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**WARREN JASPER BENSON
PAPERS, 1810-1919**

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INTRODUCTION

The Warren Jasper Benson Papers, 1810-1910, are centered around Benson and his family of Lawrence and Robertson Counties, Tennessee. These papers were donated by Esker and Matilde West. They were previously stored in a basket belonging to their grandfather, Warren Jasper Benson (1839-1909). The collection consists of approximately 108 items. Copies of single items may be made for individual and scholarly use.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Warren Jasper Benson papers consist of correspondence, deeds, estate inventories, invitations, property deeds, receipts, school registrations and other materials relating to the Benson family. Included are several correspondences from family and friends, mostly concerning daily life and family news. There are numerous property deeds included in the collection. Several are for properties in Lawrence and Robertson counties involving Noah Woodard. There are also two land grants signed by Governor Joseph McMinn in 1815 and 1818. There is an estate inventory for Noah Woodard and three photographs, one of which is identified as Mrs. Fannie Woodard. Also included is a military commission for Richard Benson who served in the War of 1812. The commission promoted him to the rank of Captain and was signed by Governor Willie Blount in 1810. Lastly, there are several school registers for schools in Robertson County. Noah Woodard and Richard Benson are listed on several.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Warren Jasper Benson was born on March 24, 1839, in Lawrence County, Tennessee, to Richard Allen Benson Jr. and Mary Ann Walton Benson. Benson served in the Civil War as a lieutenant in the 1st Company A of the 30th Tennessee Infantry, CSA. He married Susan Mildred Woodard on February 25, 1867, and had three children. Susan died in 1888, and he later married Geraldine Draughon. They did not have any children. Benson died on December 19, 1909.

CONTAINER LIST

BOX 1

1. Account of sale, 1877
2. Booklets, n.d.
3. Correspondence, 1858-1919
4. Estate inventory -- Noah Woodard, 1877
5. Funeral notice, 1874
6. Harding School rules, n.d.
7. Insurance policies, 1892-1894
8. Invitations, 1861-1874
9. Land grant -- John Watkins, 1815
10. Land grant -- Noah Woodard, 1825
11. Land grant -- Rueben Powell, 1818
12. Menu -- National Hotel, n.d.
13. Military commission -- Richard Benson, 1810
14. Petition, n. d.
15. Photographs, n.d.
16. Pledge -- Donations for school chimney, n.d.
17. Postcard -- Barren Plains, Tenn., n.d.
18. Property deeds, 1826-1889
19. Property survey, 1866
20. Receipts, 1877-1899
21. School registers -- Robertson County, Tenn., 1844-1846
22. Speech, n.d.