



State of Tennessee
Department of State
Tennessee State Library and Archives
403 Seventh Avenue North
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312

DUNLAP PAPERS
1824-1905
HUGH W. DUNLAP
(1798—1849)
JOHN H. DUNLAP
(1801-1874)

Processed by:

James W. Cartwright
Harriet Chappell Owsley

Accession Numbers: 238, 629, 1276

Date Completed: August 20, 1959

Location: I-B-4

INTRODUCTION

The Dunlap Papers (1824-1905) are composed primarily of legal documents which were the property of two lawyers, Hugh W. Dunlap (1798-1849) and John H. Dunlap (1801-1874) of Henry County, Tennessee.

The materials in this finding aid measure .42 linear feet. There are no restrictions on the materials. Literary rights in the unpublished writings in the Dunlap Papers have been dedicated to the public. Single photocopies may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Dunlap Papers containing approximately 200 items, span the period of 1824-1905. The collection consist primarily of the legal documents and correspondence of Hugh W. Dunlap and John H. Dunlap.

The legal documents of the Dunlap family include bills of sale for Negro slaves, indentures, deeds of trust, receipts, promissory notes, and bills of gift. One letter (copy) was written by Richard G. Dunlap while a member of the Tennessee Legislature in 1829 to his law partner, W. B. A. Ramsey, in Knoxville, explaining an education bill. There are about thirty documents belonging to Nettie Gray Toler, the bulk of which are bills of sale for Negro slaves. The remainder of the collection is composed of correspondence, miscellaneous personal papers of the Dunlaps, and some legal papers concerning Henry County land grants, court summons, etc.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Hugh W., John H., Richard G. & William C. DUNLAP

The Dunlap Papers are primarily concerned with Hugh W. Dunlap (1798-1849) and his younger brother, John H. Dunlap (1801-1874). There is some reference made to William C. Dunlap, who was the twin brother of Hugh, and Richard G. Dunlap (1796-1841), another brother who represented Knox County in the Tennessee Legislature. The Dunlap brothers were the children of Hugh (1769-1846) and Susanna Ellis (Gilliam) Dunlap, who had fifteen children.

John, Hugh W., and Richard G. Dunlap were lawyers and prominent land owners in Henry County who moved there from Knox County. Hugh W. Dunlap was appointed Solicitor General in 1826. John established a law practice in Paris, Tennessee. Richard remained in Knoxville for some years after the others moved to Henry County. The court records of Henry County indicate that the Dunlaps were very active in the legal business of the county. The documents of the Dunlap collection further indicate that John Dunlap bought and sold many large tracts of land. Like other prominent families in Henry County, the Dunlaps were also slave owners who often participated in slave trading.

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

1. Bills of sale for Negro slaves, 1826-1837
2. Bills of sale for Negro slaves, 1838-1860
3. Correspondence, 1829-1905
4. Deeds of Gift, 1824-1827
5. Documents of Nettie Gray Toler, 1825-1840
6. Documents of Nettie Gray Toler, 1842-1858
7. Indentures, 1826-1840
8. Indentures, 1842-1872
9. Legal Documents – Dunlap family, 1833-1867
10. Legal Documents – Henry family, 1836-1859
11. Memorabilia
12. Promissory Notes, 1824-1869
13. Receipts, 1839-1872
14. Summons – Court, 1828-1861

PARTIAL LIST OF DUNLAP PAPERS

Folder 1

1. Deed of gift, 1831, Elisabeth Lowry to children, Elijah Lowry and Sally Rushing, some slaves
2. Bill of sale, 1826, Isaac Searcy to Robert Searcy, Negro woman and child
3. Bill of sale, 1828, Edmund M. Palmer to Warren W. Walker, a Negro boy
4. Bill of sale, 1831, Arthur Mabson to Peter Kendall, two slaves
5. Bill of sale, 1830, Williams Atkins to William Brooks, a negro woman
6. Deed of gift, 1831, John Marberry to son, Horatio N. Marberry, a Negro boy
7. Bill of sale, 1831, William Henderson to Zadok McLester, a Negro woman
8. Bill of sale, 1833, Jacob Braswell to John C. McLemore, a Negro boy
9. Bill of sale, 1834, Mary J. Brown to Daniel D. Hamilton, Negro woman
10. Deed of gift, 1836, Joseph Butterworth to son, David F. Butterworth, a Negro boy, horse and bedstead
11. Bill of sale, 1835, Joseph Edwards to Thomas K. Porter, two Negro men, Jonathan Lamb and John K. Campbell as security
12. Bill of sale, 1837, Joseph Ridgway to J. C. Monroe, Negro slaves

Folder 2

1. Bill of sale, 1838, Solomon Copeland to James Young, a Negro girl part of the estate of Hugh Young
2. Bill of sale, 1840, Washington J. DeWitt to John H. Dunlap, a Negro boy
3. Bill of sale, 1842, John Kendall to father James Kendall, a Negro boy
4. Bill of sale, 1842, E. Blunt Cooper to John H. Dunlap, a Negro man
5. Bill of sale, 1843, Thomas Dodds to Rippley E. Dunlap, a Negro man
6. Bill of sale, 1843, A. C. Pritchett to Edward Jones, a Negro man
7. Bill of sale, 1843, John N. Jackson to Shelburne Loving, a Negro man
8. Bill of sale, 1843, James McClain to James Walker, a Negro woman
9. Bill of sale, 1844, John Forbes to John Dillahunt and John M. Smith, a Negro boy
10. Indenture, 1845, Thomas Lovelace, John W. Blanton, James D. Porter, John Fuqua, James C. McNeill
11. Deed of gift, 1847, Abia Atkins to grandchildren, James H. C. Harlwell, F. John B. and Elizabeth B. Crutchfield, two Negroes
12. Bill of sale, 1848, James S. Taylor to Isaac W. Taylor, a Negro boy
13. Bill of sale, 1852, Henry Hardy and J. C. Miller to John H. Dunlap, a Negro girl
14. Agreement, 1853, between Martha Middleton and Alford Middleton, Heirs at law of Isaac Middleton, for Negro slaves
15. Payment of debt, 1860, T. L. Darnell to Franklin Turbeville, property including a Negro girl
16. Agreement, 1860, of heirs of James Walker that Thomas Poyner may sell the land and slaves belonging to the estate
17. Bill of sale, 1860, B. and J. F. Kendall to David W. Jones, a Negro boy

Folder 3

1. Letter, 1905, Joseph R. Anderson to John S. Dunlap, re: Humes family
2. Letter, 1859, John D. Carroll to W. A. Dunlap, re: have received money and appreciate kindness shown Mr. Word
3. Letter, 1865, H. P. Dunlap to father, re: purchase of wheat
4. Letter, 1854, John H. Dunlap to Rev. C. D. Elliott, re: requests that his daughter be sent home with some reliable person because of the cholera outbreak in Nashville
5. Letter, 1829, R. G. Dunlap to W. B. A. Ramsey, re: education bill before legislature and other matters (internal improvements)
6. Letter, 1867, A. Gardner to Dear Sir, re: friendship between two families
7. Letter, 1860, John S. Gardner to C. D. Venable, J. J. Lambaand, W. A. Dunlap, re: speaking before the Breckenridge and Lane Club
8. Letter, 1874, T. Kirby to J. D. Porter, re: congratulations for winning gubernatorial election and outcome in Sumner County and death of Colonel Head
9. Letter, 1866, George C. Watkins to John H. Dunlap, re: business and Dunlap's brothers were college friends of Watkins

Folder 4

1. Deed of gift, 1824, Elizabeth Searcy to grandchildren, James Howard and Zunrande P. Howard, some property
2. Bill of sale, 1827, Spearman Holland, sheriff and collector of Henry County, to Hugh W. Dunlap, for tracts of land sold for taxes owned by John Wood, heirs of Dorman Fairfax and Annanias McCoy

Folder 5

1. Bill of sale, 1825, Jonathan Cooley to William H. Haggard, one Negro boy
2. Bill of sale, 1827, Peter Kendall and Alexander Thomas, administrators of the estate of Luke Thomas, to S. Holland, a Negro boy
3. Bill of sale, 1827, David McKay to Jonathan Lamb, a Negro woman and her son
4. Deed of gift, 1828, Nathanael Norfleet to her daughter, Jacobina Norfleet, a Negro girl
5. Deed of gift, 1828, Elizabeth Bonds to granddaughter, Martha Fletcher, a Negro woman
6. Bill of sale, 1829, W. J. Dewitt to L. B. Broach, a Negro boy
7. Deed of gift, 1831, John J. Ellis to daughter, Sarah Poindexter Irion Ellis, a Negro girl
8. Bill of sale, 1835, Kelly Holliday to Allen J. Holliday, several Negroes which belonged to Thomas Reavis deceased and left to his wife Elizabeth Reavis who sold them to settle debt
9. Deed of trust, 1836, John M. Reid and James Carter were appointed trustees, 1833, by Thomas J. Bailey for Breckenridge Fitzpatrick and William Fitzpatrick...Land and slaves were sold by Reid without consent of Carter.
Relinquishment of rights stated by deed signed by Reid, October, 1836
10. Bill of sale, 1837, John Hays to Preston G. Haynes, a Negro girl
11. Bill of sale, 1838, Abia Atkins to Minerva F. White, a Negro girl
12. Bill of sale, 1838, Littleberry Ridgeway, Minerva White, Henry F. Atkins and Elizabeth R. Atkins to Abia Atkins, a Negro man
13. Bill of sale, 1840, Sarah Perry to John Ray, a Negro girl

Folder 6

1. Bill of sale, 1842, Joseph Butterworth to David F. Butterworth, three Negroes
2. Deed of gift, 1843, Blount Cooper to grandchildren, Courtland C. Harris and Howell B. Harris, a loan of Negroes until they come of age at which time the Negroes will belong to said grandchildren
3. Court judgement, 1844, signed by John H. Warren, sheriff, in settlement against William R. Wilder by John Dillahunty & Company, for payment of debt.
Sheriff Warren sold Negroes belonging to Wilder to John Haynes
4. Bill of sale, 1844, John Wyatt to Zachariah Wyatt, a Negro woman previously owned by Morris Strand
5. Bill of sale, 1845, Joseph Hill to J. D. Looney, a Negro girl

6. Bill of sale, 1845, J. T. Cooney to R. E. Dunlap, a Negro boy
7. Bill of sale, James T. Edmonds to C. M. White, three Negroes
8. Indenture, 1847, signed by Thomas K. Porter, chairman of Henry County court, Robert A. Foster, Ripley E. Dunlap and Frank D. Mallery, whereby Charlotte, a free Negro, will be apprenticed to Robert A. Foster for a period of seven years
9. Bill of sale, 1854, J. J. Cook to Evan Thompson, a Negro girl
10. Bill of sale, 1849, Robert Lemonds to John Kelso, a Negro woman
11. Deed of trust, 1852, Albert Travis executed promissory note to Alex F. McKinney and Samuel McKinney, a Negro girl
12. Bill of sale, 1858, P. G. Haynes to F. B. Hagler, a Negro boy

Folder 7

1. Bill of sale, 1826, R. E. C. Daugherty to Hugh W. Dunlap, a tract of land in Henry County
2. Bill of sale, 1829, Hugh W. Dunlap to James Hagan, a tract of land in Stewart County
3. Bill of sale, 1829, Hugh Dunlap to Harvel Edmonds, a tract of land in Stewart County
4. Bill of sale, 1830, John Stoddort, Abner Pearce, John H. Randle and James Leeper, commissioners from Paris, Tennessee, to heirs of Lucas Kennedy, to tract of land in Henry County
5. Bill of sale, 1832, John Ray to Thomas Crawford, a tract of land in Henry County
6. Bill of sale, 1833, Henry C. Horton to John H. Dunlap, a tract of land being part of the Blyth tract, Henry County
7. Bill of sale, 1833, Lawrence S. Mason as executor for estate of Daniel Mason to John H. Dunlap, a tract of land in Henry County
8. Bill of sale, 1836, Samuel J. Carman to John H. Dunlap, a tract of land in Henry County
9. Bill of sale, 1836, George W. Terrill to Samuel J. Carman, a tract of land in Henry County
10. Bill of sale, 1836, John W. Cooke to John W. Dunlap, a tract of land which had been a part of a tract owned by Peter Ruff
11. Bill of sale, 1837, Samuel J. Carman to John H. Dunlap, a tract of land in Henry County
12. Bill of sale, 1839, D. S. Greer to John H. Dunlap, a tract of land in Henry County
13. Bill of sale, 1839, William Brown and heirs of John Smith, to John H. Dunlap and Elias Bowden, a tract of land in Henderson County

Folder 8

1. Bill of sale, 1842, Thomas T. Hogg, executor of Gavis Hogg, to John Venable, a tract of land in Henry County
2. Bill of sale, 1844, William A. Cavitt to Larken Bennett, a tract of land in Henry County

3. Bill of sale, 1845, Lewis L. and Caroline E. Williams to John H. Dunlap, a tract of land in Henry County belonging previously to Rebecca Jane Williams, Daniel Mason, and Joseph M. Bryant
4. Bill of sale, 1845, Jeremy Peters to John H. Dunlap, a tract of land in Henry County known as the Stephens lot
5. Bill of sale, 1845, Nelson J. Hess to John H. Dunlap, a tract of land in Gibson County
6. Receipt, 1846, John H. Dunlap to Leonidas Polk of Louisiana for land sold to Colonel William A. Tharp and George Daugherty
7. Bill of sale, 1846, Moses Todd to John H. Dunlap, a tract of land granted to Daniel Kincade in Henry County
8. Bill of sale, 1846, John Anderson to John H. Dunlap, a tract of land in Henry County
9. Appointment, 1847, Samuel Hunt appointed John M. Dunlap as attorney in fact to collect rent due in Henry County and to sell tract of land known as the Fulton Farm
10. Bill of sale, 1848, William Stewart and Joseph B. Stewart, heirs of William Stewart, to John H. Dunlap, a tract of land in Sumner County
11. Bill of sale, 1852, Richard Smith to John H. Dunlap, a tract of land in McNairy County
12. Bill of sale, 1853, S. P. Coffin to John H. Dunlap, a tract of land in Henry County
13. Bill of sale, 1853, Levi Bowling to John H. Dunlap, and R. D. Caldwell, a tract of land in Henry County
14. Bill of sale, 1854, John Saunders to John H. Dunlap, a tract of land in Shelby County
15. Deed of trust, 1855, James C. Hill to William Diggs and Thomas Diggs, Thomas Diggs was security for Hill. To protect Diggs, Hill sold to William Diggs property, including a Negro woman
16. Deed of trust, 1857, D. C. Cook and C. B. Crutchfield to Jonathan S. Dawson, a tract of land
17. Bill of sale, 1860, Planters Bank of Tennessee to John H. Dunlap, for land in Washington County, Mississippi
18. Deed of trust, 1872, J. H. Bowden and wife Nancy Ely Bowden to B. D. Bowden, a tract of land
19. Commission, 1833, appointing John H. Dunlap a brigadier general of the 13th Brigade of Tennessee Militia, signed by Governor William Carroll
20. Deed of trust, 1842, Peter Snider to James T. Dunlap for land sold to Snider by William Polk, James Snider was security
21. Appointment, 1845, Luke Lea appointed John H. Dunlap as attorney in fact to sell land in Henry County
22. Deed of trust, 1843, Nathaniel Dallahite to Ripley E. Dunlap and Thomas P. Evans for property and belongings in Henry County
23. Oath of allegiance to the United States, 1863, signed by John H. Dunlap
24. License, 1866, for John H. Dunlap to practice law in Paris, Henry County
25. Marriage bond, 1867, Robert Calhoun to marry Ann Dunlap

Folder 10

1. Bond of agreement, 1859, J. T. Edwards hired J. W. Foreman to work on the Joshua Bullock place
2. Land grant, 1846, from State of Tennessee to Polk and Deveraux for 500 acres of land in Henry County, signed by Governor Aaron V. Brown
3. Legal opinion, 1836, in case of Paul M. Palmer to William W. Palmer
4. Legal opinion, 1836, in assault case against Samuel Cross for assaulting Joseph B. Pillow
5. Bill of sale, 1837, James Young to Solomon Copeland, for Negro man owned by Hugh Young deceased
6. Legislative bill, 1843
7. Land grant, 1845, in name of Sarah Wilson, land in Henry County, signed by Governor James C. Jones
8. Bill of sale, 1852, John Roberson to Albert Brown, a Negro man
9. Bill of sale, 1860, William McCaskill to F. B. Haggler for Negro family
10. Bill of sale, 1860, A. J. Chilcutt to James Wafford, for Negroes