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**WILEY-ABERNATHY-BASS
FAMILY PAPERS
1671-1972**

Processed by:

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INTRODUCTION

These papers of the Wiley-Abernathy-Bass Family span the years 1806 to 1972. The papers were given to the Manuscripts Section by Bell Irvin Wiley, Ph.D., Atlanta, Georgia, in September 1972.

The materials in this collection measure 1.26 feet. There are no restrictions on the materials. Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the Wiley-Abernathy-Bass Family may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Wiley –Abernathy–Bass Family Papers, containing approximately 450 items and one volume, span the years 1850 to 1972. The collection is composed of an account book, accounts, church records, legal documents, newspaper clippings, organization by-laws, photographs, receipts, school records, sketches, and a few miscellaneous items.

The earliest correspondence (1867-1893) is primarily incoming correspondence for Fredonia Frances (Abernathy) Bass (1846-1933), who prior to her marriage to Patrick Henry Bass (1846-1910) about 1869 or 1870, lived at Mount Pisgah in Giles County, Tennessee. Most of this correspondence is concentrated between 1867 and 1869. Miss Abernathy taught at Bells, Crockett County, Tennessee, beginning in February 1868. Eight letters for 1868 to 1893 are by Fredonia (Abernathy) Bass, while eight others dated 1869-1893 are by Patrick Henry Bass, who moved with his wife from Giles County to Lauderdale County about 1872. The remainder of this part of the correspondence is primarily from members of the Abernathy and Bass families and from Giles, Lauderdale, and adjoining counties.

Correspondence for the years 1892 to 1896 includes additional family correspondence and consists primarily of letters exchanged between Anna Richardson Bass (1874-1972) and Ewing Baxter Wiley (1867-1955) in 1895 to 1896 before their marriage at her parent's home in the Nankipoo community in Lauderdale County, December 29, 1896. Classical academic influence is devoted in part to a sharing of current reading interests. School activities, church meetings, social events, and expressions of endearment are prominent among topics included. From the vantage point of these two young school teachers is provided an insight into the life and items of rural small town America of the 1890s.

The remaining correspondence includes letters, 1950 to 1965, by Bell Irvin Wiley to his parents on the occasion of his father's eighty-third birthday and those describing the 1965-1966 academic year as Harmsworth Professor of History at Queen's College, Oxford, England.

Other items included in the collection are the accounts and account book of Patrick Henry Bass. The account book for the years 1901 to 1906 includes a journal of farm work completed, weather conditions, livestock records, sales and shipments of strawberries, wages paid for labor, and other business records; church records include minutes of the Richland Creek Baptist Association, 1869; genealogical data for the Abernathy, Bass, Wiley and related families, 1671 to 1972; land records including deeds and grants for Giles County, Tennessee, 1810 to 1856, and field notes for a school lot near Nankipoo, Tennessee, 1908; legal documents include three slave bills of sale in Giles County, Tennessee, 1836-1848; a contract of apprenticeship dated 1855; school contracts for 1895-1905; wills for members of the Abernathy family in Tryon County, North Carolina, and Brunswick County Virginia, 1772-1816; newspaper clippings include those collected by Patrick Henry Bass, 1905-1908, and by Bell Irvin Wiley, 1951-1972; photographs for Ewing Baxter Wiley family, 1927-1966; poems by Anna R. Bass and Ewing Baxter Wiley; school records for Fredonia Abernathy at Holly Bush Seminary, Bells, Tennessee, 1869, and for Anna R. Bass at Huntsville Female College, Huntsville, Alabama, 1893-1894; and a few miscellaneous items.

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

1. Accounts - Abernathy, Fredonia, 1868
2. Clippings - Miscellaneous
3. Correspondence - Author unknown - Abernathy, Milton T.
4. Correspondence - Bass, Fredonia (Abernathy)
5. Correspondence - Bass, Patrick Henry
6. Correspondence - Brantly, N.A.L. - Harwell, W.S.
7. Correspondence - Henderson, J.H.H.
8. Correspondence - Houze, Sallie- Montgomery, Harriet
9. Correspondence - Oliver, Carrie
10. Correspondence - Oliver, Fletcher
11. Correspondence - Oliver, Mollie - Oliver, Rebecca
12. Correspondence - Osburn, Mary P. - Overton, Alice
13. Correspondence - Rawls, J.J. - Rawls, R.H.
14. Correspondence - Smith, Addie - Swanson, A.D.
15. Correspondence - Tarpley, Eliza M. (Kneeling)
16. Correspondence - Teague, J. - Thompson, S.W.
17. Invitations - Social Balls, 1868
18. Legal Documents - Contract, 1868
19. Receipt - Bass, Patrick H., 1872
20. School Records - Holly Bush Seminary, 1868
21. Sketches - General - Abernathy, Fredonia, ca. 1868
22. Sketches - General - McKnight, Josie
23. Sketches - General - Teague, W.H.

Box 2

1. Correspondence - Author unknown - Cunningham, S.A.
2. Correspondence - Dean, H.A. - Hollon, Mabel
3. Correspondence - Jordan, Bessie (Wiley) - Osborn, Lou
4. Correspondence - Ray, Will - Warren - Katie
5. Correspondence - Wiley, Anna (Bass) - undated and June 18, 1894- October 14, 1895
6. Correspondence - Wiley, Anna (Bass) - October 21- November 28, 1895
7. Correspondence - Wiley, Anna (Bass) - December 14, 1895- January 29, 1896
8. Correspondence - Wiley, Anna (Bass) - February 24- March 18, 1896
9. Correspondence - Wiley, Anna (Bass) - April 2- October 3, 1896
10. Correspondence - Wiley, Belinda (Mrs. Robert Osborne) - Wiley, Ewing Baxter- undated and July 28 - September 1895
11. Correspondence - Wiley, Ewing Baxter - October 4- November 23, 1895
12. Correspondence - Wiley, Ewing Baxter - December 11, 1895 - January 11, 1896
13. Correspondence - Wiley, Ewing Baxter - January 24 - February 12, 1896
14. Correspondence - Wiley, Ewing Baxter - March 7 - March 29, 1896
15. Correspondence - Wiley, Ewing Baxter - April 22 - May 24, 1896
16. Correspondence - Wiley, Ewing Baxter - June 1 -June 22, 1896

17. Correspondence - Wiley, Ewing Baxter- September 21 - December 24, 1896
18. Correspondence - Wiley, Ewing Baxter, Jr. Wiley, Owen
19. Poem - Bass, Anna R.
20. Poem - Wiley, Ewing Baxter

Box 3

1. Account Book - Bass, Patrick Henry, 1901-1906
2. Accounts - Bass, Patrick Henry, undated and 1908
3. Accounts - Bank Notes - Bass, Fredonia A., Estate, 1933-1938
4. Accounts - Receipts Book - Bass, Patrick Henry, 1889-1893
5. Accounts - Receipts - Bass, P.H., 1868-1906
6. Accounts - Receipts - Wiley, Anna Bass, 1914-1921
7. Church Records - Richland Creek Baptist Association, Minutes, 1886
8. Correspondence - Wiley, Bell Irvin, 1950-1965
9. Genealogical Data - Abernathy, Elizabeth D, *The Abernathy Family* (1929)
10. Genealogical Data - Abernathy, and Bass families, 1839-1933
11. Genealogical Data - Abernathy, Bass, Wiley, 1806-1933
12. Genealogical Data - Bass-Abernathy family, 1811-1971
13. Genealogical Data - Bass-Abernathy family (Sterling Bass)
14. Genealogical Data -Wiley (Wylie) family
15. Land Records - Deeds, 1811-1837
16. Land Records - Field Notes, 1908
17. Lands Records - Grants, 1810-1856
18. Legal Documents - Bills of Sale - Slaves, 1831-1848
19. Legal Documents - Contract - Apprenticeship, 1855
20. Legal Documents - Contract - School, 1895-1905
21. Legal Documents - Wills - Abernathy Family, 1772-1816
22. Newspaper Clippings - 1895
23. Newspaper Clippings - Bass, Patrick Henry, 1901-1908
24. Newspaper Clippings - Wiley, Bell Irvin, 1951-1972
25. Organization - Fruit and Vegetables Growers Association, Lauderdale
26. Photographers - Wiley, Ewing Baxter Family, 1972-1966
27. School Records - Compositions- Bass, Anna R.
28. School Records - Composition- Bass, Anna R.
29. School Records - Huntsville Female College - Bass, Anna R., 1893-1894
30. Miscellaneous