapbook # 1	7 1/2" x 12 1/2"	1 item, 257 p.
Folder 3	Scrapbook # 5 - Clippings of religious nature pasted in Christian County	7 3/4" x 12 1/4"	1 item, n.p.

	docket book (original pages dated 1838-1840)		
Folder 4	Scrapbook # 6 - Cartoons and pictures pasted over meteorological tables for Hopkinsville (original records are from June 1, 1858 - June 30, 1862)	7 3/4" x 12 1/4"	1 item n.p.
Folder 5	Scrapbook # 7 - Poetry and words to songs	6 1/8" x 7 1/2"	1 item, 120p.
BSB BOX 11	PAYNE, Mary S. - Scrapbooks - 2, 3, & 4 - Indices, etc.	n.d.	11 items
	A. Scrapbook # 2	10 1/4" x 14 1/4"	1 item, 240p.
	B. Scrapbook # 3	9 3/4" x 12"	1 item, 104p.
	C. Scrapbook # 4	12 1/4" x 15 3/4"	1 item, 48p.
Folder 1	Index to scrapbook # 2		1 item
Folder 2	Index to scrapbook # 3		1 item
Folder 3	Scrapbook # 3 - Photocopies of pages 3, 26, 55, 58a, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, and ibc		11 items
Folder 4	Scrapbook # 4 - Index		1 item
Folder 5	Scrapbook # 4 - Photocopies of pages ifc, front flyleaf, 10, and 37		3 items
Folder 6	S. M. Starling - Commissions	1862-1863	5 items
BSB BOX 12	ACCOUNT Books, 1 & 2	1839-1888	4 items
Folder 1	W. R. Payne - Account book # 1	1839-1888 6 1/4" x 14 1/2"	ca. 200p.
	S. M. Starling & Co. - Account book # 2	1839-1888 10 1/4" x 15 1/4"	ca. 290p.
Folder 2	List of accounts (found in above account book) - Index to manuscripts in ledger		1 item

BSB			
BOX 13	ACCOUNT Books, 3 & 4	1857-1891	2 items
	Starling (Thomas L.) & Wallace - Account book # 3	1857-1864 8" x 12 3/4"	408p.
	Starling (Thomas L.) & Bouleware - Account book # 4	1859-1891 9 3/4" x 15 1/4"	432p.

CARD CATALOG

MSS LEWIS-Starling Collection 1784-1970
38 Correspondence, Civil War military and
personal papers, business papers, land records,
scrapbooks, account books, clippings, and
genealogical records of the Lewis-Starling
families and associated families.
11 1/2 boxes. 103 folders. 1254 items.
1966.24.1

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African Americans – Civil War, 1861-1865 – Employment B9-10
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Baldwin-Marshall tragedy, 1887 B5-5; B11-C
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Starling, Mary

See:

Payne, Mary (Starling)

Jeffrey 12/15/2011