



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

**HARRIS, GEORGE CARROLL**  
**(1836-1911)**  
**PAPERS**  
**1836-1886**

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**MICROFILMED**

## INTRODUCTION

The papers of Reverend George Carroll Harris (1836-1911), Episcopal minister in Nashville and Memphis, Tennessee, and Mt. Helena, Mississippi, were purchased from Mr. Montgomery Cooper, Memphis, 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 Literary rights in the unpublished writings in these papers have been dedicated to the public. Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the George Carroll Harris Papers may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT

George Carroll Harris (1836-1911) was an Episcopal minister in Nashville and Memphis, Tennessee. These papers for the dates of 1836-1886, containing approximately 300 items, are composed of family correspondence primarily. Some genealogical data and a scrapbook kept by the minister are included. The largest number of letters for the dates 1855-1886 were written by Elisha W. Harris (1799-1887), father of Whitson A., Cornelia, Arthur H., George Carroll, Elisha Myrick, Margaret, and William. Arthur H., a lawyer, was elected Attorney General in 1873 and was murdered very soon thereafter. It was believed that his assassins were the radicals who opposed him. Dr. Elisha Myrick Harris went into the Confederate Army and was killed early in the War in Virginia. One letter in the collection was written by Dr. Harris from Camp Magruder, Virginia. The largest portion of the letters was written from Louisiana where the family had moved from Tennessee. The Harris plantation was called Waco Place. There are other letters from Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Washington, D.C., New York, and Tennessee.

The subjects dealt with include information on Southern life before, during, and after the Civil War, Louisiana and National politics, slave labor, the raising of cotton, steamboats, railroads, the weather, farm conditions, the postal service, the Civil War, fever epidemics, the 1860 election, Johnson's impeachment trail, and reconstruction in Louisiana. Many notable characters are mentioned in the letters. They include Abraham Lincoln, John Bell, Stephen A. Douglass, John Breckenridge, Bishops Otey and Quintard, Andrew Johnson, Generals U.S. Grant, Vaughan, Ruggles, Braxton Bragg, Stevenson, Forrest, Cheatham, Joseph E. Johnston, and Hindman.

The papers of George C. Harris were purchased from Mr. Montgomery Cooper, Memphis, Tennessee, by Mrs. John Trotwood Moore for the Tennessee State Library and Archives.

Addition: in 1967: 21 personal letters and one circular letter of Bishop Quintard, 1858-1878. The personal letters are to George Carroll Harris from Sewanee, Nashville, Virginia (during the Civil War), Paris, France, and England when he was endeavoring to raise money for the University of the South at Sewanee, Tennessee.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

### George Carroll Harris

- 1836 Born in March at LaGrange, Tennessee; son of Elisha W. and Celestia (Whitaker) Harris
- 1858 Ordained deacon in Episcopal Church
- 1860 Ordained priest by Bishop Otey
- 1858-1862 Rector of Holy Trinity Church, Nashville, Tennessee
- 1862 Married Helen S. Johnstone
- 1862-1865 Chaplain in Confederate Army
- 1871-1881 One of the Editors of the Banner of the Church
- 1871-1881 Dean of St. Mary's Cathedral, Memphis, Tennessee
- 1881 Moved to Mt. Helena, Mississippi
- 1911, July 2 Died

## CONTAINER LIST

### **Microfilm Roll #1**

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#### **Box 1**

- 1a. Correspondence – Resume by Larry Connelly of Harris Letters
- 1. Correspondence – Arthur Hamilton, 1858-1861
- 2. Correspondence – Arthur Hamilton, 1866-1873
- 3. Correspondence – George C. Harris, 1874
- 4. Correspondence – Dr. Elisha Myrick Harris, 1858-1861
- 5. Correspondence – Elisha W. Harris, 1855-1860
- 6. Correspondence – Elisha W. Harris, 1861
- 7. Correspondence – Elisha W. Harris, 1867-1886
- 8. Correspondence – Elisha W. Harris to Helen, 1871-1883
- 9. Correspondence – Mrs. Elisha W. Harris (Celestia), 1836-1840
- 10. Correspondence – Mrs. Elisha W. Harris (Sallie B.), 1874-1879
- 11. Correspondence – Sallie F. Harris (widow of Arthur H.), 1874-1885
- 12. Correspondence – Whitson A. Harris, 1870
- 13. Correspondence – Miscellaneous, 1858-1880
- 13a. Correspondence – Miscellaneous – C.T. Quintard, 1871-1878
- 13b. Correspondence – C.T. Quintard – Abroad, 1875-1876
- 13c. Correspondence – C.T. Quintard – Civil War, 1861
- 13d. Correspondence – C.T. Quintard – Nashville, Tennessee, 1858
- 14. Correspondence – Sewanee, Otey and Quintard, 1872-1883
- 15. Genealogical Data – Harris Family
- 16. Materials – re: Harris family
- 17. Scrapbook of George C. Harris