

FORESEE FAMILY PAPERS

1785-1945

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INTRODUCTION

The Foresee Family Papers were collected by genealogist Ida Lee Foresee (1862-1944). They mainly concern her ancestors Valentine Flowers (1765-1838) and James Daniel Foresee (1818-1878). The Foresees were a prominent family of Humphreys County, Tennessee, and their papers were donated by Mr. Gene Stone of Hendersonville, Tennessee.

This collection measures .84 cubic feet and contains approximately 50 items. There are no restrictions on this collection. Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the Foresee Family Papers may be made for the purpose of scholarly research.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Foresee Family Papers of Ida Lee Foresee (April 6, 1862 - August 28, 1944) concern members of the Foresee and Flowers families of Buckingham County, Virginia and Humphreys County, Tennessee. The collection consists of accounts, bible records, correspondence, genealogical data, land records, photocopies, and schoolbooks. The material was donated by Mr. Gene Stone of Hendersonville, Tennessee.

The oldest item in the collection is an arithmetic schoolbook that belonged to Valentine Flowers (b. 1765), who according to family tradition was a Revolutionary War soldier who later became a Baptist minister. Born in Buckingham County, Virginia, Flowers emigrated to Hickman County, Tennessee sometime after 1820 and, eventually, to Humphreys County. The schoolbook, kept from April to November of 1785, contains beautiful calligraphy, surveying notes, mathematical rules, and genealogical notes.

One of Valentine Flower's daughters married a Virginian of Huguenot descent, Daniel Foresee, who later became a prominent planter of Humphreys County. Most of the collection concerns Daniel Foresee's descendants in the Hurricane Creek area of Humphreys County. There are letters and land records of Daniel's son, James D. Foresee, who was a sheriff, magistrate, and an officer in the Provisional Confederate Army of Tennessee. Another son, Tilford Monroe Foresee, was a schoolteacher and, during the Civil War, a captain in Maney's 24th Battalion of Sharpshooters, CSA. He was killed at the Battle of Franklin, November 30, 1864, and buried on the battlefield but later re-interred in the Foresee Cemetery next to Valentine Flowers. Tilford Monroe's arithmetic schoolbook (ca. 1842) has also been preserved in the collection.

The remainder of the collection consists of a number of early land grants, deeds, and certificates of survey made out to members of the Foresee family. There are a few court documents, a Masonic memorial on the death of James D. Foresee, and letters to Ida Lee Foresee and other family members. A photograph album contains mostly identified photographs of Ida Foresee, Sublet A. Foresee, Alonzo F. Foresee, Ila Foresee, John Bird, Leon Bird, and others.

The Foresee Family Papers contain significant genealogical data on the Flowers and Foresee families of Virginia and Tennessee, as well as historically significant examples of late eighteenth century school literature.

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

1. Accounts
2. Correspondence
3. Genealogical Records (Copied from Schoolbook and Family Bible)
4. Miscellaneous Records
5. Photographs
6. Schoolbook--Valentine Flowers--1785
7. James Daniel Foresee Bible

Box 2

1. Land Records--1818 - 1910
2. Land Records--1818 - 1910
3. Schoolbook--Tilford Monroe Foresee

Box 3

1. Photograph Album