



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

KILLEBREW, JOSEPH BUCKNER
(1831-1906)
PAPERS
1797-1906

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INTRODUCTION

The papers of Joseph Buckner Killebrew (1831-1906), PhD., University of North Carolina; Agricultural Editor of the *Nashville Union and American*; Assistant Superintendent of Public Instruction for Tennessee; State Agent for the Peabody Fund; Secretary of the National Agricultural Congress; Editor of the *Rural Sun*; Secretary of the Bureau of Agriculture, Statistics, Mines and Immigration for Tennessee; Immigration Agent and Industrial Agent for the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railroad; Editor of *Southern Farm Magazine*; and Contributing Editor of *Manufacturer's Record*, were given to Tennessee State Library and Archives by Mr. Jack Killebrew, Clarksville, Tennessee, grandson of Joseph Buckner Killebrew, during the years 1959 and 1960.

The materials in this finding aid measure 2.45 linear feet. There are no restrictions on the materials. Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the Joseph Buckner Killebrew Papers may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Killebrew Papers, 1797-1906, are composed of approximately one thousand items. They contain memoirs, correspondence, legal documents, genealogical data, pamphlets, and scrapbooks dealing with the life and career of Joseph Buckner Killebrew whose home was near Clarksville, Tennessee. William Trigg, a relative of Mrs. Killebrew, was the author of the earliest item in the collection – the little volume, dated 1797, containing information about the construction of waterwheels.

The autobiography of J.B. Killebrew, entitled “Recollections of my Life” is in two volumes (668 typed pages). It is delightfully written and gives much interesting and valuable information about Tennessee – its resources and its people. His descriptions of events during and after the Civil War are most enlightening. The material contained in this work is invaluable for students of Tennessee history. In addition to J.B. Killebrew’s autobiography, there is a little volume written by his wife, entitled “Recollections of Mary Catherine Killebrew.” This little volume (106 typed pages) contains much genealogical material – giving information about the Triggs, Wimberleys, Bournes, Diggs, Whitfields, and Hamptons. In addition, it contains interesting information about schools, religion, customs, and life in general in Tennessee during the period immediately following the Civil War.

The writings of J.B. Killebrew in this collection have been arranged in a chronological order according to the dates of their appearance and are as nearly a complete file as it has been possible to obtain with the aid of the family. The Library has been able to add to its files by reproducing some of the material in this collection, but the writings are not collected under Killebrew’s name due to the fact that many of his articles were in the form of reports while he was State Secretary of Agriculture and are bound with the State Documents.

The Scrapbooks contain clippings concerning Killebrew’s work and activities and some of his articles, especially those written for the Magazine, *Home and Farm*. The two volume *Standard Dictionary* for which Killebrew wrote the definitions for the tobacco terms, also *The Grasses of Tennessee Including Cereals and Forage Plants* and *Tobacco Leaf: Its Culture, Cure, Marketing and Manufacture*, written in collaboration with Herbert Myrick, have been placed in the State Library for better accessibility.

CONTAINER LIST

Microfilm Roll #1

Box 1

1. Accounts - 1885-1890
2. Centennial Exposition – Appropriation Act, ca. 1906
3. Clippings, Re: Joseph Buckner Killebrew
4. Correspondence – Business, 1887
5. Correspondence – Business, 1889
6. Correspondence – Business, 1890
7. Correspondence – Business, (Letters of J.B. Killebrew), 1889
8. Correspondence – Family and Personal, 1868-1899
9. Genealogical Data – Sketch of Killebrew family
10. Memoranda – (1) Property Invoice of Miss Lulu McCuddy, (2) Rockdale Mining and Manufacturing Co.
11. Obituary in Manufacturer's Record, March, 1906
12. Report on the Iron Ore of Skagit County, Washington Territory, 1889
13. Report on the Property of the Pine Mt. Coal, Railroad and Manufacturing Co. – 1887
14. Southern Farm Magazine, 1905-1906
15. Survey of Wimberley Lands, 1851
16. Trigg's book (Photostats), 1797
17. Virginia and Tennessee Coal and Iron Company – 1.) Bill of Incorporation 2.) Minutes of Stockholders meetings, 1888
18. Virginia and Tennessee Coal and Iron Company – Report of coal field of Southwestern Virginia
19. Will of J.B. Killebrew, March 2, 1906
20. Writing – Sketch of Life of Daniel Hillman, 1888

Box 2

- 1a. Biography of Joseph Killebrew
1. “Recollections of My Life: An Autobiography” by Joseph Buckner Killebrew. Volume 1, 1896-1897 – the period of the writing. It covers the period from his earliest recollections and ends in 1882 when he gave up his public life and came home to Montgomery County to spend the rest of his life (325 typed pages)

Microfilm Roll #2

2. “Recollections of My Life: An Autobiography”, by Joseph Buckner Killebrew. Volume II, 1898 – the period of the writing. It deals with the years 1882-1898. (343 typed pages)

Box 3

1. "Recollections of Mary Catherine Killebrew," wife of Joseph Buckner Killebrew
2. In Memoriam – Meta Boyd Killebrew
3. Scrapbook No. 1 – contains newspaper clippings concerning the work and writings of J.B. Killebrew
4. Scrapbook No. 2 – contains many articles written by Killebrew for the Louisville farm magazine, Home and Farm, 1884-1885
5. Pamphlet – Valedictory Address by Mattie May Killebrew
6. University of North Carolina Commencement Program, 1856
7. Indexes

Box 4

Killebrew's Writings

No attempt will be made in this container list to give the exact title of the pamphlets in this box. They are arranged chronologically by date of appearance and numbered. The numbers refer to a list of Killebrew's writings which will be attached to this Register.

1. Pamphlets – Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14

Microfilm Roll #3

Box 4

1. Pamphlets – Numbers 16, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29
2. Pamphlets – Numbers 31, 32, 37, 39, 40, 41, 44, 46, 47, 50, 52, 53, 55, 56, 57, 61, 63, 65, 66, 68, 69, 70, 72
3. Pamphlets – Numbers 73, 74, 75, 76, 84, 85, 86

Microfilm Roll #4

3. Pamphlets – Numbers 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 96

Box 5

Pamphlets on various subjects not written by Killebrew but were a part of his collection.

1. Agricultural Articles: Fertilizers, Leguminous Plants, Wheat, etc.
2. Agricultural Bureau and Agricultural organizations
3. Alabama: Geological Survey, Hinda's Cave, Coal & Iron
4. Birkinbine, John: Eight articles on Iron Ore & mines
5. Constitution of Tennessee, 1870

Microfilm Roll #5

6. Education Articles
7. Episcopal Church: Tennessee, 2 articles, 1869
8. "Facts About the South," by Richard Edmonds, 1894, 1902
9. Immigration Articles, 1879, 1880
10. Iron, Steel, and Charcoal

11. Memorial Orations and Sermons: Two North Carolina Professors – Rev. Elisha Mitchell and Hon. David L. Swain
12. North Carolina University: (1) Address of Aaron V. Brown (2) Commencement Sermon and Program
13. Tobacco Culture: Eleven articles

Writings of Joseph Buckner Killebrew with the Manuscript Collection of his papers. (Numbers in parentheses refer to the chronologically arranged list of these writings.)

“Advance Sheets from a Work on Sheep Husbandry.” Nashville: The American, Printers to the State, 1878 (No.22)

An address delivered at an immigration meeting held in Montgomery County, Tennessee, August 29, 1867. Nashville: Bell, Jones and Company, 1867. Also printed in *DeBow's Review*, IV, No. 5 (November, 1867) pp.423-433. (No.1)

Address delivered before Montgomery Farmer's Club, White Chapel, Tennessee, March 12, 1870 (No. 2)

Address delivered before the Tennessee Stock Breeder's Association, February 15, 1876. *The Proceedings of the Tennessee Stock Breeder's Association*. Nashville: Griffith, Hord and Cunningham, 1876. (No. 16)

Address on the Farming Interests delivered in 1871 (19 pages). No publication data (No.4)

An address on the importance of levying a tax for the support of common schools, delivered in 1872. No publication data (No. 9)

“The Battle of Guilford Court House.” An address before the Tennessee Division of the Sons of the American Revolution in Nashville, March 15, 1901. Nashville: S.B. Newman & Co., 1902 (No. 75)

“Carrington Genealogy” published in the journal of the *Southern History Association*, May, 1901, pp. 228-231. Washington: Southern History Association, 1901. (No. 74)

“The Centennial Exposition: Its Necessity and Advantages.” An address delivered to the General Assembly, 1896. No publication data. (No. 53)

“Centennial Exposition of Tennessee,” *Chamber of Commerce Manual, Business Guide, and Directory of Nashville, Tennessee*. Nashville: L.H. Hollowell and Co., 1894 (No. 50)

Crop and Statistical Report, April, 1879. 24 pages. No publication data. (No. 29.)

“Destiny of the South Revealed in its Resources.” *Manufacturers’ Records Baltimore – Southern Supplement*. Baltimore: Manufacturers’ Record Publishing Co., 1900 (No. 73)

“The Dignity and Necessity of Labor.” An address delivered before the opening of the Huntsville Agricultural and Manufacturing Association in Alabama. Nashville: Paul and Tavel Co., 1873 (No. 11)

“An Epitome of the Resources of the Territory Traversed by the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railroad.” Nashville: No publication data. (No. 85)

“Extract from Report of Committee on Agriculture,” *Advantages and Opportunities of Tennessee as an Agricultural and Manufacturing State*. Nashville: No publisher, 1898 (No.66)

“Facts about the Cumberland Table Land of Tennessee and Sand Mountain of Alabama. Nashville: Marshall and Bruce Co., 1897 (No. 61)

“Facts and Figures Concerning the Region Traversed by the System of Railroads Controlled and Operated by the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railroad.” Nashville: No publication data, 1895. (No. 56)

“Facts and Statistics Concerning Northeastern Alabama Adjacent to the Line of the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railway Between Elora, Tennessee and Gadsden, Alabama.” Nashville: F.M. Paul. No date. (No. 87)

“The Forests of Tennessee,” a speech delivered before the American Forestry Association at the Centennial Exposition, Nashville, September 22, 1897. Found in Sudworth, George Bishop, and Joseph Buckner Killebrew, *The Forests of Tennessee: Their Extent, Character and Distribution*. Nashville: Publishing House of M.E. Church, South, 1897 (No. 63)

“Geology and Topography of the Oil Regions of Tennessee with some Account of Oil Springs and Wells,” *Proceedings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science*, Vol. XXVI. Salem: Salem Press, 1878. (No. 21)

“A Glance at the Iron Ores of Hickman County.” No publication data (No. 84)

Grasses and Forage Plants, Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press, 1899 (No. 72)

“The Great Warrior Coal Field,” Alabama, 1882. No publication data.

The Highlands of Tennessee on the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railway.

Published in Nashville. No other data.

Immigration pamphlets written while Immigration Agent for the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railway. Published in Nashville, 1897-1903. No other data.

- (a) *Agricultural Products, Live Stock and Grazing Lands, Poultry Raising Along the Line of the N.C. & St. Louis Railroad* (no. 94)
- (b) *Lands for Sale Along the Line of the N.C. & St. Louis Railroad* (No. 90)
- (c) *Mineral Deposits and Mining Interests Along the Line of the N.C. & St. Louis Railroad* (No. 89)
- (d) *Peach Growing Along the Line of the N.C. & St. Louis Railroad* (No. 88)
- (e) *Timber Resources Along the Line of the N.C. & St. Louis Railroad* (No. 91)
- (f) *Tobacco Culture Along the Line of the N.C. & St. Louis Railroad* (No. 92)
- (g) *Water Powers and Eligible Sites for Manufacturing Industries Along the Line of the N.C. & St. Louis Railroad* (No. 93)

“Industrial Education for Southern White Boys,” a chapter in *The Need of Technical Training for Southern White Boys*, pp. 17-21 Baltimore: Manufacturers’ Record Publishing Company, 1902 (No. 76)

Information for Immigrants Concerning Middle Tennessee and the Counties in that Division Traversed by or Tributary to the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railway. Nashville: Marshall and Bruce Co., 1898 (No. 68)

Meadows and Pastures: A Compendium of the Grasses of Tennessee. Nashville: Tavel, Eastman and Howell, 1880 (No.32)

Middle Tennessee as an Iron Centre. Nashville: Tavel, Eastman and Howell, 1879 (No. 28)

“The Phosphate Deposits of Tennessee,” *The Manufacturers’ Record* (July, 1898) Reprint (No. 69)

“Privilege Tax on Railroads.” An interview granted an American reporter when Killebrew was President of the Industrial League during the Tennessee Industrial Convention in Nashville, May 11, 1898. No publication data. (No. 65)

Read What the South Offers to Industrious People in the Country Traversed by the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railway. Nashville, 1896. No publisher. (No. 57)

Report of the Assistant Superintendent of Public Instruction for the State of Tennessee to the 38th General Assembly, January, 1873. Nashville: Jones, Purves and Company, 1873. (No. 10)

Report of Hon. Wm. Morrow, Superintendent of Public Instruction to Called Session of the 37th General Assembly to the State of Tennessee, Embracing a Report by the Assistant Superintendent, J.B. Killebrew. Nashville: Jones, Purves and Company, 1872 (No.8)

A Report on Eastern Kentucky Coal Lands and Magnetic Iron Ores of North Carolina, 1887. No publication data (No. 44)

Report on 83,000 Acres of Iron Lands Belonging to the Tennessee Valley Company. No publication data. (No. 46)

Report on the Iron Ore of Skaget Country, Washington Territory, 1889. Not published (Box 1)

Report on Polk Mines, June 8, 1883. No publication data. (No. 40)

Report on Property of the Pine Mt. Coal, Railroad, and Manufacturing Co., 1887. (Not published) (Box 1)

Report on Tract of Land Lying in Cheatham County, Tennessee, Belonging to D.H. McGavock of Nashville, Tennessee. Nashville: Tavel, Eastman and Howell, 1879. (No. 27)

Report to Directors of Refugio Gold and Silver Mines, 1883. No publication data (No. 39)

Resources of Giles County (Fragment); Resources of Lincoln County (7 pages). Nashville: Union American Printing Company, 1871. (No. 5)

“Sketch of the Life of Daniel Hillman.” An address read before Tennessee Historical Society, January 1888. (Box 1)

“The South: Its Opportunities for the Investment of Capital.” An address given at a convention in Southern Pines, North Carolina, April 19, 1899 (No. 70)

Special Report on the Belmont Coal Mines Situated in Jackson County, Alabama. Nashville: Stadden and Fairbanks, 1878 (No. 23)

“Striking Events in the History of Tennessee.” *Centennial Celebration by the Public Schools of Memphis, April 2, 1895*. Memphis: S.C. Toff and Company, 1895 (No. 55)

“Tennessee’s Centennial,” *Proceedings of the Eighth Annual Meeting of the Public School Officers’ Association of Tennessee*. Nashville: Marshall and Bruce Company, 1894. This was an address before the Public School Officers’ Association of Tennessee, Nashville, December 12, 1894 (No. 52)

Tennessee: Its Advantages, Resources, and Possibilities. By Robert Gates, J.B. Killebrew, and M.V. Richards. Nashville: Marshall and Bruce Company. No date given. (No. 86)

Tennessee: Its Agricultural and Mineral Wealth: An Abridgement of the First and Second Reports of the Bureau of Agriculture. Nashville: Tavel, Eastman & Howell, Printers to the State, 1874. (No. 12)

Tobacco and Its Culture in Tennessee. Nashville: Tavel, Eastman and Howell, 1876 (No. 14a)

Treatment of Wood for Charcoal and Alcohol under Pierce’s Process Having Direct Bearing on the Manufacture of Charcoal Iron. Nashville: Albert B. Tavel, 1886 (No. 41)

Valuable Farms and Timbered Lands for Sale in the State of Tennessee. Nashville: George B. Staddan and Company, 1880. (No. 31)

Warren County: Its Organization, Scenery, Resources, and Representative Men. Nashville: Union and American Book and Job Printing Company, 1871. (No. 3)

The Western Iron Belt: Its Relation to the Growth and Prosperity of Nashville. An address given before the Commercial Club in Nashville, April 16, 1890. Nashville: Commercial Club, 1890. (No. 47)

West Tennessee: Its Resources and Advantages – Cheap Homes for Immigrants. Nashville: Tavel, Eastman and Howell, 1879 (No. 26)