



**State of Tennessee
Department of State
Tennessee State Library and Archives**

**ELI ODOM PAPERS,
1793-1869**

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Creator:

Odom, Eli, 1793-1869

Inclusive Dates:

1793-1869, bulk 1865-1869

Scope & Content:

Consists of 75 items, dating from 1793-1869. The majority of the collection consists of correspondence concerning Odom's business affairs during the last years of his life. Also included are routine orders and receipts for bonds, as well as county and state bonds for railroad construction.

The majority of the correspondence takes place during Reconstruction and includes topics such as the sale of goods, bonds, loans, legal matters, and stocks. Worth noting are the sixteen letters from G. R. Keith, a native of Knoxville, Tennessee, who moved to Cottage Home, near DeSoto (Clark County), Mississippi. While living in Mississippi, he wrote to Odom about the problems of buying and transporting horses, lack of cash, droughts, and the price of cotton at two cents a pound and falling. Also included in this collection is a letter from Speed S. Fry to General Payne in 1864, concerning the restitution for crops and livestock taken from Odom by U.S. Army.

Following the container list is a name index of the correspondence in the Eli Odom Papers, together with the dates of the letters and information regarding their contents.

Due to reprocessing, the arrangement of the physical collection (as documented in the finding aid) no longer matches that of the microfilm.

Physical Description/Extent:

.5 cubic feet

Accession/Record Group Number:

THS 421

Language:

English

Permanent Location:

THS I-E-3; Mf. 762

Repository:

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

Administrative/Biographical History

Eli Odom was born in approximately 1793 after his family moved to Sumner County, Tennessee in the closing years of the 18th century. On July 17, 1823, he married Catherine Phagan, the niece of his brother-in-law, George Elliott. She was born on February 8, 1805. In 1837, Odom became an officer in the Gallatin Jockey Club. Eli and Katherine had a daughter, Eleanor "Ellen" Katherine Odom, who was born on May 7, 1841. Katherine died on January 18, 1842 and was buried in Gallatin City Cemetery in Gallatin, Tennessee. Eleanor Odom went on to marry Charles William Trousdale, the son of Tennessee Governor William Trousdale. At the outbreak of the Civil War, Odom was in his late sixties. However, he organized Company F of the 7th Tennessee Cavalry Battalion (C.S.) in Hartsville, Tennessee, with men from Sumner and Trousdale counties in December 1861. He survived the war and died on October 31, 1869 at the age of 76. He was buried in the Gallatin City Cemetery, Section B, Row 14, alongside his wife.

Organization/Arrangement of Materials

This collection was arranged in alphabetical and chronological order.

Conditions of Access and Use**Restrictions on Access:**

No restrictions.

Restrictions on Use and Reproduction:

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Index Terms

Personal/Family Names:

Keith, G. R., active 1867
Odom, Eli, 1793-1869
Odom family

Corporate Names/Organizations/Government Bodies:

Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company
Tennessee. Supreme Court
United States. Army

Subjects:

Reconstruction (U.S. history, 1865-1877) -- Mississippi

Geographic Names:

Tennessee -- History -- 19th century -- Sources
Tennessee -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865

Document Types:

Accounts
Legal correspondence
Personal correspondence
Receipts (financial records)

Processing and Administrative Information

Preferred Citation:

Eli Odom Papers, 1793-1869, Tennessee State Library and Archives.

Processing Information:

Processing was completed by Kimberly Mills Wires in June 2009.

DETAILED COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

CONTAINER LIST

Contents/Item Title	Date	Box	Folder
Accounts -- Bonds	1855-1869	1	1
Correspondence -- Anderson, Johnson & Smith	1867-1869	1	2
Correspondence -- Burns, Alexander	1867	1	3
Correspondence -- Caruthers, R. L.	1867-1868	1	4
Correspondence -- Charlton, L.	1866-1868	1	5
Correspondence -- Coulter, T. J.	1863	1	6
Correspondence -- Crockett, A. J.	1869	1	7
Correspondence -- Elliston, W. R.	1866-1867	1	8
Correspondence -- Fink, Albert	1868	1	9
Correspondence -- Frazier, J. G.	1867	1	10
Correspondence -- Fry, Speed	1864 (?)	1	11
Correspondence -- Gatewood, John J.	1867	1	12
Correspondence -- Gordon, A. A.	1869	1	13
Correspondence -- Houston, Russell	1869	1	14
Correspondence -- Keiger, Jacob Sr.	1869	1	15
Correspondence -- Keith, G. R.	1867	1	16
Correspondence -- Keith, L. R.	1867	1	17
Correspondence -- Marr, Thomas S.	1869	1	18
Correspondence -- McKinley, Thompson	1865	1	19
Correspondence -- Milliken, C. W.	1867	1	20
Correspondence -- Morris, C. F.	1866-1869	1	21
Correspondence -- Newspaper Clippings	1868	1	22
Correspondence -- Odom, Eli	1868	1	23
Correspondence -- Peyton, Emily, T.	1867	1	24
Correspondence -- Rice, A. J.	1869	1	25
Correspondence -- Smith, Guild	1869	1	26
Correspondence -- Stark, James L.	1865	1	27
Correspondence -- Whitworth, James	1869	1	28
Correspondence -- Wing, Tobey & Co.	1867	1	29
Receipts -- Allen, Joseph W.	1866-1869	1	30
Receipts -- Walker & Younger	1865	1	31

Index to Correspondence

Date: 1866-1869

To: Eli Odom

From: Joseph W. Allen

General Contents Description: 14 letters concerning receipts, order for bonds, collection of interest, receipt of bonds, arranging loans, and a quote on Davidson County bonds.

Date: 1867-1869

To: Eli Odom

From: Anderson, Johnson and Smith, Real Estate and General Agents, Nashville

General Contents Description: 4 letters concerning mortgage bonds on the property of Dr. D. T. McGavock, the sale of "Whitworth Place", and A. J. Crockett's loan notes.

Date: 1867

To: Eli Odom

From: Alexander Burns

General Contents Description: A letter taking the deposition of William N. Montgomery.

Date: 1867-1868

To: Eli Odom

From: R. L. Caruthers

General Contents Description: 4 letters concerning Supreme Court granting a new hearing (case not named), a request for confidential personal loan, and details of fee contract on Supreme Court case.

Date: 1868

To: Eli Odom

From: R. L. Caruthers, Jr.

General Contents Description: 4 letters concerning an attorney reporting on collections and fee details.

Date: 1866-1868

To: Eli Odom

From: L. Charlton

General Contents Description: 2 letters concerning delayed loan payments.

Date: 1863

To: Eli Odom

From: T. J. Coulter

General Contents Description: 3 letters concerning receipts from U. S. Army for labor of slaves.

Date: 1869
To: Eli Odom
From: A. J. Crockett
General Contents Description: A letter concerning a request for a delayed letter about the sale of corn.

Date: 1866
To: Eli Odom
From: W. R. Elliston
General Contents Description: A brief note about the borrower concerned about the spread of cholera.

Date: 1868
To: Eli Odom
From: Albert Fink
General Contents Description: A letter concerning free railroad passes for legislators.

Date: 1867
To: Eli Odom
From: J. G. Frazier
General Contents Description: A letter concerning a "Cantrells" paid judgment.

Date: 1864
To: General Payne
From: Speed S. Fry
General Contents Description: A letter concerning restitution for crops and livestock taken from Odom by U. S. Army.

Date: 1867
To: Eli Odom
From: John J. Gatewood
General Contents Description: A letter concerning sale of land for debt.

Date: 1869
To: Eli Odom
From: A. A. Gordon
General Contents Description: 3 correspondences concerning a bond purchase.

Date: 1869
To: Eli Odom
From: Russell Houston
General Contents Description: A letter suggesting Odom should personally vote for an L&N Railroad attorney and his stock at the stockholders' meeting.

Date: 1867

To: Eli Odom

From: G. R. Keith

General Contents Description: A correspondence concerning a purchase of horses and includes much comment of life in Mississippi after war: lack of cash, drought, cotton selling at two cents and falling.

Date: 1869

To: Eli Odom

From: Jacob Krieger, Sr.

General Contents Description: 2 letters concerning a proxy campaign among L&N Railroad stockholders.

Date: 1869

To: Eli Odom

From: Thomas S. Marr

General Contents Description: 2 letters concerning the offer to sell Davidson County bonds issued to L&N Railroad and a printed sheet of bond quotations.

Date: 1865

To: Eli Odom

From: Thompson McKinley

General Contents Description: A letter concerning a voting certificate.

Date: 1867

To: Eli Odom

From: C. W. Milliken

General Contents Description: A letter about serving legal process in Scottsville, Kentucky.

Date: 1866

To: Eli Odom

From: C. F. Morris

General Contents Description: 3 letters from a nephew in Pacific Place, Arkansas.

Date: 1867

To: Eli Odom

From: Emily Peyton

General Contents Description: A letter requesting a \$1,000 loan until Weakley County land can be sold and mentioning a first loan in 1857.

Date: 1869

To: Eli Odom

From: Guild Smith

General Contents Description: A letter requesting Odom as witness in court.

Date: 1865

To: Eli Odom

From: James L. Stark

General Contents Description: A letter requesting a bond to proceed with court-ordered sale of land of W. L. and J. G. Anthony at Scottsville, Kentucky.

Date: 1869

To: Eli Odom

From: James Whitworth

General Contents Description: A letter offering railroad bonds.