



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

**TUCKER-VAUGHAN  
PAPERS  
1840 - 1912**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The Tucker–Vaughan Papers (1840-1912) are centered on the lives of William Benjamin Tucker (1841-1915), Union Civil War Veteran, painter, and Railway Postal Clerk of Nashville, Tennessee, and his father-in-law, Ruffin Vaughan (1805-1870) of Tennessee. The donor of the Tucker–Vaughan Papers is Joe Hooper of Nashville, Tennessee.

The materials in this collection occupy .84 cubic feet of shelf space. Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the Tucker–Vaughan Papers may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Tucker–Vaughan Papers, containing approximately 160 items, span the period 1840-1912. The collection is composed of accounts, Civil War materials, correspondence, court records, genealogical data, land records, legal records, pension (Civil War) applications, photographs, drawings, etc., railroad papers, slavery, tax receipts, voter registration certificates, and several miscellaneous items. The collection is centered on two Tennessee families: that of William Benjamin Tucker (1841-1915), of Nashville, who served in Company A, 47<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the Ohio Volunteer Infantry in the Civil War, and of his father-in-law, Ruffin Vaughan (1805-1870) of Davidson County. Among the Civil War items is a claim (“for commutation of rations while prisoner-of-war”), a muster roll, orders, and passes relating to Williams B. Tucker and his service as a Union soldier. A clipping (box 1, folder 19) contains a short sketch of the 47<sup>th</sup> Ohio Regiment.

Correspondence is mainly familial in nature. One of the more valuable letters is that written by William Tucker (1809-1891), father of William Benjamin, while the latter was serving with Tennessee volunteers in the Mexican War in 1846 (box 1, folder 35). He describes in some detail the successful storming of forts guarding the approaches to Monterey, Mexico and the subsequent capture of that city.

Genealogical data generally consists of group sheets on the family of William F. Lewis (1784-1858), whose daughter, Mary C., married Ruffin Vaughan. A sketch entitled “Life of William Benjamin Tucker” may be found in box 1, folder 43. This short summary mentions Southern cities that his regiment (47<sup>th</sup> Ohio) passed through during the Union campaign in the Civil War.

There are several letters pertaining to William B. Tucker’s application for a Civil War disability pension (box 2, folder 15). On December 29, 1899, the Bureau of Pensions granted Tucker a pension of \$6.00 a month, retroactive to March 12, 1895. A later appeal by Tucker to have his pension benefit increased was rejected due to insufficient evidence. However, in 1911 the veteran was granted an old age pension of \$15.00 a month.

A very interesting copy of a pencil sketch of Andersonville Prison is in the collection. Made by a prisoner there named Felix LaBaume, it is “Dedicated to my Fellow–Survivors and to all Sons of Veterans, in Memory of 14,000 martyrs who perished.” There are several graphic illustrations of the inhuman treatment of the prisoners. The original pencil sketch was used as evidence in the trial of the Commandant of Andersonville, Henry Wirz. William B. Tucker was also imprisoned there for several months in 1864.

Railroad papers trace the employment of William B. Tucker as a Railway Postal Clerk between Nashville and Chattanooga, Tennessee. He was employed in that position from 1883 until 1888 when he was terminated, due probably to a change in administrations in Washington, D. C. He was reappointed in early 1890 and remained there until April 1891. The slavery item is a receipt crediting William Tucker, Sr. for catching a runaway slave in 1844. There are several voter registration certificates that were issued at the end of Civil War.

## CONTAINER LIST

### **Box 1**

1. Accounts – Bills, notes, receipts – Eason, William, 1856
2. Accounts– Bills, notes, receipts – Tucker, William, 1853-1855
3. Accounts – Bills, notes, receipts – Vaughan, Benjamin, 1860-1890
4. Accounts – Bills, notes, receipts – Vaughan, J. S., 1869
5. Accounts – Bills, notes, receipts – Vaughan, Ruffin, 1860-1864
6. Accounts – Bills, notes, receipts – Unknown, 1874
7. Announcements – Funeral – William Tucker, 1891
8. Cards – Business – Pullman House
9. Cards – Dance
10. Cards – Greeting – Miscellaneous
11. Cards – Sympathy – Death of Lottie Mae Tucker, 1912
12. Certificates – Benefit – William B. Tucker, 1886
13. Civil War – Campaigns and battles, 1864-1865 – Progress of Tennessee troops
14. Civil War – Claims – William B. Tucker, 1889
15. Civil War – Finance, commerce, confiscations, etc. – Mary E. Vaughan, 1862
16. Civil War – Muster rolls – William B. Tucker, 1864
17. Civil War – Orders – William B. Tucker, 1861, 1864
18. Civil War – Passes – William B. Tucker, 1865
19. Clippings – 47<sup>th</sup> Ohio Regiment
20. Clippings – “Grand Army Men Elect Officers”
21. Clippings – “Lord Dundreary”
22. Clippings – Pension bill
23. Clippings – Miscellaneous
24. Correspondence – Author unknown
25. Correspondence – Breedlove – Clark
26. Correspondence – Fleming – LaBaume
27. Correspondence – Lewis, B. W. – Lewis, Thurza
28. Correspondence – Manor – Trolinger
29. Correspondence – Tucker, Catherine
30. Correspondence – Tucker, Claborn
31. Correspondence – Tucker, H. C.
32. Correspondence – Tucker, James
33. Correspondence – Tucker, Nancy Rachael
34. Correspondence – Tucker, Theresa (“Jennie”)
35. Correspondence – Tucker, William
36. Correspondence – Tucker, William B.
37. Correspondence – Vaughan, Mary C.
38. Correspondence – Vaughan, Stephen L.
39. Correspondence – Vaughan, William L.

40. Court records – Bankruptcy – Benjamin Zachary, 1842
41. Court records – Cases – *Home Insurance Company v. H. S. Everett et al*, 1894
42. Court records – Cases – *Ruffin Vaughan v. John N. Nance*, 1858
43. Court records – Judgment – James Vaughan, 1867
44. Court records – Merchant Bond – William B. Tucker and M. D. Smith, 1868
45. Estate papers – William F. Lewis, 1859
46. Estate papers – Randal Tucker, 1851
47. Genealogical data – Lewis, William F., 1784-1858
48. Genealogical data – Tucker, William, 1809-1891
49. Genealogical data – Vaughan, Ruffin, 1805-1870
50. Invitations, programs, etc. – Sixth Annual Re-Union of Forty-Seventh Regiment O. V. V. I., 1892
51. Invitations, programs, etc. – Sumner County Public Dinner for Volunteer Soldiers of State, Tennessee, 1847

## **Box 2**

1. Land records – Deed – William F. Lewis to Richard Lewis, 1858
2. Land records – Deed – Ann Merrick to Randal Tucker, 1841
3. Land records – Deed – C. W. Nance to William G. Moore, 1858
4. Land records – Deed – William Shelton to William Tucker, 1837
5. Land records – Deed – Randal Tucker to Reuben J. Nevil, 1840
6. Land records – Deed – William Tucker to Richard Savage, 1843
7. Land records – Deed – William Tucker and Randal Tucker to Richard Savage, 1843
8. Land records – Plat – Miscellaneous
9. Land records – Survey – William Tucker, 1840
10. Legal records – Agreement – W. D. Smith and William B. Tucker, 1868
11. Legal records – Agreement – William Tucker and Richard Savage, 1845
12. Legal records – Agreement – Mary Vaughan and Guy Austin, 1881
13. Legal records – Deed of Release – Richard Savage to William Tucker, 1851
14. Legal records – Deed of Trust – William Tucker to Randal Tucker, 1845
15. Pensions – Civil War – William B. Tucker, 1881-1912
16. Photographs, drawings, etc. – Mrs. Martha Zachary
17. Poetry – P. A. Stephenson – “On the Confirmation of the Assassination of Abraham Lincoln.” n. d.
18. Poetry -- Miscellaneous
19. Railroad papers – William B. Tucker, 1881-1903
20. Slavery – Fugitive slaves, 1844
21. Songs and music – Death of Mary Lewis Vaughan, 1885
22. Taxes – Vaughan, Benjamin, 1870
23. Taxes – Vaughan, James, 1865-1873
24. Taxes – Vaughan, Ruffin, 1862-1879
25. Taxes – Vaughan, William L., 1862

26. Tennessee – Politics and government – 1908 – Handbill of Jerome Hill
27. Tennessee – Davidson County – Politics and government – David Wadkins, 1867
28. Voter registration – Tucker, William B., 1866
29. Voter registration – Vaughan, J. S., 1865
30. Voter registration – Vaughan, Ruffin, 1866

**Map Drawer No. 4**

Photographs, drawings, etc. – Pencil sketch of Andersonville Prison