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Calender of the Preston Family Papers, Joyes Collection

James Robert Bentley
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CALENDAR OF THE PRESTON FAMILY PAPERS–JOYES COLLECTION

A Thesis
Presented to
The Faculty of the Department of History
The College of William and Mary in Virginia

In Partial Fulfillment
Of the Requirements for the Degree of
Master of Arts

by
James R. Bentley
1972
APPROVAL SHEET

This thesis is submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts

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Approved, August 1972

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Ludwell H. Johnson
For
Francis Getty Bentley
and
Elizabeth Wescott Bentley
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The intention of this calendar is to list completely the contents of the Preston Family Papers–Joyes Collection, which is owned by The Filson Club of Louisville, Kentucky. The five hundred eighty seven items constituting this manuscript collection are of suitable significance that an abstract of the contents of the letters and a descriptive listing of the other papers is useful for researchers.

The papers are listed in chronological order. All topics of consequence in each letter are described or quoted and all personal names contained in each letter are brought out. A physical description of the characteristics of each document is given.

To aid in understanding the collection, brief biographical sketches of the members of the Preston family and their principal correspondents are supplied following the calendar of the collection.
CALENDAR OF THE PRESTON FAMILY PAPERS—JOYES COLLECTION
INTRODUCTION

The Preston Family Papers-Joyes Collection, 1780-1963, containing 587 items, grew naturally over the years, as do most such accumulations. The papers were created by practical necessity for purposes of communication and legal record. But unlike the majority of such manuscripts, they were safeguarded by succeeding generations rather than being discarded when their immediate purpose had been fulfilled. The largest number of documents preserved are letters which are, also, the most interesting. Some of the correspondence of Major William Preston is official in nature, regarding army matters in the early years of the republic, or legal matters, usually pertaining to the acquisition or sale of land, but others were written by members of the Preston family or by their friends. These last contain crucial details on the life's activities of the family, the gossip shared by sisters, and, almost incidentally, valuable details concerning local affairs in Kentucky and Virginia.

Aside from the correspondence, the collection contains land papers (deeds, agreements on the division of real property, plats, and lists) dated between 1786 and 1866; legal papers, including petitions, agreements
concerning slaves, depositions, wills and other documents, from 1794 to 1847; military papers such as a deposition of Hugh Brady relating to Col. Hamtramck's activities at Fort Wayne in 1795, militia returns, and recruiting instructions, dated between 1796 and 1810.

The Prestons were an important family in both Virginia and Kentucky. Like so many of the eighteenth-century settlers of south-western Virginia, they were Scotch-Irish Presbyterians. The immigrant ancestor, John Preston, was married to a sister of Col. James Patton, a significant figure in the frontier settlements of the colony. John Preston's only son was Col. William Preston, who became a leader of the area and acquired large landholdings primarily in present Montgomery County, Virginia, and in Kentucky.

Among the children of Col. William Preston, was a son, generally known as Major William Preston (1770-1821), who inherited much of his father's land in Jefferson County, Kentucky (Louisville), and who removed his family to this property in 1815. The Preston Family Papers-Joyes Collection is composed of the papers of Major Preston, his family and descendants. Preston was well connected, for his immediate family included his older brothers, Gen. John Preston, who served as treasurer of Virginia, Gen. Francis Preston, who served in the United States House of Representatives and married the only child and heiress of
Gen. William Campbell (1745-1781), a revolutionary hero and large landholder, and younger brothers, Col. James Patton Preston, who became governor of Virginia, and Thomas Lewis Preston, who married a daughter of Edmund Randolph.

Major Preston's sisters were married to men of standing, increasing the importance of his connection. To indicate the more important of these alliances, Sarah Preston married Col. James McDowell, Susanna Preston married Col. Nathaniel Hart of Woodford County, Kentucky, and Letitia Preston married John Floyd of Kentucky, who became governor of Virginia.

Beyond his brothers and sisters, Major Preston's first cousins on the Preston side included John Breckinridge, United States senator from Kentucky and attorney general of the United States; Gen. James Breckinridge of Virginia; John Brown, United States senator from Kentucky; James Brown, United States senator from Louisiana and minister to France; Benjamin Howard, governor of Missouri Territory; the wife of James Blair, Kentucky's attorney general; the wife of Governor George Madison of Kentucky; the wife of Dr. Louis Marshall of Buckpond; and the wife of Robert Wickliffe, one of the richest and most influential men in Kentucky.

His nephews and nieces included, Senator William Campbell Preston of South Carolina; the first Mrs. Robert J. Breckinridge; Gen. John S. Preston, C.S.A.;
Mrs. Wade Hampton of South Carolina; Mrs. Thomas Hart Benton of Missouri; Governor James McDowell of Virginia; the second Mrs. Robert J. Breckinridge; William Ballard Preston, secretary of the navy and Confederate senator; Governor John B. Floyd of Virginia; the wife of Senator John W. Johnston of Virginia; Col. John Thomas Lewis Preston; Francis Preston Blair; Thomas Francis Marshall; Alexander Keith Marshall, congressman from Kentucky; Congressman Edward C. Marshall; and, Mrs. Caleb Logan.

Major William Preston chose the military as his career and served in the United States Army between 1791 and 1798. After leaving the army, Preston devoted himself to his property in Botetourt County, Virginia. He served in the War of 1812 and, as indicated, moved to Kentucky in 1815. He died while visiting in Virginia in 1821.

Six of Major Preston's children lived to adulthood and all are represented in the Preston papers. His daughters were: Henrietta Preston (the first wife of Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston), Maria Preston (who married John Pope), Caroline Preston (wife of Col. Abram Woolley), Josephine Preston (wife of Capt. Jason Rogers), and Susan Preston (who married first, Howard F. Christy, and second, H. P. Hepburn). The Major's only son was Gen. William Preston, who served as a member of the United States Congress, United States minister to Spain, was an officer in the Mexican War, and became a major general in the
Confederate States Army and Confederate minister to Mexico.

Other collections of papers of the Preston family are preserved at the Virginia Historical Society and in the Draper Manuscripts at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. The papers here calendared were created or received by Major William Preston, his wife Caroline Hancock Preston, and his children, principally Maria Preston Pope and Susan Preston Christy Hepburn. The two last were both widowed and lived their final years together in a large house in Louisville. When their sister Josephine Preston Rogers died in 1842, Mrs. Pope and Mrs. Hepburn took over the raising of Mrs. Rogers's children. At the death of the sisters, the manuscripts apparently were acquired by Susan Preston Rogers, one of the children raised by the Preston sisters, who had married Judge John Watson Barr of Louisville. From Mrs. Barr possession of the papers passed to her daughter, Caroline Preston Barr (1864-1943), who married Morton Venable Joyes, Sr., of Louisville. The collection was next inherited by her son, Preston Pope Joyes, Sr. (1893-1970), who realized their value to historians and generously gave them to The Filson Club for preservation in 1968.

Although the family was actively involved with the Civil War, material from that period is conspicuously absent. Major Preston's son, who served as a major general in the Confederate army, was close to his sister Susan and
had her watch over his Kentucky affairs. Perhaps for reasons of safety, she destroyed most of her correspondence for this period, since she was certainly being watched by Federal authorities. The lack of Civil War papers in the Joyes Collection is overcome by the amount of material written by or to Gen. William Preston preserved in the Preston Family Papers-Davie Collection, also owned by The Filson Club, and by the papers of Henrietta Preston's husband, Albert Sidney Johnston, and her son, William Preston Johnston, preserved at Tulane University, and in the recent gift of papers to The Filson Club by Johnston's descendant, Mrs. R. Wells Covington.

This calendar is divided into sections according to type of manuscript: correspondence, land papers, legal papers, and military papers. Each section is arranged by date—year, month, and day. After the date, the name of the letterwriter is given with the place from which he is writing, followed by the recipient's name and the place to which the letter is directed. Following this data is an abstract of the contents of the letter. This abstract is as complete as necessary to bring out all the significant topics discussed with sufficient detail to make the data useful. The names of any individuals mentioned in the letter, but not referred to in the abstract, are given at the end of the abstract. Following the condensed text of the letter, a brief physical description of the document is
The abbreviations used for description are: ALS, autograph letter signed, meaning the letter is fully in the handwriting of the author; LS, letter signed, indicating that the letter was written by someone other than the signer; AL, autograph letter, meaning the text is handwritten; ANS, autograph note signed; AN, autograph note; ADS, autograph document signed; DS, document signed. Following this abbreviated description, the number of pages for the item is given. Manuscripts without a date or to which no date can be assigned are abstracted immediately following dated manuscripts.

The land papers are described more briefly, although all names mentioned are given and the location and size of land is described and sums of money are provided. The number of pages is also supplied.

The legal papers also are described as briefly as possible. Again names of individuals and numbers of pages are given. The same is true for the military papers.

Following the calendar, biographical sketches of members of the Preston family represented in the collection, and of the most significant correspondents are provided. These sketches are limited in scope to provide basic biographical data on the subjects.

The collection contains information on many topics and is useful for research on national, state, and local levels. Due to the important positions held by members of
the family, comments about the activities of well-placed connections in the letters are helpful. Information on various subjects, such as the army and congressional politics in the early national period, a description of the funeral of President William Henry Harrison, the elopement of John C. Fremont and Jessie Benton, and duels in Kentucky and Virginia, is contained in the collection.


Altogether, the Preston Family Papers-Joyes Collection is a very useful group of papers for historical reference.

Much obliged for transacting the business he directed. Is sorry his correspondent is uneasy about the bargain made in 1776 for land in Kentucky. Preston first advised recipient to purchase lands in Kentucky and that after 1500 acres were acquired, correspondent resolved to sell the land as late as fall 1776. He gave Preston first refusal at what it cost him. Preston then offered to give 500 acres to "your son my name sake" and has since bought a warrant for 500 acres dated 18 Oct. in name of correspondent's son, which is in the hands of Capt. Floyd. Correspondent wrote on 17 Aug. by James Norvell and wanted Preston to give him refusal if he decided to sell. "The called in money you took down was sent to me by Col. Crockett."
This is a copy of Col. Preston's letter made by John Breckinridge 27 Oct. 1801.]

AL, 4 pp.


Smith arrived in Kentucky on 28 Dec. 1787 without any loss. Due to cold weather has done nothing about their business; examining the lines of Preston's military survey on Spring Creek. The land lies about 5 miles from John Craig's adjoining Moffitt's survey on Glens Creek and the headwaters of Spring Creek. Skaggs has not come to Kentucky yet. Smith has not yet been to Garrett's and knows nothing of their entries. Inform Frank [Preston] that Mr. Overton has taken Cross's bond and suit will be brought immediately. Tells Preston to direct letters for Smith to Capt. Craddock in Danville.

ALS, 2 pp.


Sends "certificate from the Surveyor of Jefferson County, [Ky.] of the unappropriation of 15,000 acres of Treasury Warrants, originally in George Slaughter's name, with the best evidence of an assignment to you,
the circumstances of the case would admit of—a
certificat of that import, from the surveyor of one
County to another is taken of sufficient authority to
admit locations in any other in this District. . . ."
Will send warrants by Mr. Thruston or Field the Jeffer­
son representatives. "About 290 active men under the
Command of Lt Col Hardin crossed the Ohio about 10
days ago destined for the Indian Vermilion Towns
situate on the Wabache above post St Vincennes. . . .
The enthusiasm of the Kentucky seperatists has much
abated," due to the terms proposed by the last assembly
and the wording of those terms.

ALS, 1 p.

1790 June 8. Robert Breckinridge, Beargrass, [Ky.] to
John Preston, Montgomery Co., [Va.].

Received Preston's letter of 6 Feb. by Col. Cald­
well. The bond assigned by Brodhead, given by Preston
to Gen. Scott, has not been settled. Has had trouble
with Brodhead on another debt due Brodhead from
Alexander. "It is uniformly the case, that when a
debtor of Brodheads has procured a demand against him
with a view of having it admitted in their Settle­
m[ents], he is told his obligation is transfered to
[Doctor] Waters, who he is greatly in debt to."

ALS, 1 p.

Asks Preston to collect the curiosities of that Country, particularly the Salt found on the land of Christopher Graham on Sig Creek. Asks for news of the campaign. Asks if Cousin Susan will come down as his going to Smithfield depends on that circumstance.

ALS, 1 p.

1792 Jan. 1. John Bowyer, Rendezvous Charlotte to Capt. William Preston, Richmond, [Va.].

Received Preston's letter of 27 December saying Preston had received orders to march, but the letter does not say whether Bowyer is to march with him. Gives information on the troop's condition.

ALS, 1 p.


Letter of the 10th received concerning army appointments. Capts. Lewis and Caperton declined appointments. Capts. Alexander Gibson and Howell Lewis accepted in their place.

LS, 1 p.

Asks William Preston to come up after Lieut. Crockett returns this evening or tomorrow with the letters from the government. Expects W. S. Trigg will accompany William Preston and Emanuel Lucas, if his family is not with him. Will muster his party tomorrow. His feet are sore from having been sent on a scout.

ALS, 1 p.


The President has appointed Preston a Captain of the Army contingent upon Senate approval. Preston's subalterns are Lt. Benjamin Lockwood and Ensign Stephen Trigg. Money and recruiting instructions will be sent to Richmond.

LS, 1 p.


Duplicate of above.

LS, 1 p.

"The public service requires that the recruits at the different rendezvous should be assembled on the frontiers without delay." Preston is to march to the mouth of the great Kenhawa where his troops will be clothed and equipped.

LS, 1 p.


Has received a letter for Preston from W. A. Cocke confirming Preston's appointment as Captain in the Infantry, in the ranks of Col. Carington. The letter will be sent by Dennis Cockran. Cockran is to pursue James McIntire, a deserter from Lewis' company after delivering the letter.

ALS, 2 pp.


Encloses duplicate of his letter of 28 June [see above] and triplicate of letter of 14 July 1792 [see above]. Forwards money necessary for equipment and one month's pay for Preston's men and final orders. Equipment will be transported from Pittsburg by Maj. Gen. Wayne to Point Pleasant at the mouth of the great Kenhawa.
Kenhawa for Preston. Capt. Gibson's company will escort Preston's company from Green Briar Court House to Point Pleasant. Recruits afterward enlisted should take their own arms. Preston's subalterns, Lt. Benjamin Lockwood and Ensign Stephen Trigg have been ordered to Ohio County to recruit.

LS, 2 pp.


Preston is to march directly from Green Briar Court House to Point Pleasant under escort of Capt. Gibson's company from Staunton. Further orders will be received at Point Pleasant from Maj. Gen. Wayne, now at Pittsburg. [The remaining instructions are standard to the printed form.]

LS, 1 p. Orders filled in on a partially printed form.


Letter of the 14th received and will be answered by the next post.

LS, 1 p.

Reply to Preston's letter of the 14th. Pleased to hear of recruiting success. Try to increase present size of 31 to 60. Clothing supplies for 60 will be sent to Richmond for Preston's men. The ration bills for the company will be settled. Preston may continue recruiting until January 1 and then march his recruits to Headquarters. Two hundred dollars has been sent to Col. Edward Carrington, Supervisor of the Revenue for the district of Virginia at Richmond to be used for supplies by Preston.

LS, 2 pp.


Nothing has arrived from the secretary for William. Recommends William come to Richmond around the 20th when his provisions should be there and leave the money in Col. Carrington's hands until then. "In the meantime pray exert yourself to enlist all the men you can; a large company will add much to your credit." If anything arrives in tomorrow's post it will be forwarded by Col. George Carrington. "I only beg you would be most particular and circumspect in your conduct and careful of the public money. Depend on it a reformation is about to take place in the army." Urges
him to do this for the credit of himself, his family, his country and "of Major Moore who has placed you in the present eminent situation you are in."

ALS, 3 pp.


Has delivered to Francis Preston two letters for Preston from Ensign Trigg. Mr. Miller was unable to obtain epaulets for Preston. Left Lt. Lockwood at Gallioppolis [Galipolis, Ohio] sick with smallpox. Preston's ensign sailed down river to Ft. Washington with troops from Greenbriar and a detachment from Pittsburg under the command of Maj. Rudolph. Has recommended that Lt. Craig and Ensign Shanklin take their men to Montgomery to join Preston. A note from John Bowyer to Ensign Gray was delivered to the writer, who concludes Bowyer is with Preston.

ALS, 2 pp.


Concerned whether orders have come to him to move quarters when Preston does. Mustered 25 soldiers this morning. No recruiting has been done since Preston left this country and believes recruiting is at an end in the county.

ALS, 2 pp.

Has directed the Accountant of the war department to forward by Andrew Moore, pay for Preston, Lts. John Bowyer and Robert Craig and Ensigns Gray and Shanklin up to Jan. 1. Also sends pay for recruits. As soon as the money is received, Preston is to march to Point Pleasant. Further orders will be provided at Point Pleasant by Maj. Gen. Wayne. Preston's arms should have arrived from Col. Carrington at Richmond. Preston is to prepare triplicate muster and pay rolls, one each for himself and the other two to be sent to the War office.

LS, 2 pp.

1793 April 11. Francis Preston to Capt. William Preston, Montgomery Rendezvous.

Has written to William at Botetourt and Smithfield. Wishes to discuss the terms of his father's will, which gave the Briar Patch to him provided that Francis see to William's, Jemmy's [James P. Preston] and Thommy's education and settle on the Horse Shoe. Asks William to relinquish his claim on certain property in favor of Francis. John has already relinquished his claim.

Understands Trigg means to contest the election on the riot at Montgomery. Asks that affidavits be taken from "3 or 4 of the most respectable" men involved,
"whether the riot was premeditated to their knowledge or that you excited it. Whether you influenced their votes." Also wants William's affidavit containing anything William and John may think necessary.

ALS, 3 pp.


Received William's letter and enclosed ad for deserters and lock of hair. Has attended to William's letter concerning his relinquishment of any claims to the Briar Patch and thanks him for so doing. Refers to the election dispute. Mentions Lt. Craig's poor behavior and how to treat it. Left Abingdon on May 12 and is now at Greenbriar until June 1 with his friend Col. Stuart. Discusses his wife and how he misses her. Came by Smithfield where the family is well, but lonesome. Asks William to give his compliments to his friends and especially to Stephen Trigg.

ALS, 4 pp.


Informs William a letter was sent to the President by Joseph Cloyd, James McCorkle, Dan Howard and James Craig. The President has directed an enquiry into the matter to decide how and where to try William Preston
"for interfering in the civil privileges by Military force." Depositions will be taken on the 25 and 26 at Christiansburg on the 27 and 28 at New Dublin and the 1 and 2 of July at Christiansburg. Urges William to take depositions of his most respected non commissioned officers on the subject in the presence of Gen. Wayne. Asks William to treat Bob Craig with respect especially since "his brother is now endeavouring to injure you." At the May Court, "the Court took up the business of a Surveyor and were of Opinion the Office was vacant by your acceptance of your Captains Commission and did therefore recommend Gordon Cloyd." John [Preston] will send the proceedings. Has taken steps to prevent this, "got Mr. Thos Madison and Jas Breckinridge to write to the president and professors of the Colledge, as also the Executive. . . . I heard the Executive in the case of Capt Bowyer which is Similar to your own are of Opinion, the posts may be held by the same person." Pledges to do all possible for William in this matter. Francis' wife, Sucky and Thommy are well and with Francis Preston.

ALS, 4 pp.


Discusses the fabricated charges made against Preston to damage his brother [Francis]. If "the truth
is sent forward to the President, even an investigation will not be required." Urges Preston to do all in his ability to defend himself and assures him no damage can be done to him by the action of his enemies.

ALS, 3 pp.


Entreats William to be diligent in confounding his enemies for Francis Preston's sake as well as his own. Discusses private business and a power of attorney given by William to John to execute this matter. Plans to dispose of William's land and to buy 3 or 4 negroes and a tract of land in Kentucky this winter or spring. "John Breckinridge will attend to your claim at the Salt Springs on licking." Capt. Ben Howard will sell William's horse and bring the money to him when Howard goes to Ft. Washington in October. Mentions other personal business.

ALS, 3 pp.


Has just arrived in Lexington. Discusses land business. Hopes to make a final settlement with John Buchanan as soon as possible. "The Land business on Green river I have much at heart... I find a
number of persons engaged in the speculation."

ALS, 3 pp.

[1793 Dec.]. [Francis Preston] to John [Preston].

Received John's letter directed by Mr. Parker. Glad to hear of John's safe arrival in Kentucky and of William [Preston's] welfare. Pleased at the unexpected reformation of Uncle Ballard and hopes he will now be a service to his country and a credit to his friends.

"Opinions here respecting a treaty with the Northward Indians are somewhat similar to the Kentuckians, as to its taking effect, yet I think a majority wish a completion of it, to avoid the further effusion of blood, and the amazing expense these wars have occasioned. Govr. Blount passed through this Town a few days ago on his way to Philadelphia . . . he informs me there is no prospect of a permanent peace with the Southern Indians. [T]hat such a thing is impracticable, and his business to the president is to acquire Authority to act Offensively. [T]his business the result of the treaty at Sandusky and the French Affairs, I think is public concerns of so great importance that Congress will in all probability be convened at an Earlier period that to which it was adjourned . . . ." Sorry to hear the President's name taken freedom with. Wrote from Greenbriar by Ensign Gray of Francis Preston's determination to sell his
land at the Falls, but must have 40 s[hillings] per acre. Does not want to part with the lands at the mouth of Kentucky. Returned a week ago yesterday from Smithfield and must go back tomorrow. Must attend to the election dispute involving William Preston. A letter was sent to the governor by Joseph Cloyd, James McCorkle, Daniel Howard and James Craig protesting Preston's actions during the election and the Governor of Virginia forwarded it to the President who has directed an enquiry of the matter. The deposition of several men will be taken at Christmas both for the prosecution and for William Preston. Col. Abram Trigg has taken up prosecution of this affair.

[Letter incomplete.]

AL, 4 pp.


Arrived safely in Philadelphia 1 December. "Congress met on the Day appointed." The President communicated to Congress papers on our relations with France and England consisting of letters between the ministers of those countries and Secretary of State Jefferson. The French minister to the United States has made himself obnoxious to many leading Americans. Congress is concerned to keep France's friendship despite this. British relations are strained over
retention of the western posts. "It is thought here that those posts will shortly be given up and all disputes on this score be settled, but yet great Britten is much blamed for being insidiously inimical to us which is shewn by her enciting the Indians to War on us." The Algerian pirates are of great concern to the Congress.

The army is being studied by a select committee in hopes of filling vacancies. "The expence of the Army is tremendous at being at the rate of a £1000 per Day." Assumes William received letters from Francis concerning an enquiry into William's conduct at the Congressional elections. The Attorney General has not given his opinion in this matter yet and will not until the dispute between Francis and Trigg is decided. The charges cast a bad light on William Preston even though they are false. Advises William on the activities of the enquiry into the disputed election and on actions to be taken.

Asks why William does not take to letter writing and assumes it is due to indolence. Asks what William has done with "the claim I gave you Genl. Wilkinson, if you have or have not received it let me know." Mrs. Francis Preston is ill with smallpox, but it is a light case.

ALS, 7 pp.

Received Smith's letter by Mr. Bodely asking an appointment in the army. The President has accordingly nominated Smith for an ensigncy and the Senate will confirm the appointment tomorrow. Urges Smith to send his acceptance to the Secretary of War "as your Commission will take date from the time at which such notice may be given."

ALS, 1 p.

1794 May 16. George Hancock to George Strother, Fincastle, [Va.].

Capt. William Preston left here yesterday; he carries a letter to Strother enclosing Gen. Knox's letter granting an ensign's appointment to Strother. Urges speedy "preparation to join the army for Genl. Wayne Orders this may set you forward towards a Lieutenancy as there were on the same day appointed I think 37 Ensigns." Mentioned to Mr. Lockhart that Hancock had written George Strother's brother John to meet him in Botetourt next June to discuss locating lands between Kenawha and Kentucky.

ALS, 1 p.
1794 Nov. 4. Purcy Pope, Fort Defiance to Capt. William Preston, Fort Wayne.

Informs Preston of Strother's illness since his return from Ft. Wayne and relays Strother's request for stores. Suggests Col. Hamtramack or Dr. Elliott might be able to furnish the dried fruit requested by Strother. Asks also that Claret or port be sent.

ALS, 2 pp.


Family news. Mother has recovered. Sister Lewis has recovered and has a daughter. Assumes brother John has told William of the success of his mandamus. The "Judge considered the appointment of another Surveyor unnecessary . . . therefore an order was granted directing the Court of Montgomery to reinstate you to your office." John is now at the Assembly. A week or two ago a duel was fought in Richmond between Tom Madison and Gen. Wood with no great harm to either. Asks to be remembered to Capt. T. Lewis and Lt. Trigg. William's nieces want to be remembered to him.

ALS, 2 pp.


Letter of the 15th received. Is glad the Pittsburg insurgents have been "completely quelled." There has
been gambling at the post; the losers are Maj. Hunt and Brill, the winners Strother and Lee. Sends turnips, beans and corn and asks that Preston give some to Dr. Davis. Asks Preston to apply to Lt. Wright for the $30 he owes Pope and send it down by Lt. Lee. If Elliott has not bought blue broad cloth for Pope, Preston is to send it.

ALS, 4 pp.


Acknowledges receipt of Preston's letter by Pounds. Cannot consent to an exchange. Is much in need of non commissioned officers and shall promote Pounds at Preston's request.

ALS, 1 p.


Orders Preston to escort some Indians who are going to see the commander in chief. Upon arrival at Greenville Preston will receive the orders of the general.

ALS, 2 pp.


Pope arrived this morning and reported that Preston continues to study the language of the Indians who
visit him. Few Indians have visited Ft. Defiance which is good since provisions are low there. "The intended wife of our friend has not yet made her appearance." Sends a small packet to Preston by Capt. Britt addressed to Ensign Swain and asks that it be sent to Greene Ville. Has a prospect of going to headquarters shortly.

ALS, 2 pp.


"We live up to Our Knees in Mud plagued to death with the Indians whose constant cry is Whisky." The gardens do well. Asks if Preston has anyone who can make a shirt as Pope is short on them.

ALS, 1 p.


Informs William the District Court has admitted him again to office [as Surveyor] by a conditional mandamus. The action was brought up in May at Greenbriar and continued until the next session in Botetourt. John is uncertain of the outcome. Mr. A. Lewis sold the sorrel horse for £47.10 to Col. Sprigg. John sold the brown horse to Francis Preston for £25. The money was applied to payment of a replevy bond executed to
Joseph Wilson on William's account. The other horses are unsold. Their mother is against sending a slave to William for fear of the danger to which he will be exposed and "also that he may be set at liberty by the laws of the NW territory." The business with Leyburn and Taylor will be finished this summer. Will send the Court proceedings of Humphreys vs Bowyer. John is trying to get an appointment for Henry Brown. Capts. Slough and Buel and D. Trigg have spoken for Brown and John has written the Hon. John Brown to support him in the Senate. John is sorry William is "so disgusted with the army and desirous of leaving it." John is now "thinking on what can be done over the Ohio." Plans to speculate in lands there. Asks William to obtain information on that country "now at the Treaty and otherwise when are passing through. . . . Several Gentlemen of the army have very accurate Maps of the Country, particularly Genl. Wilkinson and I believe Lt. Clarke has also complied [sic.] a good one."

Discusses local politics. A. Smith and Robert Crockett have published an attack on John Preston for "speculating &c on the men." John Preston seconded by William Lewis of Augusta and Smith seconded by Col. A. Trigg fought a duel with pistols over this affair. No one was hurt. Francis Preston is elected to Congress.

ALS, 6 pp.

"You are Ordered in Arrest the Specifications will be given you at an other time."

ALS, 1 p.


Has just been informed of the cause of Preston's arrest and hopes for a compromise on terms suitable to Preston will be made. Asks Preston to inform him fully. Their gardens and fields at Ft. Defiance will equal any in the West. Sends musk melons.

ALS, 3 pp.

1795 June 25. Anthony Wayne, Head Quarters, Greeneville, to Captain William Preston, Fort Wayne.

Acknowledges receipt of Preston's letter of the 9th informing Wayne of his arrest by order of Col. Hamtramck. Also received a letter from the Col. giving the circumstances of the arrest. Has directed Capt. Thomas Lewis to acquaint Preston of the causes. Begs "leave to suggest the propriety of making a proper concession to the Colonel, which probably may accomodate the affair; if the order was really improper--yet you ought to have complied with it in the first instance and to remonstrate afterwards . . . nor is it any
disgrace to acknowledge an error. . . ." Tells Preston he will write to Hamtramck immediately.

ALS, 2 pp.


Wrote William from Lexington by Mr. Giles, but fears the letter failed to reach him. Leaves for Holston tomorrow or next day. Received William's letter of September 9 in which he mentions "the news of your place was that the Spaniards had made encroachments on the So Western territory. I have not heard of it before but have understood they are endeavouring to make a Settlement at the Mouth of the Ohio and this I have heard since I came to Kentucky." Assumes the matter will be negotiated.

"Your information respecting a British Vessell laden with Indian goods arriving at Detroit is new and alarming." Fears the English will cause the Indians to stay at war. Hopes the matter may turn Americans against Jay's Treaty. Says the people are against the Treaty and "have no confidence in the Government." Discusses the United States' relations with Britain and speaks disparagingly of the government.

Thinks William should remain in the army at least until the suit for the surveyor's office is settled.
Mentions that William is acquitted of his arrest and intends to obtain the arrest of his prosecutor. Francis urges him against the latter. Mentions his family.

ALS, 4 pp.

1795 Nov. 28. George Hancock, Charlestown, Berkley [Co., Va.] to James Lockhart, Botetourt.
Met the family here last night. They had been left at Mr. Kennerley's by Hancock who had gone to Orange to see Mr. Walker on business. Discusses farming matters to be attended to at the new house. Mentions friends and neighbors—Capt. Bowyers, Col. Lockhart, step mother, Alex McRoberts, Aaron Newman, James Hutchison and Thomas McGeorge.

ALS, 3 pp.

1795 Dec. 27. Francis Preston, Philadelphia to [William Preston].
William's letters of October 10 and November 13 were received from Col. Greenup who arrived day before yesterday. Agrees to send William stores, but will wait to hear from him since he may be sent on recruiting service in Virginia this winter. The Secretary of War seems to wish it due to the success of Capt. Gibson and Lt. Trigg. Mentions the suit for the surveyor's office. Saw Findley on the way to Winchester and asked
him to call, but he has not done so. Is pleased to hear of the current peace between the Indians and Americans. Glad to hear the British have been unable to influence the Indians. "Respecting the Spaniards who you write about I am unable to say much as no communications have been made officially relatively to the settlement it is said they are establishing in our territory." Waits for the results of Lt. Clark's embassy. Has heard the Spanish consul is in Kentucky to quiet the people there. Understands negotiations for the free navigation of the Mississippi are progressing favorably. There is much displeasure over Jay's Treaty, particularly in Virginia. No attention, however, has been paid to the suggestion that Virginia should leave the Union on account of it. Feels that two thirds of the people are opposed to the Treaty. Congress has yet to act on the Treaty. Understands it has been ratified by the King of England, who suspended the 12th Article due to the offence it gave to the United States. Fears the Treaty will damage relations with the French. Has high hopes for the negotiations with the Dey of Algiers to settle the problems existing between the United States and Morocco. Mentions business presently before Congress--revision of the militia system, relations with the Indians, protection of the frontiers and the land office bill. "Should
anything present itself proposing gain you shall be
made acquainted therewith...." Cautions William
against party feeling. Expects John from Richmond and
they will discuss the Blue Licks. Discusses land
affairs and is sorry that Brodhead's bond is not yet
settled. Mentions members of the family.

ALS, 12 pp.

Quarters, Greeneville to Capt. William Preston,
Lexington, Kentucky.

Mr. Pickering, at the request of William's brother,
has requested that William open a recruiting rendezvous
in Virginia. This makes an answer to William's letters
by Lt. Taylor and Morrison unnecessary. Due to lack
of recruiting funds and Lt. Smith's lack of money,
Preston is to pay the five hundred dollars advanced by
Mr. Hunt on the Bills of the Paymaster and to have
three receipts made of the transaction.

ALS, 2 pp.

1796 March 19. George Hancock to James Lockhart, Fin-
castle, [Va.].

Letter concerns the management of a farm and per-
sonal business. Mentions Sam McRoberts, Mr. Kennerly
of Augusta, Beckner, Grimes, Robinson and L. Boll.

ALS, 1 p.

Denounces the attack on Wayne as unfounded. Demands to know if Cushing is the author of the attack and if so challenges him to a duel with Major McIntosh as Lewis' second.

ALS, 1 p.


Maj. McIntosh brought Lewis' letter yesterday. Maj. Gen. Wayne and his A.D.C. Capt. DeButts were in town but have gone to the army. They said nothing of the publication Lewis alluded to nor did he try to vindicate himself of the reproach he has received. Criticizes Lewis for his unauthorized assumption of titles for himself and Gen. Wayne "without determining how far the confidential officers of that General may be implicated with him. . . . I am decidedly of oppinion that nothing short of a full fair and impartial investigation of all the complaints which have been made against Major General Wayne will ever restore to that Officer or those who may be implicated with him the approbation confidence or respect of his country."

ALS, 2 pp.

Maj. McIntosh has brought Cushing's letter. Defends his right to question Cushing on the incident alluded to in the earlier letter. "Your charge of unauthorized assumption of titles is Contradicted by every Orderly Book of the Army. . . ." Again demands satisfaction from Cushing.

ALS, 2 pp.

[Lewis' letters of 9 July and 12 July are written on the same sheet of paper.]

[1796 July --]. T[omas] L[ewis] to [ -- ].

Requests that Maj. Cushing be informed of the following message. Since he has not seen Maj. McIntosh for a few hours, he does not know whether Cushing has answered his note. Wants Maj. Cushing to know that he is going out of town and "if he can possibly prevail on himself to act as a gentleman ought and which I believe he can not and that I shall be at Grays Garden at 4 o' clock this evening where I will be glad to see him and treat him with a dish anything he may be Able to relish."

AN, 1 p.

Announces the death of Gen. Wayne at Presque Ile. Gen. Wilkinson has ordered officers to go into mourning 30 days. Will try to have William assigned to the Southwest territory. Discusses personal business and asks William to arrange to buy 4 or 5 strong slaves at a Cumberland sale of ninety slaves.

ALS, 1 p.


Urges William to settle his account with the Accountant of the War Department. The Secretary of War is satisfied with William and wishes him to go on with the recruiting. Francis is trying to get William in the Tennessee and will let him know the result. Proposes to visit William in Lynchburg March 5 and hopes William will then accompany him to Smithfield. Has no doubt he can acquit himself of Smyth's serious charge. Billy Anderson sent him Smyth's pamphlet "...his insinuations respecting my father is unworthy of resentment. ...

The Senate is working on the military system. The cavalry is reduced and the rations are made smaller and subalterns pay is increased.

ALS, 3 pp.
1797 June 20. Benjamin Howard, Williamsburg, [Va.] to [William Preston].

Received Preston's letter of June 2 accompanied by a letter from Mr. Bott and a Bill for one hundred dollars. Assumes the rumor that Francis Preston was killed by Alexander Smith in a duel is false. Is very grateful to Col. Breckinridge. Asks Preston to send a horse from Botetourt to Richmond for him. Will leave Williamsburg around the 25th and will remain at Major Prosser's until he hears from Preston. Send the horse to the Eagle Tavern. Wrote to John Preston, Reserves comments on love and politics for a personal interview.

ALS, 3 pp.


Transmits government rules for recruiting and a blank enlistment form to be used.

ALS, 1 p.

1797 Sept. 10. [William Preston?] to Gen. [Robert] Breckinridge, [Ky.].

Introduces Capt. Thomas Goodson, who has business in Kentucky. Mentions his friend James Bratton who is purchasing Kentucky land. Asks Breckinridge to help solve the land trouble in Jefferson [County, Ky.]
Bratton is having. Mentions Capt. Miller as being involved in this land problem.

ALS, 2 pp.

1797 Sept. 19. Capt. A. Gibson, Staunton to Capt. William Preston, Fincastle, Botetourt County, [Va.].

Has been informed by the Secretary of War that Preston is ordered with his recruits to Staunton to receive Gibson's recruits and then to proceed to Tennessee. Wants to know when Preston will arrive. Gibson says he has 29 men and has lost 5 by desertion.

ALS, 2 pp.

1797 Nov. 18. Lachlan McIntosh, Smithfield to Capt. William Preston, Fincastle, [Va.].

Left an umbrella at Mr. Glens, a little above McGeorge's, wants Preston to retrieve it. Mentions Preston's going to Tennessee.

ALS, 1 p.

1797 Nov. 22. John Smith, Frankfort, [Ky.] to Capt. William Preston, Knoxville, [Tennessee].

Received Preston's letter of November 2. Thanks Preston for congratulating him on his marriage. Discusses some disputed land.

ALS, 2 pp.

The Secretary of War in his letter of September 4 said Preston was ordered to march from Staunton and Botetourt. Asks to be informed of Preston's plans and to come directly to Tennessee and place himself under Butler's orders.

ALS, 1 p.


There is no stationary short of Knoxville. Brief letter on personal affairs.

ALS, 1 p.


Has received Preston's letter by Dr. Carmichael. Orders Preston, by Act of Congress 19 May 1795 and by order of the President of the United States directed to Col. Butler, to take Robert Trimble and other trespassers on Cherokee lands into custody and send them to this place.

LS, 2 pp.

Asks to have the crosscut saw as he has about two hours use for it.

ALS, 1 p.


Col. Butler requests the return of his pamphlet from Preston. Relates that Capt. Bird announced that J. Taylor was no gentleman and that Taylor thereupon had Bird arrested. Smith asked Taylor why he preferred having Bird arrested to fighting him. Ball was present. Johnston, Ball and Smith will see Preston in the evening.

ALS, 2 pp.


Regrets not hearing from Preston. Mentions Mr. Breckinridge "whom you much esteem and who as justly merits it. . . ." Small pox has raged in Fincastle all winter "poor Mr. Madison surrendered this winter; these circumstances added to the usual dullness of the place made it more so than you can possibly imagine." Is pleased to announce old Billy Watt's death leaving 100 negroes to be divided among his
daughters. Is surprised Preston does not resign he is "so uncomfortably situated." Discusses events.

Preston's brother Thomas was inoculated. It is said John Preston is to be married to Miss Ratford of Rich­mond. Applied to Mr. Breckinridge for Miller's deed to Preston to have it recorded, but it could not be admitted since one witness was dead and the other absent. As soon as Miller returns he will apply to him for a renewal of it. The Breckinridge's have recovered from the small pox. Asks what Preston intends doing when he goes to Kentucky.

ALS, 3 pp.


Received Preston's letter of January but has had the small pox. Has been elected to the General Assembly. Preston's sister and Miss A. Madison have had the smallpox. The militia law is unchanged. Has sold all the Illinois land except 500 acres to Samuel G. Adams of Richmond. Has preserved Preston's right in the land and asks Preston if he will sell his share for $500. Compliments to William P. Smith.

ALS, 1 p.

Has received Preston's letter of April 11. Glad Preston has defeated his prosecutors at trial in Quarter Sessions. There is great concern over affairs with France on the part of those truly devoted to the country. Is sure that Preston has seen the President's last message to Congress concerning the treatment of the American commissioners to France. [XYZ Affair] Believes Americans will be unanimous in their response. Is extremely anxious to see what effect the President's message will have on the minority of the lower house of Congress. Conjectures further on the course events will take. Is resolved to double his exertions to get his regiment in order this summer. Asks Preston's aid in this. S. Madison, Letitia Preston, Peggy Preston and A. Madison recovered from small pox by inoculation.

ALS, 3 pp.


Sent money to Capt. Gibson in October by Capt. Simral. If Campbell's store keeper has not sent the money, the enclosed order will be good at his store in Knoxville.

ALS, 1 p.

Orders Preston to proceed with the dragoons under Lt. Simmons up the Tennessee to the settlements where Archibald Lackey lives and remove all persons on the Indian lands without passports and those with passports who are cultivating Cherokee lands; then to proceed to Wellses Station and do likewise, then to Gallaghers Creek and examine extend to the Holston from Wellses Station to the boundary line. Those apprehended are to be taken to Maj. Peter's camp. From Peter's camp Preston is to return to his present quarters.

ALS, 1 p.


Has received Preston's papers by Lt. Vandike. Preston must send triplicate certificates respecting his pay. Has paid Mr. Hunt as Preston directed.

ALS, 1 p.


Orders will be received from Maj. Peters relating to people growing small grain on the Indian lands. Lt. Simmons is to collect the cavalry to the point; he
will be joined by those at Maj. Peters' camp and the infantry will join at Belle Canton and Ensign Bower relieved. Denies Preston's request for the use of Butler's house as a dining room since he does not want "waiters to have any intercourse where I have so much property."

ALS, 1 p.


Asks Preston to send a lint stock and small quantity of slow match to him as he must order an evening gun to be fired as a signal for the Indians to cross the river. Is sorry the situation will not allow more officers to gather for the 4th of July. Urges Preston to guard against any excess merriment.

ALS, 1 p.


Acknowledges receipt of Preston's letter of July 7 informing him of Preston's wish to resign due to "the deranged state of your private concerns." The resignation is to take effect "on the 38th Inst" and notice has been sent to the Secretary of War.

ALS, 1 p.

In 1791 Peden bought 100 acres of land warrants from Preston for 20 shillings and 1 shilling for entering it, but Preston omitted entering the number, date or quantity, so it cannot be found without his help. While Preston was still Surveyor, Peden had the warrant withdrawn and re-entered and surveyed not knowing of the omission made in the first entry until he applied for the patent. Asks Preston's help so that he will not lose his land. If Preston remembers on what warrant it was entered, please write Mr. Cloyd. Mr. Gordon Cloyd told Peden that Preston has land warrants yet in the office not made use of and that if Preston will give Peden an order for 100 acres of that he can save Peden's land.

ALS, 1p.

1798 Sept. 6. John Smith, [Ky.] to Col. John Preston, Montgomery [Co., Va.].

When in Frankfort, Gen. Breckinridge said that Thomas Boyd had bought from Dan Montgomery the land he bought of Barnes and that Boyd plans to institute a suit against us for title. Asks Preston to send him their bond to Barnes indemnifying him against the claim of Montgomery, to be used should the suit be started. "When I purchased of Barnes no mention was made by
him respecting the Claim of Montgomery." Discusses this transaction in further detail. John Breckinridge can give you satisfactory information on this subject.

ALS, 3 pp.

1798 Nov. 17. Oliver Wolcott, Treasury Department to William Preston, Esq., Commissioner for the Third Division, Virginia.

Informs Preston of his appointment to the above post by the President to execute the Act of Congress entitled "An Act to provide for the valuation of Lands and Dwelling Houses and the enumeration of Slaves within the United States" in the place of William Hunter Cavendish, who declined the appointment.

Encloses commission [see list of certificates, grants, etc. following under 17 November 1798] and two circular letters dated 7 August and 8 September 1798 [not found] relative to the duties of the office. Requests Preston to take the oath prescribed.

LS, 1 p.

1798 Nov. 25. Benjamin Howard, Williamsburg to Capt. William Preston, Fincastle, Botetourt County, [Virginia].

Arrived in Williamsburg a week before from Richmond. Heard of the fire in Richmond and understands Gamble's house was burned. Williamsburg is dull at
present but regular assemblies for the winter season are to be established. Asks how Preston's nailery is progressing. Asks if there is any increase in his "reputed family" and if his "once friend Mrs. Breckinridge" is appeased. Enquires if Preston has heard from Kentucky. Left his horse at Joseph Seldon's to be sold before John Preston came down. Asks to be remembered to the Smithfield family, Mrs. Madison, Miss Allen, Betsy Breckinridge, Harvey Tugg and Robert Harvey. That "there may not have been a white child born for 6 weeks past or for 6 to come is the ardent prayer of your friend Benjn. Howard."

ALS, 2 pp.


Declines the business appointment offered him by William Preston, "as it may be involved in some difficulties from the novelty of the business, and may not perhaps be altogether approved of by the People of my County considering the circumstances in which I stand. . . . ."

ALS, 1 p.

1798 Dec. 10. N. Neikeirk, Montgomery Co. to the Commissioner under the Act of Congress of the 9th of July 1798 of the third Division in the State of Va.
Encloses list of property situated in the 3rd Division taken by one of the assessors of this division. Nukeirk is a Commissioner of the United States for the 7th Division in the State of New York.

ALS, 1 p.

[ca. 1798]. Lachlan McIntosh to Captain [William] Preston.

Asks Preston for a loan of fifty dollars to be repaid in ten or twelve days. "The scarcity of Coin in this Country is inconcievable. . . ."

ALS, 1 p.


Received Preston's letter and believes his business is in better shape than he thought. Glad Preston has been appointed a Commissioner and hopes he will not regret leaving the army. Howard reads a great deal. Tucker holds his lectures every day but Friday [at the College of William and Mary]. Is considering practicing awhile in Fincastle at Col. Breckinridge's advice. Discusses personal business and mentions Letitia Preston, Mr. and Mrs. Breckinrdige, Miss Allen, and the Misses Hancock.

ALS, 3 pp.
1799 Feb. 4. Oliver Wolcott, Treasury Department to William Preston, Commissioner for the Third Division, Virginia.

Sends Preston a new commission [not found] for his office since the appointment has now been confirmed by the Senate.

LS, 1 p.


Capt. Montgomery delivered Smyth's letter this day. Smyth says he possesses a certificate the publication of which would detract from Preston's father's reputation as being "disaffected to the Government."

ALS, 1 p. [Retained copy.]


Answers Preston's demand of an explanation of passages he believed injurious to him in a letter from Smyth to Francis Preston written in 1796. Cites passages that refer to John Preston and feels that the statement that "F. Preston might have owed his election to the influence of yourself and Company" is not damaging to William Preston's reputation. Discusses other references and relates the following conversation: "Mr Francis Preston had said to me, in very
intelligible terms, 'Sir, your father was a person attached to the british government.' Answer 'Sir your father was also suspected and accused, perhaps unjustly.' In fine, Sir, in writing that letter I meant merely to make it an answer to every part of Francis Preston's preceding letter to me." Smyth states that he tried to avoid detracting from the reputation of any member of the family except Francis Preston.

ALS, 2 pp.

1799 April 2. Bird Smith, Christiansburgh to [William Preston].

Encloses lists of land within Smith's assessment district for Preston. [Enclosure not included.]

ANS, 1 p.

1799 April 10. Thomas Tinsley, Richmond to William Preston, Commissioner, Direct-Tax, Montgomery [Co., Va.].

Several of the Commissioners feel the assessments will not be ready for the meeting scheduled for the 2nd Monday in May and, therefore, propose postponement until the 2nd Monday in June. Many men were put off from acting by the disqualifying state law passed last session. Feels the Assembly wants to make it illegal for a citizen to accept an appointment under the
General Government "as if it was not our Government." Urges the election of federal members to the next legislature. Hopes Preston accepted the offer to run for Congress. If Preston is in favor of postponing the meeting he is to notify Mr. Dandridge and it will be advertised in the papers. "Col. Carrington, informs me, that Mr. Hines, the Gentleman that succeeded Mr. Salter has just set out in his Division: the idea for postponement first came from Mr. Armstrong."

ALS, 3 pp.

1799 April 17. John Fulkersen, assessor, Abing[don], [Va.] to Major William Preston, Commissioner 3rd Division, Montgomery [Co., Va.].

Sends list of land owned by James Gerrald in Grayson County. Mentions Preston's request for Fulkerson to have his books in order and sent to Richmond by the second Monday in May. This, he feels, is impossible.

ALS, 1 p.

1799 April 22. Daniel Trigg, Mahanaim to Maj. William Preston, Montgomery [County, Virginia].

Observes in the lists returned by the assistants a number of tracts which "this man has a Title Bond." In other lists the title is given to the Loyal Company. Mr. King has valued and returned land on Cole River and other places out of the county. Some have
valued different tracts belonging to one man in a lump. Would like instruction on these and other matters.

ALS, 1 p.

1799 April 25. Robert M'Kee, jr., Charleston to Col. William Preston, Montgomery [Co., Va.].

Arrived in Charleston yesterday and was attentive to Preston's interest. Not a man in his district voted against Preston "and had it not been that I was Obliged to keep the poles I could have made more Interest for you but I hope you will not need our small assistance." Trigg's letters were read in public and helped lose Preston votes. Col. Lewis and David Ruffner were elected to the Assembly for this year. Denounces "Anteys" [Antifederalists].

ALS, 2 pp.

1799 May 12. Benjamin Howard, Williamsburg, [Va.] to Capt. William Preston, Commissioner, Fincastle, Botetourt County, [Va.].

Laments the lack of letters from Preston. Has written to Col. Breckinridge to send his "old Tacky" to Richmond. Asks how his affair in Fincastle stands and how Preston's nailing business is. Hopes it has not made Preston lose sight of matrimony; Howard has found
a rich widow for him, "... she knows some thing of
you, as I believe every body does."

ALS, 2 pp.

1799 Sept. 9. Robert Breckinridge, John Breckinridge's to
Gen. John Preston, Montgomery [Co., Va.].

Has received John Preston's letter covering a power
of attorney. Encloses copy of the principles on which
Preston's land was sold to Lynch. Has seen Col. Lynch
and suggested that he deliver valuable horses in lieu
of the payments mentioned in the contract. Lynch
seemed agreeable to this. Wants Preston to instruct
him whether to go ahead in this manner.

ALS, 1 p.

1799 Nov. 20. Edward Graham, Kenhawa to William Preston,
Commissioner 3rd Division [of Virginia].

Received letter dated the 16 October and accom­
panied by the resolution of the Board of Commissioners
and the books therein mentioned and a blank summary
abstract of dwelling houses. These have been filled
out and are sent back by David Ruffner. Asks that
Ruffner be given a blank summary abstract of lands
which he is directed to fill out from the land book and
certify in Graham's name. Says he has not received any
money on the credit of Preston's letter which allows
$196.25 for Graham's district, but may from
Col. Thomas Lewis. If so he will give Lewis an order on Preston for the amount received. Wishes to know the cost of assessing the land in Virginia.

ALS, 2 pp.


Starts for Kentucky tomorrow. Has accomplished the little business at court for Preston and has the papers at Maj. Triggs. Skillern is to be married in two days. Will attend to Preston's deed as soon as he arrives in Kentucky, where he will be ready to do whatever business Preston may desire.

ALS, 1 p.


Informs Preston that the Governor declines to ratify the report of the arbitrators on the valuation of arms furnished by James Swan to the Commonwealth. [Preston was one of the arbitrators.]

ALS, 1 p.


Sends Preston a letter Pryor has written to the Governor. Asks that it be forwarded to the door
keeper of the Council Chamber after Preston has read it. Would like to see Preston's letter to the Governor as well.

ALS, 3 pp.


Acknowledges receipt of Monroe's letter of January 30 announcing his decision on the report of the arbitrators on the value of arms received from James Swann. Maj. Pryor, another of the arbitrators, felt there was an implication of improper conduct. Preston states he is very disturbed by this implication and demands to know both the charges and the name of the person making them.

ALS, 2 pp. [Sender's copy.]


Received Preston's letter stating Preston has heard charges against his conduct in valuing arms furnished to Virginia by James Swann of Boston and requesting information on the charge and the name of the person making the charge. Assures Preston no such charge has been made.

LS, 1 p.

Informs Preston that under the law of December 1788 it is not incompatible for Preston to hold both the militia office of brigade inspector and the federal office of commissioner. The new law of 1 July 1799, however, makes the offices incompatible. If the office of commissioner ceased before the 1799 law took effect Preston is freed from any disqualification; if not Preston is incapable of holding the brigade-inspectorship without reappointment. Discusses the legal niceties of this dilemma further, particularly in regard to payment for services rendered.

ALS, 2 pp.


On his return to Kentucky, has found his friends and relations well. Is preparing himself for business and will begin at the court in March. Until then he will try to learn the State laws. Has been trying to get Preston's deed recorded, but had great difficulty in learning the proper procedure until he "luckily fell in with Dick Terril from the falls who informed me that conveyances for lands in that grant are recorded at St. Vincents." Terrill promised to give the deed to
Mr. Clark. Believes the matter is now settled. Understands the original deed from the commissioner to Lewis is in his hands and Howard can get it for Preston. Has been told "you had made a judicious Choice out of Lewises Claims."

ALS, 2 pp.


Feels the governor is attempting to impugn his conduct in the valuation of the arms of James Swann. Feels the "enclosed advice of Council after their deliberations on the depositions taken at the Eagle Tavern" shows this. "Arm'd as they think themselves with a host of apostate Americans, cut throat United Irish men and stinking Scotch Emigrants they can go on with impunity."

ALS, 2 pp.

[enclosure, copy of council proceedings; dated 11 Feb. 1800, signed A(rchibald) Blair, C(lerk) C(ouncil).]

Governor laid before the Council the depositions of Jacob Cook on behalf of the Commonwealth James Wood, Alexander Quarrin and William Preston on behalf of the agent of James Swann in the valuation of arms furnished to Virginia. Mr. [Edmund] Randolph attended in the
absence of the Attorney General. Letter of Robert Pollard, agent for Swann, requesting payment also laid before the Council. The Council advised the Governor not to make payment. The weapons were found to lack uniformity upon inspection by the Council. It was felt that the valuation committee was superficial in its inspection. Council believes the weapons were overvalued and makes a particular example of William Preston's statements in his deposition to this effect.

DS, 2 pp.


Has received Preston's letter of the 12th for Stephan. Encloses an order on Matthew Dickey, Collector of Grayson County for $200. Has not presented Preston's order on McDowell for $200. Declines to make Preston a loan on the credit of his future pay as Brigade Inspector. Should Preston agree to return the money by September 1, he may make use of the inclosed order on Robert Rowland. McDowell is currently short of cash due to investments. Is unacquainted with the ladies Preston had inquired about. Should Preston decide to go to Kentucky and can be ready by October 1, McDowell will travel with him. "You can then determine
whether you will be successful with Miss Shelby. . . ."
Is sorry Preston and Miss Susanna did not visit him on
their way from Lynchburg. Suckey came down with
Preston's brother James and Letitia, who is now in
Fincaastle probably. Urges Preston to influence
Letitia to take the journey.

ALS, 2 pp.

Preston, Richmond, [Va.].

Received Preston's letter asking the direction of
the governor for the payment of Preston's claim for
services rendered as Brigade Inspector. Preston will
be informed on this matter on Saturday.

ALS, 1 p.

1800 Aug. 23. Benjamin Howard, Fincastle to Maj. William
Preston, Montgomery [Co., Va.].

Decided not to return with Mr. Breckinridge,
because his horse has a fistula. Plans to ride to
Staunton, Albemarle and Bedford. Wishes Preston were
with him. Compliments the Hancock girls and especially
Miss Caroline. John Lewis asked Howard to tell Preston
he had used Preston's nails and if Preston wanted money
to draw on him.

ALS, 1 p.
1800 Aug. 25. E. Carrington, Richmond, Supr. Office to
Major William Preston, late Commissioner of the Direct Tax.

Has corresponded with Mr. McDowell over a deficiency of papers in the hands of the principal assessor. Asked McDowell to write Preston on the subject and has sent Preston's letter. Has had Mr. Dandridge look into the papers deposited in Richmond to see if there were double sets for the deficient counties. Encloses letter of Dandridge about the matter. If the situation is not cleared up, "much of the tax in your division must remain uncollected for want of documents on which to found the lists of Taxes, this will lead eventually to investigations which must be disagreeable to you. . . ." Urges Preston to help clear up the matter.

ALS, 3 pp.

1800 Aug. 25. J. B. Dandridge, Richmond Supervisor's Office to Major William Preston, Montgomery County, [Virginia].

In March Dandridge sent the returns of the Board of Commissioners to the Treasury Department and then began to file and put up the papers relating thereto so they could be deposited in the Supervisor's Office. Was concerned over the deficiencies found in the returns
from Preston's division and wrote Preston about this. Has not heard from Preston since. Therefore, he sends a copy of the note of deficiencies made at the time of the examination for Preston's action.

ALS, 1 p.


"Accompanying you will find two Letters from Colo. E. Carrington and Mr. Dandridge. They relate to the deficient papers that ought to have been in the hands of the Surveyors of Revenue and turned over to them by the principal Assessors, Colo Carrington supposes the Genl. Lists of the principal Assessors will enable the Surveyors of the Revenue to progress in the[ir] business. I am not certain that these papers are in the hands of the Surveyors of Revenue. You informed me the papers wanted in Montgomery and Grayson were obtained and that you supposed Mr. N. Ellington of Russell was in possession of the papers of his County from the Circumstance of Mr. Ewing collecting the Tax. Any of the Surveyors who have written to me the Situation of their papers complain of them not being added and the Assessments and Valuations not extended this has produced considerable mistakes the Surveyors not knowing the prct [percent] that was added to the first
Valuations. I intend in a few days if I can get leave from the Supervisor to employ an express to go to each of the Counties for the papers they have recd. from the principal Assessors. I think it would be well for you to write to the principal Assessors of Washington, Russell, Lee and Kanawa and know the kinds of papers they have given over to the surveyors this can best be done by obtaining duplicates of their rectz [receipts?] I hear no word of Drilling and the Regimental muster for god sake don't let me be fined again."

ALS, 3 pp.


Reminds Preston that on the 1st he sent by John Drake 10,000 acres of land warrants; encloses 8,180 acres in smaller warrants. If Preston can contract for a quantity, Hart feels he can furnish them as there are many lying in the office either unentered or entered withdrawn. Many of them belong to Virginia gentlemen. Has written to William Clark and Gen. Breckinridge about Preston's land requesting them to draw on him for any sum necessary for taxes, etc. Has written to Preston's mother by Judge Fleming informing her of the death of Hart's daughter Susan. Preston's sister is
still very distressed at the loss.

ALS, 2 pp.


Plans to leave for Flat Creek to trap. Preston is arriving Tuesday. Thomas Preston has just come from New London. Rumor has it that Howard is courting Miss P. and that Preston is courting her or Miss B. Howard will go to Lewis' for a week and then return so he can be at Botetourt Court. Wishes Preston could come over so they could carry the Salt Spring plan into effect.

ALS, 2 pp.


John Madison and Smith made a contract for a tract of land on New River. Madison gave Smith a bond on T. Craig in payment. Subsequent litigation over the bond showed Madison had no claim on Craig. Smith wants to know if conveyance of the land was made to Madison or to Craig, to whom Madison sold. Also wants to know if Madison will pay for the land. Wants Preston's help in securing such judgement as the law entitles him. The news in Kentucky is "Jefferson & Burr, Liberty & equality & Long Live the republic."

ALS, 2 pp.
1801 Jan. 25. Benjamin Howard, Robert Preston's, Abingdon, 
[Va.] to Maj. William Preston, Montgomery County, 
[Va.].

Has remained at the Salt Works. Talked with the 
Col. about Preston's Natchez trading voyage and told 
him Preston was not interested unless assured of clearing $1000. Urges Preston to come to Kentucky. Misses 
Posten, Russell and Thompson have been alternately at 
the salt works. Discusses prospects for wives. Menti­
tions Sally Gist.

ALS, 2 pp. [Letter torn, part missing.]

1801 Feb. 2. Robert Breckinridge, Col. Lynches near 
Shelbyville, [Ky.] to Gen. John Preston, Montgomery 
County, Virginia.

Has received horses from Col. Lynch, a list of 
which is enclosed. Two horses received from James 
Preston, also. William Taylor has given his opinion on 
the value of the horses. Col. Lynch's brother will 
deliver this letter and the horses. Will Taylor asks 
the enclosed memo to Preston to determine what papers 
will be necessary to enable the representatives of Han­ 
cock Taylor to recover compensation for the services 
rendered in locating and surveying certain military 
warrants in Kentucky. Asks Preston's help in this. 
Taylor will send Preston a good saddle horse in grati­ 
tude for Preston's efforts in searching the records
for those containing proofs of Hancock Taylor's services.

ALS, 2 pp.

[Written in pencil on the address of the letter—"Since the date of this (-- ) Alexander/Breckinridge died, (-- ) about one month ago."]


Humorously describes his progress in wooing Preston a rich wife named Sally [Gist]. Plans to return, "were I not to return it would be ungentlemanly and foreign to that manly line of conduct towards a female the observance of which ought to be a primary consideration with every young man. I have placed myself in an awkward situation and I must get through it with Honor if I cant with success. I love the girl & respect the family."

ALS, 3 pp.


Mr. Howard delivered Preston's letter and Hart notices what Preston says of more warrants. Hart can supply as many as are wanted. Hart looks forward to escorting Preston to Kentucky in a few weeks. Expects to be with Preston toward the end of May and if he
does not go to Baltimore will return to Kentucky immediately. Preston's claim to the blue Licks is suffering for want of attention. "William Clark assures me that no advantage shall be taken of your Land on the N. west of the Ohio. he says he has land in the same neighbourhood, and that he has evaded the taxes by not entering it." Mentions other land and personal business.

ALS, 2 pp.


Wishes information on the ejectment against Finley. Mr. Allen and the Marshalls know nothing of it. Hart failed getting his ejectment for the Glenn Creek tried at the last court. Further discussion of this tract of land. Mr. Breckinridge did not attend to the matter as carefully as was needed. Conflicts with Skillern's claim. Asks whether William or his brother James owns the balance of the claim. Skillern's only proof is a letter from Preston's father "without his signature or any directions or covering to the letter and that the bottom of it was torn off which in my oppinion carrys every mark of fraud with it, that letter proves that William Skillern has no claim to any part of the Land."

Susan wishes to be remembered to Preston and the family.

ALS, 3 pp.
1802 Jan. 3. Erastus Granger, Washington City to Maj.
William Preston, to be call'd for at the Stage House,
Georgetown.

Arrived on the 1st and is staying at Butterton's
No. 7 "one of the Seven Buildings." Lodging can be had
at Rhodes or Lovell's taverns.

ALS, 1 p.

1802 March 24. Francis Preston to Maj. William Preston,
Fincastle, [Va.].

Will be unable to attend William's wedding.
Francis will be going to New Dublin; expects to see
William at Smithfield. This letter will be brought by
Mr. Findley who is coming for nail rods. Asks William
to get a ton of them for him before Finley exhausts
Adams' warehouse. Francis' wagons are kept busy at the
ironworks.

ALS, 2 pp.

1802 May 23. Nathaniel Hart, Lexington, [Ky.] to Major
William Preston, Fincastle, [Va.].

Obtained a judgement on the ejectment for 1200
acres on Glenn Creek, but fears the defects in the
title will give them trouble. The certificate was
never recorded in the Fincastle office. Has written
John Preston on this matter. Mentions other details
relating to this land matter. Preston's ejectment has
been served on Finley. Trigg will make advances on court costs. Has received no account of Preston's money in Cincinnati. Hopes to see Preston in Kentucky.
ALS, 2 pp.


Expects the letter sent earlier by James Breckinridge has been received. The marshall has served the declaration of ejectment Preston sent. Expects Allen has had the order of survey made by the court. Hopes to see Preston in Kentucky this summer. This letter will be delivered by William Bowyer.
ALS, 1 p.

1802 May 27. John [Preston], Sweet Springs to Maj. William Preston, Fincastle, [Va.].

Has waited for 5 days at Sweet Springs for the issue of his suit with Baker. Col. Breckinridge is also delayed there and John will be unable to accompany him to Fincastle. Hopes William and Caroline will visit Montgomery. James brought Henrietta Johnson with him. They intend to go to Rockbridge in a few weeks provided William and his wife visit. On William's return they plan to spend time in Fincastle where Col. McDowell will meet them. John Lewis and family are well. Polly will go home with John.
ALS, 2 pp.

Encloses 1200 acres of land warrants. Informs Preston he is thinking of offering for Congress in this district. Has written Breckinridge twice asking him to run, but has received no reply. Asks Preston's opinion as to his plan to run for Congress.

ALS, 3 pp.


Received Preston's letter of the 18th. Has sent the $20 owed Preston for warrants. The warrant for 400 acres Preston located, Preston directed Richard Shanks-lin to dispose of and Byrnside has executed this as directed.

ALS, 1 p.

1802 June 25. John H. Madison, Fincastle, [Va.] to Mr. Sink.

Has sold Dave to William Preston. Patton Anderson says he left Dave with Sink; asks Sink to deliver him to Preston.

ANS, 1 p.

Received William's letter of the 3rd. Mentions William's claim made to the Briar Patch. The claim will be submitted to the judgment of selected men. Francis has spent much money improving the tract and had he known it would be disputed he would have located in the Horse Shoe. Trusts that composure will be observed by both brothers throughout the transaction.

ALS, 2 pp.


Arrived at Smithfield on the 2nd. Left Kentucky on the 23rd of Oct. Our sisters Mrs. Hart and McDowell were well as were the other relations. Our business respecting the Blue Licks progresses slowly, but accumulates costs fast. "I now begin to think less of the claim than I formerly did after having come into contact with the land jobbing gentry of that Speculating State." Has bought Hart's land in Virginia and wishes to sell it as profitably as possible; asks William to recommend a buyer—perhaps some of the Botetourt people or Nicholas Cooper.

ALS, 1 p.

Kentucky's "assembly is now in session and performing their usual round of legislative absurdities." Wishes Preston would settle in Kentucky; believes McDowell will do so. Preston Brown has returned. The French are about to take possession of New Orleans. Samuel Fulton has arrived there. Feels the change in New Orleans will not be good for Kentucky.

ALS, 3 pp.


Received Preston's letter of December 29 with the draft for $100 on the Auditor which has been paid by the Treasurer. Encloses an Alexandria bank note for that amount. Wishes Preston success in his trip and wishes to hear from him after he has made a settlement.

ALS, 1 p.


Invitation to dinner for 3:00 Saturday.

1 p.
1802 Feb. 5. Nathaniel Hart, Franklin [Co., Ky.] to Major William Preston, Fincastle, [Va.].

Received Preston's letter stating he had obtained an exchange warrant for the 30,640 acre warrant Hart left with him. Asks Preston to pay his sister Peggy Preston £35.4.0 and to charge it to Hart's account. Mentions land business with Col. James McDowell. Susanna (Preston) Hart joins Nathaniel in sending regards.

ALS, 2 pp.


Continues, constitutes and appoints Preston Brigade inspector of the 19th Brigade, 3rd Division, Virginia Militia.

ANS, 1 p.


Wants "to take the deposition of Gordon Cloyd to prove the situation of the Record of George Skellerns Military Survey of 1000 Acres on Glens Creek." Asks Preston to attend to the taking of depositions at Cloyd's house in Montgomery. Gives further instruction on this land matter. Believes Benjamin Howard will
oppose Fowler at the next election. Shelby has resigned as a candidate due to the circulation of a rumor that he planned some secret speculation. "I think we shall probably have a disgraceful representation from Kentucky at this election the probable members will be David Walker, Genl. Walton, John Boyle on the South side Genl. Wm. Henry, Bedinger & Fowler on the north side amongst which there is not a man of tolerable understanding." Append John Floyd's survey for George Skillern made 29 June 1775.

ALS, 3 pp.


Informs Preston of the birth of a son on July 1, who will be named Benjamin Howard Peyton, after their mutual friend. Agatha has recovered from the delivery and Mrs. Madison left about 8 days ago for Dumfries. Understands the purchase of Louisiana is "not such a monstrous bargain as their prints have represented." Understands the United States is to pay $15 million in addition to the $2 million already secretly appropriated. Produce is picking up due to the war between Britain and France.

ALS, 2 pp.

Received Preston's letter of June 6. Has rescheduled the taking of depositions for September and asks that Preston or his brothers attend to it. Discusses what he wants the depositions to cover. Asks when Preston's father bought Skillern's grant and when Floyd's 1775 survey was returned to the office. Kentucky is rejoicing at the cession of Louisiana to America. Elections are taking place beginning this day. Fowler and Boyle are unopposed.

ALS, 3 pp.


Thomas Preston brought Gen. Preston's letter of Aug. 23. Has received nothing from Col. Lynch on account of the debt he owes Preston. Discusses this debt further. Francis Preston and Breckinridge tried to examine the "accounts between Col. P[reston's] and Col. F[loyd's] estates but found that Mrs. Breckinridge had given Col. A[rthur] Campbell the papers on the part of Floyds." Further information on this legal problem.

ALS, 2 pp.

Received Preston's letter about the same time Francis Preston reached Beargrass. Col. Richard Taylor asked Breckinridge about Strother and Gill's land on Floyd's Fork. Talked with Francis about the Briar-patch; he wants to keep the part of that tract bordering on the Ohio River at Louisville. Has been unable to find the answer to Preston's questions on the Illinois land. "Capt. Wm. Clark, to whom I wished to apply for this information had set out for the Westward previous to the rect. of your letter. . . ." Thomas Preston is in Kentucky, Francis, his wife and Letitia are at Mr. Hart's near Frankfort.

ALS, 2 pp.

1803 Dec. 2. George Hancock to [Major William Preston].

Has obtained the cotton requested and the wheel. Letter concerns business matters. Desires to be remembered to "yourself & Caroline."

ALS, 2 pp.


Provides information obtained from "Mr. Pope, the Clerk of our Court" on the lands in the Illinois Grant.

ALS, 1 p.
1804 Jan. 4. Francis Preston to William Preston, Wythe County, [Va.].

Planned to visit the ironworks and then to see William at Wythe Court, but Mr. Smith and Miss Russell are to be married next Tuesday and Francis wants William's claim to the Briar patch settled as soon as possible; goes into some details of this land business and various financial transactions.

ALS, 3 pp. [Part of letter missing.]


Introduces Peter Choteau as the bearer of the letter and explains that Choteau is leading a delegation of Osage Indians to Washington to form a Treaty of Alliance with the United States.


LS, 2 pp.


Col. F[rancis] P[reston], sent Col. Campbell's deposition, but it arrived after the General Court had met. The case is continued until December. Asks to
have Edmonson's deposition taken. Discusses this suit further. Carneal is not in Kentucky, so Preston must have a friend in Richmond inform Ross. Smith thinks he has found a man who knew the rank and service of Barnes. Crops are good, except for the wheat. The Louisiana fever has newly abated. A few families descended the River including Mr. Brown's.

ALS, 2 pp.


Discusses the collection of debts owed by William McCoy, James P. Preston, Trolenger, and Reed. Details personal business at some length. Sends J. Smith's patent for 150 acres.

ALS, 2 pp.


Sister Madison is accompanying John "to talk with Col. Crockett, Mr. Draper and Mr. McGavock about the claim set up to her lands...." Discusses personal business.

ALS, 2 pp.

Discusses the value of the animal bones Preston has sent to the College of William and Mary. Gives detailed instructions as to further shipments of such bones. Asks that they be sent to Lynchburg by wagon and from there to Richmond where they could be lodged with George Greenhow or Edmund Randolph. Mentions Jefferson's theory on the existence of a prehistoric animal and says that he forwarded Preston's account of the bones to Dr. Barton of Philadelphia.

ALS, 3 pp.


Col. Lynch's absence from Kentucky has prevented Breckinridge from any further arrangement of Preston's and Lynch's affairs. Lynch hopes to remove to Louisiana in a year. Maj. Ballard Smith and John Brown executed a bond to George Wilson in Preston's name for 100 acres of land on Harrod's Creek. The bond is assigned to Breckinridge. Mentions Preston's tract of 5500 acres.

ALS, 2 pp.

Has Preston's letter of 20 August 1803 and has marked the name of people in Kentucky who still owe fees. Discusses debts owed by Capt. Edmund Taylor, which he presented to Taylor's legatees, who seemed to know nothing of his account. Will also close the accounts of Hancock Taylor. Gives details of other financial and legal affairs. Mentions Taliaferro Craig, Griffin Piatt, John Smith, Col. James McDowell, Haptonstall, Willis Lee, Col. [William] Preston, Mr. Radford, Mr. Jones and Thomas L. Preston.

ALS, 2 pp.


Mr. Hart told Smith that William Taylor offered Preston $200 for information on the claim of Jones and wife vs. Piatt. Discusses this case at some length. Mentions Willis Lee and Hancock Taylor. Mentions a contract with Morgan for part of our sandy land. Smith will visit north Georgia and south Tennessee soon and will let Preston have a description of those areas.

ALS, 3 pp.

Discusses the settling of the estate. Some of the negroes may be sold. Asks [William] to be present if possible to avoid future complaint.

ANS, 1 p.

1806 Oct. 9. Francis Preston to Col. George Hancock, Botetourt [Co., Va.].

Due to the adjustment of his father's estate, it is necessary to appoint two agents for Botetourt County to act in disposing of lands there. Hancock and Col. McDowell have been appointed. Hopes Hancock will be able to locate purchasers for the property. Has sent papers to Hancock including 2 patents for lands near Mr. William Lewis. Preston sold one of these tracts to James Nelly. William Preston will give further explanation.

ALS, 2 pp.


Discusses 100 acres of land, sold by Granville Smith to Preston and Ballard Smith. If the title can be proved, John Breckinridge will buy it. Mentions the business with Col. Lynch and Lynch's slowness in paying. Anticipates Preston will have to take back
the land.
ALS, 1 p.

1807 Nov. 30. Thomas Preston, Lexington, Virginia to Major
William Preston, Wythe County, [Va.].

"Richard Guthery who I am told lives in the neigh-
borhood of Colo Cloyds, is in possession of an Article
of Agreement between one John Miller and Christopher
Vineyard and son. It respects the sale of a valuable
mill seat at the mouth of Cedar creek in this County."
Wishes to know about the agreement. Vineyard is dead
and his heirs deny knowledge of the agreement. It is
to Thomas Preston's advantage to know more of this
matter.
ALS, 2 pp.

1808 Jan. 3. H. Brady, Indiana County, [Pennsylvania] to
Capt. William Preston, Wythe County, Virginia.

Answers Preston's letter of December 26. Is
pleased to hear Preston is well, married and the
father of three daughters. Tells Preston that he and
his wife Sarah have a six months old daughter. Is
uncertain as to Preston's suggestion that Brady move
to St. Louis. Leaves the propriety of this to Preston
and Lewis and Clark.

ALS, 3 pp.

Writes second letter in case first one miscarries. Is inclined to accept any appointment offered to him in St. Louis, but is concerned about the cost of living there. Will leave this up to Preston, Lewis and Clark.

ALS, 3 pp.


Preston's suit against Craig will be tried at the May term and Mr. Clay feels that the case is doubtful without Crockett's testimony. Notices for the taking of depositions on 1, 2 and 3 March at Col. Hugh Crockett's house in the cases of Breckinridge Heirs vs. Carneal & Ross, and Preston vs. Craig. Encloses Preston's commission for both cases. Crockett will prove that Thomas Barns received the regiment's provisions from the contractor and superintended their issuance. Visited Col. William Trigg in Tennessee, but his recollection has failed; John South remembered most of the circumstances. Asks that James Barnett's deposition be taken for Loves Heirs vs. Bowman and others. Instructs Preston as to the taking of
Barnett's deposition. Concerns details of legal cases and land transactions.

ALS, 3 pp.


Received Preston's letter from Nashville. Comments on a Mr. Gamble. Discusses Brady and his situation. Lewis is forming regulations on the subjects of mines. Expects several trading posts to be formed on the Missouri next spring. Would like to serve Brady if he will remove to St. Louis. Praises Louisiana Territory at length. Cash articles are salt, lead, iron, salt-petre, hemp and cordage, tobacco, furs and peltry "beside such articles as are common to Kentucky and Tennessee which are usually shipped to New Orleans (viz) Flour, whiskey, beef, pork, apple cyder, pittatoes, &c . . . were I to dwell on the advantages of this country I might fill a volume." Discusses land prices. The Indians have been exceedingly troublesome.


ALS, 7 pp.
1808 July 31. Francis Preston, Saltworks to Major William Preston, now at Louisville, Kentucky.

There is no decision on the Briar Patch. Mr. Wickham so informed Francis in Richmond. Was detained in Norfolk and Richmond and did not get home until 12 July. "I then deemed it unnecessary to write you as I supposed you had descended the River and I despair of this meeting you at Louisville." Passed through Williamsburg. James [Patton Preston] spent the time with William Cocke of Surry and Francis met him at Powhatan. Spent July 4th at a barbecue in Fincastle. The General has an attack of rheumatism and Robert Gamble says it continues. Gamble and his wife, Letitia Breckinridge, are with Francis Preston. Gives further family news. Mr. Mitchell married Miss Nanny Bra[y?]. "Can it be a fact that Burr passed down the Ohio lately it is stated in the papers that he has gone to England under the feigned name of Edwards. If you find it to be a fact I wish you would inform me."

ALS, 3 pp.


Received William's letter from Nashville. Sent a letter to William at the Falls of the Ohio informing him of the return of James and his family from Norfolk
and the Briar Patch business remaining as before. Has written to Risque to know if Gen. Jackson has made the arrangement William mentioned and if so if he is prepared for payment. "The affair of the French and Spaniards is so fully detailed in the papers which you meet with in passing through the Country that I need only mention that it is thought the Conduct of the French will produce another coalition against them. Should it be [so it] will engage Europe so completely, that we shall perhaps escape being involved further than a disregard of our rights in what many instances may have a tendency to injure us, which we must either defend by taking a part or avoid by withdrawing from the Sea both of which alternatives have their evil effects, in the first it is hazardous the latter humiliating and surely will require all the wisdom of our very able administration to determine on having a full view of the Circumstances." Family news.

ALS, 3 pp.

1809 Feb. 15. J[ohn] Preston, Richmond to Major William Preston, Robinson's Tract, Wythe County, [Va.].

Answers William's letter of 14 Jan. Due to illness he has been unable to procure information as to the dates of certain militia commissions requested by William. Has resigned his commission of Major General
and is now Treasurer of the State of Virginia. Will be 45 next May and therefore unfit for militia duty. "I find that money is as powerful a weapon [even?] directed as the Sword, & does not require half the strength to use it, but double the skill." Is working to reorganize the Bank of Virginia as it was intended—to give it a "perfect Republican Impulse." As William is not a Republican, John defines the word as meaning "equal, just, fair, upright, candid;" The Superintendent of the Armory will be dismissed from office for misconduct. If William were a Republican, rather than a Federalist, this job might be his. Expounds on the foolishness of William's politics. Congratulates William on the birth of his daughter.

ALS, 7 pp.


Is glad that the General will be the Federalist representative for the Botetourt District. Francis lost by a majority of 7 votes in his election. Will go to Tazewell on Tuesday to know his prospects if he ever again decides to run. Discusses the election results.

ALS, 2 pp.

Reminds Preston that he arranged with Col. Lynch to pay the arrearages of taxes due upon the land Preston sold Lynch, and that Preston would credit that amount on account of the purchase. Despite Lynch's promise, the taxes were unpaid and the land sold for taxes and "by that means [Lynch] acquired a fraudulent title independant of the one to be made under his contract." Lynch has since left Kentucky in debt and will probably not return. Breckinridge has made arrangements with Lynch's agent, William Taylor, to secure about $1800 to be applied to Lynch's account. Asks Preston to let him know his opinion.

ALS, 2 pp.


Left the Saltworks yesterday. Has examined all conveyances made by Buchanan; Campbell's and R. Preston's tracts seem to be the only ones conveyed by description. Thinks Gen. Preston can obtain better information relating to Buchanan's lands than anyone else. Hopes Preston's Illinois fever has not abated. Discusses land business.

ALS, 3 pp.

Sorry Preston could not accompany Capt. Murdaugh and Heth's brother on a visit. Discusses the medicinal properties of Madeira wine in a humorous tone.

ALS, 2 pp.


Discusses the election. Messrs'. Kent, Haller and Evans are making great exertions. Has mentioned Preston's name, but has received no great encouragement. "In speaking to several of the Dutch I have been universally answered 'They say he is one of those People they called Federalists' which they consider as a sufficient Objection to any man." It is believed that Preston would confine the election to a freehold election which would have a very injurious effect among the Germans. Haller's interest is particularly good and there is divided interest in Kent and Evans. Feels very little can be done to effect Preston's election. Capt. Henry L. Sheffey is supporting Evans and Dr. Stanger favors Kent and Evans.

ALS, 2 pp.
1810 March 28. John Preston, Richmond, [Va.] to Major William Preston, Robinsons Tract, Wythe County, [Va.].

Informs William of the death of Mrs. John Preston at 9:00 Monday morning. Contains a printed invitation to her funeral.

ALS, 3 pp.


Has "just received a letter from our good friend Clark dated at Fincastle" saying he leaves for St. Louis about the 15th and that Preston plans to go about June 1. Asks Preston's opinion as to whether he should go along as the successor of Gov. Lewis. The President wants him to do so. Howard will inform the President of Preston's views. "Nothing important in regard to our foreign relations seems to be doing here." Asks Preston not to say anything about Howard's St. Louis business. Gen. Breckinridge is well and his family is in Loudon at Dr. Seldon's. Congress will rise on the 23rd of April.

ALS, 3 pp.


Has accepted appointment as Governor of Louisiana. Will pass through Preston's neighborhood the last of
May or early June and hopes Preston will delay his journey to Louisiana until then. Gen. Clark wrote Howard that Preston would leave around June 1. Gen. Breckinridge and family left Washington for Fin­castle by way of Richmond. No news from Europe, but the delay of our dispatches indicates doubt for our prospect of adjustment with the belligerants.

ALS, 2 pp.


Received William's letter requiring John, by order of Maj. Gen. Moore, to attend at Christiansburg on 2 January as a member of a court martial held for the trial of Maj. Willis. Will attend if his wife's health improves.

ALS, 1 p.


Visited upper Louisiana last fall and believes the part west of the Mississippi is the finest country he ever saw. "Its very far superior to the rich lands of Kentucky or this Country. . . ." Praises the area further. "I enjoyed more pleasure in the company of
Genl. Clark & our friend Benj. Howard the two days I stayed in St. Louis than I have experienced for many days before." Will expect Preston in Tennessee in the spring and hopes Dr. Floyd will accompany him. Discusses fowl and mentions the interest of Gen. Overton, Gen. Jackson, Capt. Hoggatt, Dr. May and Mr. Bells in those fowl sent by Preston. Asks about E. Drakes suit against Crockett.

ALS, 3 pp.


Requests that Preston's account as Brigade Inspector for services rendered in the trial of Capt. William Davis and certified by the judge advocate be reduced to more precise form. Gives further detailed requests in this matter.

LS, 1 p.


Col. William Preston has informed Grundy "that he wishes to receive the appointment of receiver of public monies in upper Louisiana." Grundy believes Preston "would discharge the duties of that office with credit to himself and safety to the Country."

ALS, 1 p.

Discusses arrangements to meet Preston at the Falls of Ohio and speaks of selling various horses. Speaks of Preston's planned trip to the West.

ALS, 2 pp.


Dr. Moseley and Madison Beale have died. Discusses the operation of Preston's plantation. Hancock has paid off his debt to Gen. Breckinridge. Wysart, Preston's overseer, left the day his time was out; Hancock has hired a replacement. Inquires of Maj. Quick's Kentucky lands and discusses personal land business; "... if it can be ascertained that Quick's moiety of Campbells Island is worth my debt I expect Capt. Bufurd and his wife will either pay the debt to me or give up the Island." Mentions Strother, J. Lockhart, Sam G. Adams, Christian Irmy, Jo Kent and Capt. Peyton.

ALS, 2 pp.


Plans to go to the mouth of the Kentucky to divide and settle with Mr. Smith. Plans to sell lots on
November 4 and will advertise to that effect in the paper in Louisville and Frankfort and perhaps in Lexington. William must, when he arrives, have some lots laid off adjoining the Town. Wants to save the land between the river and the creek. Hopes William will be able to settle the boundary dispute over the Preston's land and the Town.

ALS, 3 pp.

1812 Jan. 11. George Hancock to George Hancock, junr., Brownsburg, Rockbridge County, [Va.].

Hancock's house burned last Thursday, most of the furniture was saved, due to the help of the people of Fincastle. The family is now living in the old house. As soon as possible they will move to Fotheringay.

ALS, 2 pp.


When the nation has determined on war with a foreign power, it is the duty of her citizens to support the nation. Due to more than seven years service in the military, Preston offers his service to Madison to command a brigade. Information as to his qualifications and integrity can be obtained from the Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky delegations.

ADraftS, 1 p.

Same as above, with minor textual changes.

[Retained copy?]

ALS, 1 p.


Plans to write Gen. Dearborn in support of William's nomination to a military appointment. Francis' personal war zeal is over; has no notion to enter the army, but will be ready in the Militia. John Strange and two head neds are both in prison due to a local alarm over a possible negro insurrection. Discusses the circumstances behind the alarm and its aftermath. Plans to have William visit before he goes to Kentucky. If William can be there at the March Court, they could acknowledge their Kentucky deeds. Mr. Wickliff has sent him information regarding necessary actions to further settle the legal questions over the Briar Patch. Asks William to attend to various business, including obtaining a copy of a survey in Cloyds office made under the Loyall Company for Conrad Carlock.

ALS, 3 pp.
1812 March 15. John Floyd, Christiansburgh, [Va.] to 
Majr. William Preston, Wythe County, [Va.].

John Taylor's last papers say the dispatches to 
Mr. Russell have arrived in England and that the 
British Ministers have received the debates in Congress 
and that the Prince Regent made a speech favorable to 
American affairs. It is reported that Barlow is well-
received by Bonaparte. James Charlton, Jr. received a 
letter from Sheffey saying war is still expected. 
Letitia wants a muscovy duck and a drake sent her. 
ALS, 2 pp.

1812 Aug. 10. James P. Preston, Smithfield to Major Wil­
liam Preston, Robinsons Tract, Wythe County, [Va.].

A letter has been received from Col. McDowell 
informing William and James of their brother's hopeless 
condition. He caught yellow fever in Norfolk on his 
return from Baltimore. Brother John has left for 
Col. McDowell's. Their mother is distraught. 
ALS, 1 p.

1812 Dec. 15. James Breckinridge, Washington to Maj. Wil­
liam Preston, now in Richmond, Virginia.

Eustis has resigned and will leave Washington in a 
few days; understands Monroe is managing the business 
of the War Department until a successor to Eustis is 
named. According to rumor, Monroe will command the
armies. "Certainly great changes are meditated in both Cabinet and field but what they are or may be is yet merely conjectural." "The Copper Smith" has sent a party of New York men into Canada without success. This man is now held in disregard by various government officials. Believes the war must be prosecuted vigorously. Tells of the obstinacy of the Russians in the face of Napoleon's invasion. Has not yet procured a copy of Smyth's work, but will send a copy to Col. F[rancis] Preston when he does. Asks Preston to settle various accounts.

ALS, 3 pp.


Arrived at this place from St. Louis on October 18 and is now preparing to return to St. Louis by boat. Since her arrival, Judith has dried peaches, apples and chives, made 30 gallons of excellent Bounce, a year's preserves, barrelled apples and preserved flour for our store of provisions at home. All are well except James Kinnerly. George is out with Gen. Howard. I am just informed that George and 20 men forced their way through 100 Indians who attacked Fort Clark on the Illinois a few days before Gen. Howard's army reached that place. Gen. Howard could not induce the Indians
to fight and was strengthening the Fort he built at Peoria about 80 leagues up the Illinois. The Indian war in this quarter will be at an end since they have no point by which to receive supplies. "Harrison has possession of the British army of upper Canada . . ., Perry the upper lakes, and Majr. Croghan wrote his father a letter received last night, that he was ordered to an expedition against Mackinack." Has not heard from Maj. [William] Preston; he is in demand at Louisville and will lose money if he does not come soon.

ALS, 2 pp. [Xerox copy of original at "Locust Grove."


Writes her brother about personal financial business. John Preston has gone to Baltimore. Certain money is to be left with Gen. Breckinridge.

ALS, 2 pp.

1814 May 30. E. M. Preston, Avon-hill, to Maj. William Preston, to the care of John Preston, Richmond, [Va.].

Writes her brother to thank him for seeing to her affairs. Is pleased at the prospect of income from her Kentucky lands. Discusses her personal business.
Mentions Mr. Breckinridge, Col. Floyd and her sister Mrs. Daniel.

ALS, 3 pp.

1814 Aug. 16. Edmonia M. Preston, [Berryville, Frederick County, Va.?] to John Preston, Treasurer of Virginia, Richmond.

Wrote her brother about a power of attorney she mailed him for the division of Mt. Comfort. Mr. Daniel has written her that he has received a first payment of $5000 for the Brick House and has deposited her half of this money in the Bank of Virginia to the credit of her uncle P. N. Nicholas. Asks John to invest this money for her in Bank Stock. Discusses the settlement of a debt to her father's estate, arising from the loan of a horse by him to her. This matter she believes to be unsettled and believes an enquiry of P[eyton] Randolph or John's own knowledge of his brother's (her husband) affairs may lead to a settlement of this issue. Mentions family matters.

ALS, 3 pp.


Capt. Thomas Burwell told John he had papers from William to William Dandridge which he delivered.
Dandridge says he will write the War Department to find the reason William's draft for $471 was returned protested. Mentions other business transactions, runaway slaves, bank business, etc. "Thomas Bird has certainly sold his fathers land near Louisville to a Mr Thurston. I got this information from a neighbour of his I think Robert Page who knew the circumstances. Mr. Bird in Frederick near Winchester."

ALS, 3 pp.


Discusses the removal of William's slave Jem from the jail at Petersburg to the penitentiary at Richmond and the troubles and expenses involved; talks of the sale or trade of Jem. Richmond is very unhealthy and many people are dead. "Mr. Samuel Pleasants the Printer & Col. W. R. Fleming both died this week. Norfolk is said to be uncommonly sickly. . . ." Mentions Walter Heron, John Hambleton, Col. Campbell, Charles K. Mallory and Mr. Young.

ALS, 2 pp.

Has received her brother William's two letters. Thanks William for attending to her Kentucky business, which she leaves entirely in his hands. William's letter is unclear as to whether Mr. Gwathmey "the creditor of the Estate, lives in Virginia or Kentucky..." Hopes this debt can be paid. Asks William to have Mr. Breckinridge write her about the Popler Level suit. Francis is recovering from the fever which attacked him "before you left this state." Wishes William and Caroline "health and happiness in your new place of abode."

ALS, 3 pp.


Returned to Norfolk two days ago after a trip to Gloucester, Mathews and York to purchase negroes, but found they had been sent to Richmond. The Norfolk sale has been postponed due to an alarm over the British fleet which "is laying about 21 miles from this place." Bought two negroes today. Gen. Taylor has been ordered to take command of the troops destined for this place--about 2000 which are coming in hourly...
Capt. R. Gambles Troop is amongst the number. . . .

Taylor has asked Preston to help organize the troops.  
"In returning from Gloucester I saw the British Squadron Eight sail in all a few miles to the East of us."  

ALS, 3 pp.

Informs Preston that the annual election of President and Directors of the Louisville Branch Bank was held at the Bank of Kentucky yesterday. Brown bought a share of bank stock in Preston's name so that as a stockholder he would be eligible to serve on the Board, and Preston was thereupon unanimously elected a Director of the Louisville Branch Bank. Asks Preston to remit the $100 for the share of stock.

ALS, 1 p.

Gen. Breckinridge obtained a majority of votes over Dr. Floyd in the Botetourt election. It is believed Gen. Porterfield will be elected over McCoy in the Augusta District. Discusses the situation in regard to the Locust Cove property, which he understands is owned by the Buchanan family of Tennessee.
who inherited it from the Mr. Buchanan to whom the land was granted by the Loyal Company. Due to the new taxations feels he is unable to go to Washington for Preston. Discusses the management of some of Preston's property, to whom rented, etc. Discusses other land business. Gen. Preston has secured both of William's runaway negroes. Mentions: Hudson, Peter Rife of New River, Francis Jackson of Shelby Co., Ky., I. H. Peyton, Mr. Briscoe, Paddy Buchanan, James Brown of Wythe Court House, James Buchanan and Mr. Lamnia (?).

ALS, 3 pp.


Unless the surveyor's report relating to Preston's ejectment against Luckett &c. is prepared, the suit will be dismissed. Asks if Preston pays the taxes on the Briar Patch as it stands in the name of Francis. William's brother Thomas is advertised as owing taxes. Has employed a music master for his children. Informs Preston that Floyd has obtained a considerable majority over Gen. Breckinridge and that Randolph has left out Epps.

ALS, 2 pp.
1815 June 18. J[ohn] Preston, Richmond, [Va.] to Major
William Preston, Louisville, Jefferson County, [Ken­
tucky].

Introduces Dr. Quarles, son of Major Quarles,
Quartermaster General of Virginia, who plans to seek
his fortune in the West.

ALS, 1 p.

1815 Sept. 28. J[ohn] Preston, Abingdon, [Va.] to Major
William Preston, now at Lexington, Kentucky.

Received William's letter of the 3rd, but as he was
leaving Richmond on business, he did not have time to
get his wife's power of attorney relinquishing her
right of dower in the lands of Barne's survey. Hopes
to put this affair in such a form "that even a Ken­
tuckian cannot cavil at or find error in it." Met with
Maj. Richard Byrd of Westover and discussed his lands
and those belonging to his father's estate in Kentucky.
Asks William to handle Byrd's Kentucky land business
and John will pay the costs of taxes, etc. on these
lands. Discusses William's affairs with the Bank. Has
recovered both of William's negroes and describes their
treatment after being recovered. Sympathizes with
William's homesickness. Gives family news. Mentions:
Nathaniel Hart, Mr. Griffin, Mr. Freeland, Gen. Breck­
inridge, Col. McComas, Col. Hancock and Judge Fleming.

ALS, 6 pp.

Discusses a proposed duel between Floyd and Capt. Gray, late of the Army.

ALS, 2 pp.


ALS, 4 pp.


Renews his request for William to sell some of Francis' larger and smaller Louisville lots to raise money to pay his debt to Mr. Funk and to enable him to
begin saltmaking. Capt. Isaac T. Preston left for New Orleans, but plans to stop in Louisville where Francis hopes William will take care of some financial business for him. Mentions family news and the appearance of typhus in the households of Col. John Preston and old Mrs. Preston.

ALS, 2 pp.


Thanks William for his help in business matters. Leaves the Poplar Levels property in William's hands. Discusses her financial plight and the causes of it.

ALS, 3 pp.


Discusses personal business and family news. Asks to be included if Preston makes "any trade for Boons Station. . . ."

ALS, 1 p.


Francis' son, William Preston, is taking a tour of the United States and will go to Europe next year. While in Kentucky, he is to try to sell some of Francis' lots at the Falls, except the Sand Hill
square. The proceeds would pay Mr. Funk. Francis is willing to sell the out lot no. 2 of five acres adjoining Louisville and Beargrass Creek. "Fulton the Steam Boat man was very anxious to get it and I believe would have given me a considerable promise. . . . I fear to sell the Lots in the Enlargement as my belief is they will increase. . . ." Wants William to collect on the notes sent out by Mr. Clark. Mentions financial business, including a note of James C. Johnson left with Capt. Edmund Clark. Asks about acquiring a horse. Asks about the deed to be made to Robert M. Holmes and mentions Mr. Tarascon.

ALS, 3 pp.


Heard last fall that the suit for part of the Poplar Levels had been decided in favour of her children, but had been appealed. Enquires about the debt owed to Mr. Gwathmey. Asks for full information on her Kentucky lands. Sends news of her children.

ALS, 4 pp.


Gives news of his family. Plans to go to Virginia in September. A meeting of the heirs of
Col. William Preston is planned for the fall around October 1; supposes Preston's mother wishes to surrender the balance of the property due to her age.

ALS, 2 pp.


Still has not heard from Preston and is very anxious about her Kentucky affairs. Is in severe financial situation. Asks that Preston hire someone to supervise her affairs if he is too busy to attend to them. Eliza Preston of the Salt-works visited on her way from the Springs in Pennsylvania. Susan Peyton is ill, but the rest of the family is well.

ALS, 3 pp.


Two respectable men are about to move to Kentucky and are interested in leasing some of her land; she asks William to write her describing the part of her land most advisable to lease. Has not heard from Preston and is uneasy about it.

ALS, 2 pp.

Received Preston's letter of March 19th and is very grateful for his help with her affairs. Received the money Preston sent by Mr. Griffin who gave it to Dr. Burwell to deliver. Francis and Eliza Preston visited on their way from Richmond to Washington. Passes on news of the family.

ALS, 3 pp.

1817 April --. William Campbell Preston, New York to Majr. William Preston, near Louisville, Ky.

Writes his uncle at the request of Maj. Armistead to introduce Mr. Dunbar, who plans to settle in the West.

ALS, 1 p.

1817 May 10. Isaac T. Preston, New Orleans to Major William Preston, Louisville, Kentucky.

Writes his uncle about personal business matters including a copy of a receipt of George Rogers Floyd for a purchase of land in Louisville by William Adams from Frank and William Preston. Hopes Preston will remain in Kentucky rather than return to the Virginia mountains "for in all my travels I have seen no place unless perhaps this city which was making such rapid strides to greatness as the town of
Louisville." Hopes other members of the family will come to live on the western waters. Mentions his law practice in New Orleans. Mentions: Whitley Preston, Mr. Castleman and Capt. Nimrod H. Moore.

ALS, 4 pp.


Has "just learned that the lands of non-residents in Kentucky are advertised for sale and among the rest two tracts belonging to my children." Asks Preston to handle this situation. Discusses personal finances and land business. Is eager to settle permanently in a cheap place where her children can be educated. Asks what income she may expect from her Kentucky lands as her Virginia property is tied up in a law suit.

ALS, 3 pp.


ALS, 1 p.
1817 June 22. Francis Preston to Major William Preston, Louisville, Ky.

Received William's letter by Major Nash. Did not join in Nash's speculation project because of a feeling of abhorrence at "speculating on anything relating to the Soldier." David Castleman wrote from New Orleans that Francis' son William placed some notes on Louisvillians in his hand which were collected and remitted to the house of Castleman & Co., Lexington; the remaining notes were deposited with Gen. Breckinridge. Asks William to help with these notes and to bring the money to Francis. Will need this money to meet his son William's European draft. Hopes to raise 8 or 10 thousand dollars through land sales if he is hard pressed. Discusses his intention of visiting Kentucky and William's proposed visit to Virginia. Francis is selling corn and rye at 3/ per bushel and bought 50 bushels of oats from Col. John Preston at 2/3. The family is "not so bad off as you have heard. . . . I Can't say so much for Montgomery but they are better off than their neighbours (I mean the Governor.). . . ." The salt well has been very successful.

ALS, 3 pp.
1817 July 28. Nathaniel Hart, Frankfort, [Ky.] to Major William Preston, Middle Town, Jefferson County, [Ky.].

Can send four brick layers who charge $2 per thousand bricks; asks Preston to let him know if he wants them and whether they can find employment for all the season. Saw Jacob Sodusky [Sandusky] who says that Lampton's corner was made in 1773 for the Tow claim, which was laid off at that time. Gives family news and says he will probably visit Abingdon with other members of the family.

ALS, 2 pp.


The Court will be held next Tuesday and deeds will then be executed for the Tarrascon lot and for Mr. Maupin's land. Francis will send them to William by sister Hart to be delivered. Wants William to send the money for these lands quickly as Francis needs money. Dr. Floyd reports that William thinks legal expenses in Kentucky are becoming oppressive. Asks William to try to sell all Francis' lands except the sand square for as much as possible in cash as he needs money. Gives directions as to the handling of the money at Castleman & Co. and the notes held by Gen. Breckinridge. Fears he will be unable to attend his
legislative duties this winter due to an injury received in a riding accident.

ALS, 3 pp.


Having just written to their sister, Mrs. Hart, Mrs. Madison writes to her brother. Reports that their mother is well despite her 79 years and that only Edmonia Preston and her two children now live with old Mrs. Preston. Col. and Mrs. Hancock are well and may visit Gen. Clark and their children in the West. Gives a brief account of Col. Hancock's character and interests. Mentions the current news of Dr. and Mrs. Floyd, Edmonia Preston's family, James McDowell, George Hancock and other relatives. Tells Preston about his runaway slave, Billy. The General [John Preston] has bought an elegant estate in Goochland. Capt. Peyton and Agatha are living in the Den.

ALS, 4 pp.


Understands her letter to William sent to Gen. Clark never reached Clark. Discusses her financial affairs. Kentucky notes are not very current in
Virginia; asks William to send Virginia notes in the future. Relays family news.

ALS, 2 pp.


Marshall's wife has recently given birth to a daughter. Heard from Mrs. Hart recently that Preston had arrived safely at home. Hopes Preston, his wife and family will repeat their visit to the springs. Mrs. Marshall will wait until the end of August for a time to be arranged for the visit. Should Preston's health not permit the visit, Marshall hopes to visit Preston in Middletown.

ALS, 3 pp.

1818 July 30. Francis Preston, Frankfort, [Ky.] to Major William Preston, Middletown, [Ky.]

Arrived in Frankfort yesterday and is waiting to participate in a dinner given to Mr. Clay to which he has been invited and "to which I believe I would not have accepted but for the Consideration that there is arising a jealousy between the two states by Mr. Clays supposed pretension to the presidential chair and it might be tho't If I had gone after so much politeness that it was from a feeling of that sort of which I am sure I do not as yet participate at all. . . ."
Wants to see Mr. Bibb but he is "deeply engaged for some criminals." Will, therefore, send him the papers and ask that Bibb talk with William before the trial. Talked with Mr. Holmes of Wythe Co. about letting him have a Lot on Market Street and binding him to build thereon. If after three or four years this is not paid for the buildings would be forfeit. Asks William to draw up a contract giving Holmes pretty good credit, but not to let him have a corner lot. Wishes he had sold more of his lots earlier, since he understands there is a reaction to the high prices which is driving the price down. Discusses land business for his Louisville lots and lands at the mouth of the Kentucky River. Wants to reserve his land on the north side of Main Street "for a change of times . . . . Saw Dr. [Louis] Marshall yesterday who says you must quit there at all events. And by no means expose yourself to the sun and fatigue."

ALS, 3 pp.


Arrived in Lexington last night, delayed by sister Hart's illness. Expected a letter from John Clark enclosing a draft for $691, but it has not arrived. Plans to press for this money and is very aggravated not to have it. Is surprised William has not gone to
the Blue Licks as his health requires. Enquires about land sales in Louisville and asks how Campbell's lots sold. Discusses his suit against Campbell and asks William to have Gen. Breckinridge's report filed and depositions taken. Bibb is Campbell's lawyer and Francis plans to employ Wickliffe. Discusses his itinerary.

ALS, 3 pp.


Received a letter from Gen. Clark dated 6 September informing him that Julia and the children will come to Louisville for the winter and perhaps to Virginia. Wrote to Maj. Preston after receiving a letter from Lewis Clark intimating Julia was about to "make such arrangements." Asked Maj. Preston to let him know when Julia arrived and would then send George for Julia and her sister and their families as the change of air and climate "would be of service to the Majr. and his sick family." Hancock's wife wrote James Lockhart to go from Nashville to help Julia in. "The Governor writes me he will be obliged to return from Louisville to attend the legislature at St. Louis. I think it right he should do so."

ALS, 2 pp.

Is glad to hear William is recovering and received a letter from an acquaintance who dined with William in Lexington on his return from the Licks who says William is convalescent but much reduced. Praises the miracle wrought by [Dr. Louis] Marshall and the Blue Licks. Francis' daughter Susan is now married. Is surprised not to hear from Mr. Lewis, their new agent. Details some legal business, particularly that Mr. Cowan's deposition be taken as he made a survey of 2000 acres back of Connally's and "that Sandusky's should be taken to prove that the Blockt beech was not markt by Douglass's tool which he says is the fact and which decidedly proves that it is not Connallys, but Campbells corner and which [---] I presume will answer our purposes.

ALS, 3 pp.


Plans to remain in Lexington [Va.] for this year at least. Is pleased to hear that Preston's health is mended enough that he can visit Virginia this spring. Discovered that a Hagerstown note of fifty dollars is counterfeit. Believes it was given her by William
through Gen. Clark in December 1817. The note is numbered 1106 and dated 4 April 1813. Is anxious about the Poplar Levels suit. Reports on Preston's mother, who is well and active despite great age.

ALS, 2 pp.


Encloses the counterfeit bank note referred to in her earlier letter for Preston's inspection to determine whether she received it from him. Everyone is anxious to hear about William's health. Asks that if her Kentucky affairs are proving a burden to him, Preston should hire a businessman to handle her affairs.

ALS, 2 pp.


Has just returned from Dr. Marshall's where she learned that William is in better health and that nothing but his own care is required to re-establish his health. Had hoped William would come up with Dr. Marshall who said yesterday he was afraid William was at the big bone lick. Urges William not to go there but to come to the Harts to stay awhile. It will soon be warm enough to go to the Blue Licks and
Dr. Marshall says William must use that water to save his life. Asks to be remembered to sister Preston, the girls and Mrs. Clark. Nathaniel Hart asks Preston to find out from Mr. McKnight whether the notes have been paid and if not what the prospects are to collect the money. Hart's notes have been paid at Knoxville.

ALS, 3 pp.


Copy of power of attorney received by Strother Bowyer of Lewisburg, Greenbriar Co. from Reuben and Randolph Ross to sign their names to and deliver. Bond to be executed to Mays and Newman for the benefit of Price and Callison assignee of Mays and Newman. To indemnify Reuben and Randolph Ross, Bowyer transfers all interest, claim and demand against C[uthbert] and Thomas Bullet of Louisville, Kentucky for his part of the purchase of a tract of land inherited from his father at the Falls of Ohio to them. Dated 30 September 1818. Witnessed by William S. Brandon and John H. Jordan. Attested by Alexander Shields. Ross asks Preston to inform the Bullitts of this transfer. Has written Gen. Brown of Augusta Co. who was the Bullitts' agent in this business and was informed $500 is still due to Bowyer. If the Bullitts' require, he
will send the original transfer and a receipt on it for the money. A check on the United States Bank in Richmond, Baltimore or Philadelphia sent to Ross will be appreciated.

ALS, 3 pp.

1819 May 21. Francis Preston, Frankfort, [Ky.] to Major William Preston, Middletown, [Ky.].

Refers to a law suit concerning land. The case was just heard in Frankfort. Gives details of the hearing and those involved.

ALS, 3 pp.


Left Shelbyville the day before at 11:00 and arrived in Frankfort very tired. Was sick last night but somewhat better today. Will leave for Mr. Hart's soon where he expects to see F[Francis] Preston and his children. Sends two patents for Mr. Urton to take to Beale. Mr. Urton's patent is the oldest and will hold the nine acres he was afraid he would lose. Give the patents to Urton, who will go to Beall's and the office and close the business.

ALS, 1 p.

Mark Lampton, under the impression that Breckinridge was Preston's agent, asked what terms he could obtain the privileges of removing the brick he made on the land Preston recovered from Lampton. Breckinridge told him he had no authority for this from Preston, but would write to him about it. Lampton offers a quantity of ground, equal to the surface which he dug on Preston's, along the boundary line as established in the decision of the Federal Court, which Lampton believes will make the land Preston recovered equal to what it was before the brick yard was established. Lampton wants very much to remove the brick. [Notation on verso:] "One kiln of the Brick mouldered away the burnt one was exposed and produced but little to the Estate. Summon--J[ames] D[ouglas] Breckinridge, Janus Johnston."

ALS, 1 p.


Asks the name of the man at the Sandy Salt works Preston mentioned to William C. Preston's father. Hopes the Springs will be very beneficial to the Major's health. The mountains' barren sides are
preferable to the luxuriance of the Briar patch for health purposes. W. C. Preston's brother John fractured his thigh three weeks ago, but is recovering.  

ALS, 2 pp.

1819 Aug. 13. Francis Preston, [Abingdon, Va.] to Major William Preston, Sweet Springs, [Va.].

Discusses his son John's broken thigh and arm and says he is recovering. Tells how upset he was to hear of John's accident, which occurred 25 miles from home. Francis' health is not good and if he does not improve soon, he will try to go to the Sweet Springs where he hopes to see William. Encloses a letter from Mr. Bullitt telling of the Preston's affairs. Mentions law suit involving them and a Mr. Booth and Mr. Johnston. Asks William's advice as he wishes to give instructions to Mr. Wickliffe.  

ALS, 3 pp.


John's son William is on his way to the Springs to see Maj. Preston and John hopes to be there in 8 or 10 days. Would have come over from Greenfield, but he heard that William was improving. While still in Goochland, John heard that William was recovering very fast from Mr. Poindexter and heard the same in
Lexington from Isaac Caruthers. Thomas Newell was more positive in informing John of William's improvement. Urges William to do his best to improve his health. Gives news of his own health and says his son William will give more news on the family both here and at Smithfield.

ALS, 2 pp.


Hears that William is recovering and that he will be in Abingdon on his way to Kentucky in a week. Asks William to search the clerk's office before he leaves Montgomery for a deed executed to Francis by John Preston for his part of the Briar patch. That deed is indispensable in Francis' suit against A[rthur] Campbell. The suit was begun at the last term and continued for want of this deed. Says if his son Charles decides to come with him, he may or he may stay until his master is coming out. Francis is spending much time at the salt works. Discusses his health. Asks to be remembered to the Hancocks and to the relatives.

ALS, 2 pp.


Thanks his cousin for her letter. Remembers the evenings spent at Maj. Preston's and Uncle Fitzhugh's.
Discusses the fire of last Wednesday and says the woman who set it is now in jail until her trial. It is supposed she set the fire for revenge on the jailer who sent her sons to the penitentiary. Has not yet joined any of the regular classes of the College, but expects to join the junior class when he enters. His brother William wrote that their father was ill and that Aunt Julia is still unwell. Has heard many lectures the past two weeks most of them on surgery, natural history, botany, etc. The best was delivered by Dr. Caldwell on medicine, "the most diverting and some think the most larned was delivered by a Mr. Rafinesque a Frenchman on Natural History and Botany." Asks Maria to tell Cousins Henrietta and Thruston he will write them soon. "Brothers desire to be remembered to you." Asks to be remembered to his friends and relations.

ALS, 3 pp.


Regrets she was unable to meet William when he was in Virginia. Is pleased with her living situation in Rockbridge County. Both Col. McDowell and Francis Preston brought her news of her Kentucky affairs. Understands the property in Kentucky should soon yield between $400–$600; this will be very welcome as her
family's expenses are $480 for board, with clothing being a very light expense; her son John's college tuition will be $60. Asks William to collect her rents and bring them to her if he comes to Virginia in the spring. Suggests that Mr. McDowell Reid would be a safe conveyance. Asks Preston to write her concerning her affairs, particularly the progress of her suit. Tells Preston she is willing for him to hire someone to manage her affairs under his direction if it would free him of the time and trouble involved. Would like a detailed account of the settlements on the Poplar Levels, amount of rents, etc. Susan Peyton had one of her violent attacks.

ALS, 4 pp.


Fears her letter of some months ago never reached Preston. "Since that time we have all been much and painfully engrossed by the recent distress of our family. . . ." The family has been unsuccessful so far in its plans for "the relief of our Brother, in his present wretched situation." Asks for information on her Kentucky property and says "I have lately gained a suit, by which the land I held near Richmond has been secured to me." Is concerned about money. "The
promptness with which you always send me money, makes me fear that you sometimes advance it whether you can obtain it conveniently or not."

ALS, 3 pp.


The family is in good health. The check on W. S. Waller was not paid because A. Gale's signature was unknown to any person in the Bank; the check will now be honored if Preston will put his endorsement below A. Gale's. "You can have the money by enclosing the check and sending it to a friend in Frankfort; Mr. Wickliffe will send you the Papers you want in time. People around Lexington have been very sickly during the present month; J. J. Crittenden has lost his Son;--Doctor Marshall's Son Edward died last week; young James Breckinridge died at the same place this week; William Breckinridge life despaired of--and several other Boys very sick."

ALS, 3 pp.


Arrived at Smithfield yesterday. Received a letter from Mr. Pendleton, the register, one of John Preston's securities, saying the General's accounts are settled
"and that there is a further deficit of $14000 which has so alarmed me that I have decided to go on to Greenfield to urge decisively the sale of all the property that can be sold to prepare for this sad affair." Pendleton understands Settle Creek will be sold for 30,000, there is 20,000 on hand, the Richmond house will sell for 10,000 and the balance of the Negroes will bring 10,000 for a total of 70,000. Francis will urge the General to sell, but fears he will get obstinate, in which case the securities are ruined. "Indeed I do most earnestly fear that I shall suffer, perhaps every species of my personal property will be stript from me and I do not know but Lands are liable to the Commonwealth execution—I see much distress before me indeed and do not know where it may End." Asks that if Gen. Carrington has not left, this letter be shown to Francis' daughters. Will be at Fincastle until Sunday morning hoping to see Col. McDowell as he goes to Monroe. Asks William to settle William McCormack's account since "it is his desire and greatly our wish." Did not see Mr. Hancock who "has given security for his Curatesship with some difficulty as I am told—I heard nothing respecting the course he intended to pursue." Expects this letter to be sent by Cyrus Robinson. Asks William to write by Robinson and
Eliza to write to Francis at Fincastle.

ALS, 3 pp.


Hopes there will be no unpleasant feelings among his father's heirs in dividing the property. It was his father's intention that as the only son, he should have much more than his other children. Fotheringay plantation was intended for George, Jr. at his marriage. Has instituted suit in chancery for establishing his father's will "and until the termination of said suit, I have been appointed Curator of the Estate." George, Jr's "intentions are these, if all the heirs of my Father will agree to keep what they have received from My Father, and divide his other property among them, giving Me however this Plantation, I am contented." He hopes thereby to secure harmony among the heirs, if they do not agree to this proposition, he will seek to have his father's will established, "if it can be done to the satisfaction of a court of Equity." Asks Preston to call on him if he can be of any service to him. "Letters from Louisville and St. Louis this morning say that Govr Clark will be left out in his Election by a Majority of 1/3 of the
votes of Missouri. Col. Benton also it is thought will
be left out in his."

ALS, 2 pp.

William Preston, now at the Sweetsprings, Monroe,
Virginia.

Tells her brother she is sorry to hear through
Mr. Hancock that he finds no benefit from the waters.
Hopes he will come to Montgomery where his relations
can care for him. If he cannot come she urges him or
Sister Lewis to write. Mother is well and Major Payton
is mending slowly; he has been unable to leave
Dr. Floyd's but when he can he will come to Roanoke
where she hopes he will meet William. Mrs. Hancock is
well. Dr. Floyd was to set out from Louisville on the
10th of September for Virginia. Hopes he will arrive
soon for William's sake. Asks to be remembered to
Sister Lewis and hopes she will send some of her family
for a visit this fall.

ALS, 2 pp.


"I do not know how far your desires may be pro-
moted by the dispositions of the President, you will be
fully informed, what can be done by Colo Jno Williams,
who has with the kindest interested [sic] taken the management of affairs." Should Preston think of sailing in a national ship "which the President has promised," Floyd will help financially as much as he can. Letitia will handle that with "greatest cheerfulness." Had expected Mr. Beall would have made a payment by now, but he has not so the Floyds cannot help Preston "farther than the available funds now at hand." Has not heard anything from Kentucky that would interest Preston.

ALS, 2 pp.

1821 Jan. 7. Francis Preston, Abingdon, [Va.] to Mrs. Caroline Preston, near Louisville, Kentucky.

Returned from Richmond after a two month absence. John Preston's unfortunate business will terminate without any injury to his securities, but "with ruin to himself." Stopped by Dr. Floyd's where William has been over two months; greatly despairs of his recovery and fears "that he can possibly hold out longer than the Spring." Describes William's condition in detail and reports that William asked him to write Caroline, since he is unable to write himself. Urges her and her family to prepare themselves for William's death. Promises as often as he hears from Mrs. Floyd, to write to Caroline reporting on William's condition. Would
stay with William himself, but the nearly deranged condition of his son William's wife demands his presence.

[Postscript, written 15 Jan. 1821.]

Has delayed sending the letter until further word was received from Mrs. Floyd. Yesterday she wrote that William is no better. Sister Madison is also with him. Reports his daughter-in-law is better and improving.

ALS, 3 pp.


Seems "doomed to inevitable ruin which perhaps will not stop at myself & such property as I had reserved to myself but may reach my securities & my children much to their injury. . . ." Some friends have alienated themselves from him. Hopes William will profit from John's folly. Prior to his misfortune, John told William he had some debts due him in Kentucky and that William Ross owed him money which might be some help to William. He asked Ross to send William some papers and he later said he had done so; but, he heard nothing from William until late last summer from Sweet Springs. William informed him he never took any action in the matter "unless it was to speak to Mr. Ross' attorney to urge the suits. In a letter from Mr. Ross to Col. Thomas N. Burwell, and which was read to a Committee of
the house of Delegates on friday last, Mr Ross states that he had long since assigned to me a debt in Kentucky to the amount of $5000 for which he ought to have credit, & that his Brother Randolph & myself had settled accounts in which I fell in debt to him $7000 & upwards both of which sums added amounted to & wiped off his debt of $12,000 which he had owed me & which had been transferred to my Trustees for the benefit of my securities. I never looked on these papers sent to you as a credit for their amount to Mr. Ross unless you received the money on them & applied it to your own use." Asks William to make a full statement immediately of the matter and to put it before Maj. Peyton and other respectable persons "that it may clearly appear in case of your decease how the matter was." Says his health is not good and his spirits are worse. Wishes he had died five years ago to have avoided his present distress.

ALS, 3 pp.


Informs Mrs. Preston of the death of her husband, Maj. William Preston, on Tuesday the 24th at 9:15 P.M. At his request his remains will be taken to Smithfield tomorrow and interred beside his father. "For the
sake of his children he directed me to enclose to you a list of those Friends and neighbors that visited him constantly." His body will be buried on Sunday. Sister Madison sends her love.

ALS, 2 pp.

1821 Jan. 27. George Hancock, Fotheringay, [Va.] to Mrs. Caroline H. Preston, Louisville, Kentucky.

Informs Mrs. Preston of her husband's death at Dr. Floyd's on January 24. Has asked Maj. [William] Croghan to see Mrs. Preston and to help her in any way. Hopes as her only brother, she will write him and let him help her. Their mother may accompany Eliza to Kentucky to see Mrs. Preston "as soon as the weather is fit for traveling."

ALS, 2 pp.


Informs Mrs. Preston of the death of Maj. William Preston on the 25th at Dr. Floyd's. The cause of death was dropsy combined with jaundice. He was buried in the family burying ground at Smithfield. His constant concern was for his family. He died "earlier than the common lot of man."

ALS, 2 pp.
1821 March 12. Eliza Madison, Madisonville, [Va.] to
Mrs. Caroline H. Preston, Preston-lodge, near Louis­
ville, Ky.

Since Sister Floyd wrote Mrs. Preston of her hus­
band's death "the morning after it took place," Mrs. Madison has waited to write until Mrs. Preston's
grief had somewhat abated. Maj. Preston was very con­
cerned about his wife and the increased troubles and
responsibilities his death would bring her. He hoped
Mr. Pearce and Mr. Fitzhue would be helpful to
Mrs. Preston. After her business in Kentucky is
arranged, she hopes Mrs. Preston will come to Virginia
where Mrs. Madison can give her more personal details
of Maj. Preston's last words. Hopes to hear from
Mrs. Preston and her daughters. In return for the
attentions shown him during his illness, Maj. Preston
emancipated Nassau after five years of service to
Mrs. Preston; Preston also asked that Nassau be given a
new suit of fine broadcloth upon his arrival home.
Nassau will be accompanied by a son of Mr. William
Mitchell, who has been a clerk for Mrs. Preston's
brother a few months and who wants to go to Kentucky.
Mrs. Madison's daughter Agatha joins in sending love
to Mrs. Preston and family.

ALS, 5 pp.

Mr. Pearce feels the executors should qualify at the present court. Asks Mrs. Preston to come to his home in the morning so that she may be at court by 12 or 1 o'clock; also asks that Mrs. Preston put in writing the probable value of the personal estate, number of negroes, horses, cows, etc. so their value may be determined and the court may fix the penalty in the bond and judge the security offered. Mrs. Preston will have to give security also if she qualifies as executrix. Feels it would be better if he did not become an executor, as the fewer executors, the greater ease they have in acting. Offers his help to Mrs. Preston and offers to be one of her securities.

ALS, 2 pp.

1821 May 5. Francis Preston to Mrs. Caroline H. Preston, near Louisville, [Ky.]

Mrs. Preston's brother George, his Lady and Mrs. Griffin arrived in town last night and Francis and Mrs. Preston went to the tavern to pay their respects. Felt a coldness in Mr. Hancock's behavior toward him induced perhaps "in consequence of a Clause in my Brother's Will which has given your Mother great offence." Urged his brother to explain the clause more
clearly in his will, but William refused. The clause stipulated that should Mrs. Hancock live with her daughter Preston's family, Maj. Preston's sons were to be removed. Francis is sorry that the fact that he wrote the will at his brother's direction has given offence to Mrs. Hancock, with whom he has been intimate for nearly half a century. Hopes Mrs. Preston does not share her brother's and mother's opinion of himself and that they will continue to be friends.

ALS, 1 p.


Over a year ago Isaac sent to Maj. Preston a check drawn by the Bank of New Orleans on the Bank of Kentucky at Frankfort for six hundred dollars in favor of Col. Anthony Gale. In August Maj. Preston collected it and wrote Isaac he would draw the money and deposit it in a Frankfort bank subject to Isaac's order. The cashier of the Bank of Kentucky at Frankfort says the money was collected. Isaac checked for it in favor of Mr. Charles Taylor of Jeffersonville, but the check was not honored since the money was deposited in Maj. Preston's name. As the agent for another to collect the money, Isaac has been sued for it and has had
considerable expense in defending the suit. Asks Mrs. Preston to arrange for either Mr. Taylor or Messrs. Crane & Whittling of Louisville to receive the money. Sends his sympathy to his aunt, Mrs. William Preston.

ALS, 3 pp.


Has been unable to leave Frankfort due to public duties and domestic troubles. His family is now in Fayette County because of sickness and he will join them there in a few days. Since it is impossible for him to accompany Col. McDowell to Jefferson County, he is writing Mrs. Preston instead. Writes of her husband in admiring words. On Maj. Preston's visit to Lexington before he returned to Virginia, he expressed concern about his family and particularly about his young son's education; "he wished his sons to be educated under the advice of a man who had himself been liberally educated and who would be careful to afford them every advantage for the cultivation of sound morals and solid learning." Maj. Preston asked Breckinridge, therefore, to help supervise the education of his sons and Breckinridge now reaffirms his promise to do so, so far as his time permits. He had to refuse
participation in the management of Preston's estate.

ALS, 3 pp.


Sends some of the latest newspapers with this letter. Had hoped to have heard from Henrietta and Maria; "these dreary times of disease & distress, is often more indicative of the welfare of our friends than otherwise." Sunday Mr. Lowndes was attacked with the fever, but is now better. He and Lowndes had hoped to call on Mrs. Preston towards the end of the week, but now feel it would not be wise for Lowndes to go so far. Encloses an extract from his wife's recent letter giving an account of their young son, Edmund. Gaines hopes to be able to present his wife and son to Mrs. Preston in the next month.

ALS, 3 pp.


In trying to sell Walnut Hill, he has run into difficulty since Caroline and her mother never relinquished their rights of dower. When Caroline and her husband conveyed it to John Preston, and when
Mr. and Mrs. George Hancock, Sr. conveyed it to Caroline, dower rights were not specifically relinquished. Mrs. Preston's mother has now released her right of dower and John hopes Caroline will do the same. Gives instructions to her for doing so and describes Walnut Hill as three tracts of land amounting to 201 acres conveyed to John Preston on 4 October 1813 by Maj. and Mrs. William Preston, the deed being recorded in the General Court of Virginia. Suggests that Mr. Pierce and Judge [Fitzhugh] will draw up an instrument for her signature. Hopes to be in Kentucky in the fall and then to see Mrs. Preston and her family. Wishes he were able to assist Mrs. Preston, but his means are gone. Encloses a sample form of a release which Mrs. Preston might copy and sign before three witnesses. The instrument describes Walnut Hill as being in Botetourt County on Catawba Creek.

ALS, 3 pp.


Was sorry Peyton was not at home when McDowell came from Kentucky. He brought a petition from Mrs. Preston to the Virginia legislature asking that all or part of Robinsons Tract might be sold to pay the debts of Maj. William Preston. He advised Mrs. Preston to sell
some of the negroes in preference to petitioning the 
legislature. Mrs. Preston answered that there were 
only a few negroes and that they were necessary for the 
support of the family. The reason for selling the 
Tract is that "the Lots at Louisville will command 
little, or nothing: and that it would be a sacrifice 
of the estate compleatly, to pay the debts out of them 
at their present prices. This Idea is well supported 
by Mr. Pierce & the common experience of that Town. 
Lots commanding Situation, improvements &c. would not 
now bring one third part of the price, the naked lot 
sold for. This is a deplorable state of things..."

Hopes the legislature will allow the sale of the Tract 
and that Peyton will be the purchaser. Understands 
that the Chancery Courts have full power to authorize 
the sale, "if from a full hearing of the situation & 
circumstances of the Estate they judge it expedient."

Mr. Taylor and Mr. Hancock advise that the Chancery 
Court at Wythe be applied to for this purpose. Asks 
Peyton to consider purchasing the land, especially if 
the sale depends on his answer. Cyrus Robinson came to 
see McDowell at Dr. Floyd's to complain "of his situa-
tion by the sale of the property of our friends in his 
hands by the agreement made shortly before the 
Majrs. Death." McDowell was sworn to return an inven-
tory of the estate and law requires the sale of the
perishable estate. Discusses other details of the estate and sympathizes with Mr. Robinson's difficult situation, but can "see no other or better plan for him to pursue untill (if he chooses it) he is absolved by some legal means from the Contract. I also recommended it to him to make up his accts. that are past, and to come, at short periods and to put them into your hands for inspection, copies of which send to Mrs. Preston." Urges great care to show that they have tried to preserve the estate. Asks for a copy of the will so that he can see what lands are to be sold in Virginia. The "situation of the estate is desperate," so they cannot wait for very high prices. Urges Peyton to write soon and to write Mrs. Preston. "The golden oppy [opportunity] is gone by for paying Kenty. debts when their money was two for one was the time. The acts of the last Legislature requiring the Kenty Bank to wind up & the Act destroying the Notes of the commonwealths Bank to ye amt. of $750,000 will appreciate their paper." C[aroline] H. Preston has added a note to the letter at a later date relative to the affairs of the estate and Col. McDowell's actions.

ALS, 4 pp.
1823 Oct. 27. James McDowell to Mrs. Caroline Preston, Fotheringay, [Va.].

Called upon Mr. Johnson who refuses to buy Robinsons Tract. Capt. Peyton has spoken to Gen. Cloyd who also refuses to buy the property. Capt. Peyton has suggested amendments to the petition to be offered to the Legislature, which McDowell will complete tonight with the amendments and will bring it to Mrs. Preston in the morning. Some business done for Mrs. Madison has tired him and he will not visit Mrs. Preston and her mother this evening.

ALS, 2 pp.


Gen. Preston asked whether Hart knew anything of the agreement between Maj. William Preston and J[ames] P[atton] Preston. Believes he gave the agreement to Mrs. Preston. J. H. Overstreet "of your place" will want the agreement as evidence in a suit he has. There is a suit in the General Court in Frankfort in which Mrs. Preston is interested and in which the agreement must be forwarded to Solomon P. Sharp. If Mrs. Preston files the agreement in Worden Pope's office where it will be safe, he can give her a certified copy to be sent to Mr. Sharp. Gen. Preston also
asked if Hart knew the amount received by Maj. William Preston from the claims he had of Gen. John Preston. Hart collected for $215 in the Green River country from a Mr. Alexander and believes William Preston "collected a considerable sum from the persons who purchased Barns Survey from Genl. Preston perhaps 1000 to 1500 dollars." He also had claims on John Smith for several hundred dollars, "the price of a negroe Girl & fine blooded mare & perhaps something else . . . ." there were also claims on Lynch & Blanton of Shelbyville which were in Gen. Robert Breckinridge's hands. Believes Breckinridge can give further information on these transactions. Seems to remember that Maj. Preston said he had collected about $3000 on the claims. Preston Thompson "is on the mend."

ALS, 3 pp.


Has examined the records in Lexington and found that Maj. William Preston, "as attorney in fact for John Preston & John Smith have made many deeds to the lands sold under Barns' claim (the pattent I expect issued to Smith and Preston. . . .)" Lists the recipients of these deeds and the amounts paid--land sold to Joseph Huston, Joseph Bryan, John Muir,
John Caha, Samuel Duncan, John Taylor, Robert Hill, John Coleman, and James Davis. Mentions other land transactions involving John Preston, John Smith and John Breckinridge. Believes that Mrs. Preston will find the agreement between Maj. William Preston and James P. Preston among her papers in Virginia.

Mr. Overstreet wrote about a deed from John to Francis Preston; asks Mrs. Preston to tell him that Hart does not have the deed and that if Francis Preston left it in Kentucky, it must be with his son-in-law, Robert J. Breckinridge. Gen. Floyd wrote that Mrs. Mary P. Lewis died on February 5.

ALS, 3 pp.

[1824] Nov. 1. Henrietta Preston, near Middletown, [Ky.] to John Pope, Esq., New Orleans, [La.].

It has been a week since Pope left and no one has heard from him, but she felt he would enjoy hearing from home. Maria is now with us and hopefully will become resigned to her husband's absence. Expresses concern for his health. Pope's family is well, except for Godfrey, who has not yet entirely recovered. Shortly after he left, we heard of Gen. Clark's arrival at this place, but they were so eager to get to St. Louis that they had left before I could make the necessary arrangements for my going. They offered to
wait a week, but Caroline told them of mother's reluctance to let me go and they left by boat the following day without visiting any of their relations here. Letitia Hart made a transient visit; she is improved in appearance and manners. They visited nicely and parted amicably. Mamma, Caroline and Josephine send love and Maria writes herself.

ALS, 3 pp.

[1824 Nov. 3.] Maria [Preston] Pope, Middletown, [Ky.] to Mr. John Pope, Jr., New Orleans, [La.].

Waits with great anxiety to hear from her husband and urges him to write. Thinks his father has given up all idea of going to town. He has boarded Ann with parson Todd and she will begin school in a week. Ann is now with her grandmother and I am to stay with mamma until you return. Miss Lucy Fitzhugh married Dr. Hall Thursday evening; Mary Bullett and Nelly Garrard were bridesmaids. James Prather is to marry Miss Martin immediately, Mrs. Floyd says. Letitia Hart left here last Tuesday for Shelbyville, where she will spend some time. "We heard of General Clarks arrival about an hour after you left us they were particularly fortunate in meeting a boat that started the next morning to St. Louis." Dr. Johnston received a letter from some
friend of his in New York stating that William Pope was on his way home.

ALS, 2 pp.

1824 Nov. 7. John Pope, jr., Natches to Mrs. Maria Pope, Louisville, Kentucky.

Describes his trip by steamboat to Natchez and gives character sketches of his fellow passengers. Mentions: Mr. Bartlett, Major Philips, George Washington Sargeant and Mr. Grayson.

ALS, 3 pp.


Urges her brother to write and feels he should have taken his wife with him to New Orleans. Maria is busy preparing Ann for school. John Pope's brother William has arrived in Louisville. The family plans to go down to the house in about a fortnight. John Reinhard and Miss Edwards were married last week. Mr. Steele gave a party for the newlyweds. Mrs. Wilson "has returned with Willie Ann alias Mary." Hopes he will attend some balls in New Orleans so that he can tell her how the people look and dress.

ALS, 3 pp.
1824 Nov. 15. William Pope, jr., Shiping Port to John Pope, New Orleans.

William has returned but is entirely cured. Will not expect John to return until April and wants John to take a trip to any of the West Indian islands.

ALS, 1 p.


Met Taylor at Natchez and spent a week with him there until the fever in New Orleans subsided. Taylor met Dr. Randolph in Havana so if he is enduring anything at Louisville, it is probable that it may be collected. After we got to the mouth of Ohio, they took the commonwealth money and I sent it back to you by Chaddick the pilot. Would have sent the Price Current but all produce of the upper country is now extremely low. Mr. Taylor felt it would mislead Wallace. Gives current prices for various agricultural commodities. Plans to visit Matanzas as soon as he finds a boat going to Havana. "This is without exception the most rascally climate that I have ever been in and I would to Kentucky this winter sooner than remain here." The people are very civil and polite. Charles Savage, American Consul to Guatemala boards with us. Tom West appears to be doing nothing. Advises Wallace
to visit New Orleans this winter as it certainly surpasses all places in the United States even now when everything is dull. Received a letter today from his wife who said that William was on his way home and he hopes is radically cured.

ALS, 3 pp.


Received her letter of the 3rd this morning. Should have written her when he arrived but he met Don Lucket who has been on the eve of going to Louisville by steam boat for the last eight days and planned to send a letter by him, instead of by mail. Wrote from Natchez where he remained several days waiting a boat. The climate in New Orleans is very changeable, more so than in Kentucky. Plans a trip to Matanzas in Cuba after which he will return home. His father's removal to town turned out as he thought; when it came to the pinch Pope believed his father could not leave the farm. Does not know whether to rejoice with Miss Lucy Fitzhugh's marriage or not. Thought Jim Prather would be married, so it is no surprise. Is boarding with Madam Herries. Has not been to see the balls and masked balls held at this time except the Congo dance of the Negroes last Sunday. Wants Caroline and
Josephine Preston and Ann Pope to write him. If Gul is home "tell him that in Natches I met with our former class mate Van Tromp Crawford who is practicing as a lawyer in that place and last not least mention I cal[----]la Sparks who serves the same capacity on the other side of the Mississippi and his brother Albert Gallatin [Sparks] whom I never knew before." Charles Savage, Esq., formerly of our town, has procured Pope several letters of introduction should he go to Matanzas and others have been promised.

ALS, 3 pp.

[1824 ca. Nov.] Maria [Preston] Pope, [Louisville, Ky.] to [John Pope, Jr.].

Received news that the boat in which John Pope left passed the falls in safety. She is still detained due to her mother's difficulty in getting workmen to finish her house. Has written to her mother and to Minor to let her know if they hear of Pope. Expects to go down in 2 or 3 days. Looks forward to his return, as four of the six weeks have already passed. "You have no doubt heard before this, that the Capitol is burnt, and that the good folks of Louisville are trying to rebuild it there. I hope they may succeed. One of the Croghan's has offered to present a beautiful five acre lot and application has
been made by some, to uncle Frank [Francis Preston], to give them the Sand Hill for that purpose. The Hospital has also been offered for the present session, but I have not yet heard if they have accepted it." Fears he cannot be back in time to spend Christmas with us, but hopes he is recovered and will soon return. Has not yet seen William [Pope] though he called at Mother's for that purpose. Plans to stop at Major Field's to see Grandmother as I go down. Caroline wrote that the Popes were all well in town and that Ann [Pope] had not begun school. Henrietta wrote Pope 8 or 10 days ago and Maria has postponed writing since in hopes of hearing from him.

ALS, 2 pp.

1824 Dec. 6. Henrietta Preston, [Louisville, Ky.] to John Pope, Esq., New Orleans, [La.].

Mr. Wallace heard from a New Orleans correspondent that Pope was in Natchez on the 11th. Pope's father thinks he is now on the way to the West Indies and Maria hopes you will return very soon. Mr. Wallace intends visiting New Orleans in January and she hopes that Pope will be well enough to come up with him. "Have you not discovered by the public prints that the LaFayette fever has come 'all the way to Old Kaintuck' He (the great man) is to be invited by the
General Assembly to visit us, and a sum adequate to the expenses of his reception is allotted out of the public Treasury. I fear there will be very little left in it, if we attempt to vie with our Eastern neighbors in splendour and parade. Our gloves, Hats, work-bags and caps are all LaFayette. Fortunately for me the caps are 'all the go!' I have often laughed to think how his venerable face would look beneath one of them."

Believes Maria wrote of the pomp and circumstance of Jim Prather's arrival and reception; Miss Nelly Garrard's narrative of it surpasses anything you can imagine. '"Will you ever pretend to hold up for the politeness of the Louisville Gentlemen, after hearing that three hundred Cincinnati beaux, called on Miss Nelly and Miss Bullitt in one day, and that the banks of the river were illuminated for their reception." We have returned to town at last. Your father is not yet in town but intends to come shortly. Maria urges her to write John to return. Saw Miss Polly Speed last week. John Worthington is here attending to his Cousin Matilda. Emmeline Ward is in Bardstown, and will return after Christmas with Mrs. Quinton, Miss Duval and the two Miss Harrisons. The Miss Blakes are in town and Hebe Carter either has returned or soon will.

[Postscript: Maria (Preston) Pope to John Pope.] Wrote him a few days ago and still wishes for his
return. Asks him to get her a long braid a shade
darker than his hair as she is losing her hair. Urges
him to return by Christmas.

ALS, 3 pp.

1824 Dec. 17. John Pope, Jr., Havana, [Cuba] to Mrs. Maria
Pope, Louisville, Kentucky.

Describes his voyage from New Orleans to Cuba, and
describes Havana and its buildings, churches and gar­
dens. Describes streets and transportation and the
unattractive appearance of the women. Discusses the
use of negroes as milliners and tailors.

ALS, 4 pp.

1824 Dec. 23. John Pope, Jr., New Orleans to Mrs. Maria
Pope, Louisville, Kentucky.

Henrietta wrote that Maria has been busy preparing
Ann for school. Scolds her for not writing whenever
possible. His stay has been pleasant, but the weather
has been so bad, he has been confined to the house. He
sent a small box of presents for the girls and for
Maria by Major Luckett who started for Louisville last
week. Luckett promised to call on Maria and give her
news of John. Hopes to return in such health that he
will never be forced to go abroad for it again. "Col.
Croghan is here but the madam is still in New York she
is however expected here this winter if you see any of
the family tell them that he is in fine health." Plans to go to an exotic place and would send West India fruits if he thought they would arrive unspoiled. Asks Maria to write him all the local news. Asks to be remembered to the family.

ALS, 3 pp.


John's letters to Maria and Henrietta were received as were the gifts he sent. Mr. Luckett brought John's letter to his father. Had planned to send a letter by Mr. Wallace, but due to his delay sends this by regular mail. Is sorry to hear that New Orleans society is disappointing and hopes Havana will be more to his taste. Capt. Payne is to be married to Emmeline Ward next month and Elizabeth Gray and Norborne Galt are engaged. John's father is comfortably fixed in Mrs. Holmes' former house. Mentions: Matilda Maupin, Miss Bullitt, Nelly Garrard, John Worthington, Mr. Hill, Robert Lytle and Walker Hawes.

ALS, 3 pp.


Apologizes for not writing more frequently and hopes he will soon be at home. Called on Mrs. Fitzhugh
yesterday and found Mr. Luckett there, whom she asked for news of her husband. William [Pope], our brother, has returned determined to be married and has selected Miss Wilson as his prospective wife. Mr. Payne will marry Miss Ward next month and she has gone up to stay with Mrs. Quinton until the important period arrives. Mr. Hill is seeking his fortunes at Mrs. Bulletts. W. Hawes is in Lexington seeing Miss Edmonson. Gen. Atkinson is here and fatter than ever and has a very bad cough. Mr. Wallace is the only person she has seen who is contented with everything around him. Saw John's father. William is to take care of the children while the squire is in Alabama, Minor intends returning to school in Bowling Green in a week or two. Urges him to let them know when he will return.

ALS, 3 pp.


Was pleased to receive his letter of the 26 November. Is eager to hear the state of his health and whether he plans to spend the winter in Cuba. His father says John will not return until spring, but she refuses to believe it until he writes her. Henrietta and Mr. Wallace showed her the letters he wrote them. John's father has boarded Ann in Dr. Wilson's family;
Mrs. Wilson is strict. William [Pope] is devoted to Miss Wilson, who is not pretty but very affable and polished; she performs elegantly on the piano and made her first appearance at Mrs. Prather's party. Matilda Maupin says she is just the same as when she went away. "Miss Gray is the envy of all the bells in town she prominades the streets continually with numerous beaux, and dresses beyond description. . . . Mary Bullett is more of a dandy than ever. It would divert you to see her with a LaFayette cap and thousands of curls. Mrs. James Prather is quite a dasher. Mrs. Grayson has not made her appearance yet. Miss Ward is in Bardstown." Mrs. Hughes had excited the whole town with the promise of one of her mighty parties, but was prevented by the fray her husband was in. The Misses Speed were in town several days. "Miss Eliza Ormsby is making grand preparations to commence keeping house for her uncle Robert. Mrs. Dennis Fitzhugh is now at Mrs. Croghans and not expected to live." Gen. Atkinson arrived here last week. Your father has rented Mrs. House's house. "Alfred Shelby has visited Virginia, and W. Prather says, he is engaged to be married to Margaret Preston before six months." Mr. Wallace plans to go to New Orleans in about ten days and says he will bring you back with him in the spring. Urges
him to return as soon as possible.

ALS, 3 pp.

[ca. 1824] Caroline H[ancock] Preston to Mr. John Pope, near Louisville.

Hoped to see John and Maria here this week and hopes nothing may occur to prevent their coming. Has examined her papers for the deed from James Preston, but it is misplaced if she did not give it to Mr. Pearce to be recorded. Asks Pope to look in the office for it. "Dr. Johnston can be furnished with what brick he wishes, if he will let me know when he wants them I will employ Keiger at the sand bank to deliver them to his carts. Mr. Geiger can have the timber but I can not yet answer Carter about letting the farm next year. I am very anxious for the commissioners [of Maj. William Preston's estate] to lay off[f] my thirds in the brick building. Perhaps you could speak to them. If I get it I will immediately commence some necessary preparations there for residing in it this winter. . . ."

ALS, 1 p.


Hoped to send this letter by Mr. Wallace, but he has again lengthened the time of his departure. Both
Mr. Luckett and John Miller inform us that you are looking healthy and we hope you will soon return home. Understands "Uncle Franky is in Lexington." John Edwards and Widow Jones are married as are Feeny and a Virginia girl, Milton Wilson and Miss Caldwell, Miss Hykes and a Louisville man, "much to the discomfiture of Mr. Peter Grayson who had determined to court her." Your brother is to be married and Mr. Colmesnil and Courtney Taylor are said to be engaged. Has heard from Col. McDowell and Uncle Floyd.

ALS, 3 pp.

1825 Jan. 28. Henrietta Preston, Louisville, [Ky.] to John Pope, jr., New Orleans, [La.].

Hopes John will soon return. Maria has confined herself and "has only been out to see your grandfather whose health is gradually declining. He cannot be persuaded to receive medical aid, and it is much feared that he will not recover. Mr. and Mrs. Hall and Mr. Nat Pope are now on a visit to him." Mr. Payne's marriage is much talked about and it is said that Mr. [James Douglas] Breckinridge and Mrs. [Mary Elizabeth (Grayson)] Quinton will soon marry. Robert Breckinridge says the Misses Hart and Louisa Brown will soon pay a visit here. W. Hawes may soon marry Miss Edmuston of Lexington. Col. McDowell wrote that
Dr. Floyd wants to exchange his property near Louisville for Robinson's Tract. Henrietta answered that she wanted to procure money but would be guided by John's opinion. Aunt Floyd wrote that Mr. Hancock and wife are in Washington City, that their embarrassments are great and increasing and that the mortgage on Fotheringay will be foreclosed March 1. Mother fears her brother will not now fulfill his agreements with her; she was to have first choice of Mrs. Hancock's Green River lands and Mr. Griffin has taken them in direct contradiction to their bargain. Mother awaits the advice of your uncle John Pope who is expected here soon.

ALS, 3 pp.

[1825 Jan. ]. Maria Pope, Louisville, Ky. to John Pope, New Orleans. Mrs. Pope expresses her concern at not hearing from her husband. She received his letter of the 2nd of last month. Hopes his voyage to Cuba will prove beneficial and prays that this will be the last time he will ever be obliged to leave home to seek his health. Mr. Wallace and William intend to give a party tomorrow night at Trinity and Mrs. Croghan is to give another immediately. We will have a housewarming next week; "mamma delayed giving it for a month in the expectation that you would return by this time, but she
as well as myself has become tired of looking for you. Miss Ward is to be married on Thursday without company. William is to officiate on the occasion and Mrs. Grayson and Mr. Shippin are each to give her a tearing party. Mrs. Sproul is to be married immediately to a Col. Estill a member of Congress from Munrow County, Virginia. . . . Ann says Mary Wilson will become one of the Popes next March. . . . " Asks to know when he will return.

ALS, 3 pp.


Is healthier than at any time in his life and looks forward to returning to Louisville. Has greatly enjoyed his mail from home. Describes how he spends his time and discusses a forthcoming masquerade to be held in Havana.

ALS, 3 pp.


The last word received of John was his letter of December 20 to Mr. Hill. All are well, but John's grandfather Pope; Dr. Harrison believes he cannot survive more than a few days. Mr. and Mrs. Teall have gone home, but your two uncles are here. Mrs. Sproule
married Col. Estil of Virginia. Doctor Clark and Miss Frances Tompkins are to be married next Thursday. According to rumor Eliza Ormsby will wed Mr. Pollett. Henrietta's three cousins, the Misses Brown are to marry soon. Their father Dr. Brown knocked Jeptha Dudley on the head severely. Walker Hawes visited. S. Fitzhugh left for New Orleans three weeks ago and his affairs are embarrassed. Mrs. S. Fitzhugh is in mourning for her father. Isaac Tyler married Miss Bate. Mrs. Addison had a son last week.

ALS, 3 pp.


Doctor Marshall sent a letter from Mrs. Hart's brother, which informed her that he is very ill and does not expect to survive. Her brother wrote Dr. Marshall that he had asked Mrs. Preston to come to Virginia and had made arrangements with Mrs. Preston "for the disposition of his family in [her] absence." Mrs. Hart hopes Mrs. Preston will leave her children in her care while she is gone.

ALS, 2 pp.
[1825] Feb. 28. Henrietta Preston, Louisville, [Ky.] to John Pope, care of Mr. Taylor, New Orleans, [La.].

We heard of you by a letter from Mr. Wallace to your brother. Would like to hear from her brother[-in-law], John Pope, herself. Maria is alarmed by your silence. Old Col. Pope continues very low. Uncle John has left due to Florida's extreme illness. Sees our next neighbor, Mr. W. Hawes, often "though he mingles but little in society, and is much engaged in his Buchanan Steamboat." Dr. Clark married Miss Francis Tompkins last week; Mrs. Pearce planned to give them a large party but the rain prevented many from attending. "I was malicious enough to rejoice at it, as we were not invited though we had of course calculated on such a slight." There was a cotillion party on the 22d and the LaFayette Guards were to have appeared in their uniform, but they did not appear. Recounts local news and gossip. Mentions: Uncle Nat, Capt. Young, the Speed family, Miss Blake, Squire Harsly, Mrs. William Croghan, Sam Fitzhugh, Mrs. Tubman, Letitia Hart, Eliza Ormsby, Letice Page, Mrs. Floyd, A. Pope, Mr. Terrell, Mary Prather, and Mrs. Quinton.

ALS, 3 pp.
1825 Sept. 6. John Pope, Jr., to Mrs. Maria Pope, Middletown, [Ky.].

Informs Mrs. Pope he is mending and has not been in town this week. Should she wish to come down, Minor has promised to go up for her. Hopes the mosquitoes will soon leave town so she can come. William is mending and the rest are well. Believes Mr. Pearce is not long for this world.

ALS, 1 p.

1826 Oct. 6. John Pope, Jr. to Mrs. Maria Pope, near Middletown, [Ky.].

When he arrived he found Godfrey so sick, he has been obliged to stay. Heard yesterday from William [Pope] in New York; he had an operation on his sore and will winter in New York. Was in town yesterday and met Mr. Neilson, a brother to his lordship, who is courting your cousin Letty. Describes Neilson. Lord Neilson has been turned off by Miss Mary. They started to Shelbyville and Mary rode with Chuckle and Neilson took Louisa; Chuckle was to go no further than Col. Anderson's, but Mary had him drive to Middletown and continued in the same arrangement to Shelbyville, where an argument took place and his lordship returned to Louisville.

ALS, 2 pp.

Had hoped to visit Louisville during his visit to Kentucky, but finds he will be unable to do so. His father has asked him to inform Mrs. Preston that he can no longer be connected with Maj. Preston's estate due to declining health. McDowell's father also wishes to know whether the order he gave Mrs. Preston on the present Mrs. Shannon was accepted and paid in part or in whole. Asks that Mrs. Preston answer him at Paris, which is near to him and says he expects to be in Ohio in a few days.

ALS, 2 pp.


Presents his compliments to Miss Pope and Miss Preston and wishes to be informed of their schedules for the next 3 or 4 weeks. Gives news of their family and friends in Louisville—Caroline Preston, Henrietta, Mary, Louisa and Orlando Brown.

AL, 1 p.
1826 July 7. James McDowell, Rockbridge, [Va.] to Miss Henrietta Preston, Montgomery County, [Va.].

Sends the papers he received from Henrietta's mother when he last saw her at her mother's home. Is determined to end his responsibility as an executor of Maj. William Preston's estate and has no account to render "having never transacted any business." Hopes Henrietta and Mrs. Pope will pay him a visit. Sends best wishes from himself and Mrs. McDowell to Henrietta and Mrs. Pope.

ALS, 1 p.


Mrs. Preston called upon Pope for advice about the lands of her children in the Illinois grant; since he does not have the statutes of the state, he asks permission to refer Mrs. Preston to Maj. Dewey. Maj. Preston paid the taxes on this land through 1819. Mrs. Preston wishes to know if the Revenue laws of Indiana "save the lands of infants from sale for taxes," and other legal points. The acting executors of Maj. Preston, Messrs. Fitzhugh and Pearce are now dead and Mrs. Preston must bear the burden of handling the estate.
Concerns the legalities surrounding 100 acres near Charleston now leased by Mr. Jones and which Mrs. Preston wishes to sell to Mr. Nugent.

ALS, 2 pp.

1826 Nov. 27. [Mrs. Caroline Preston?, Louisville, Ky.] to Mrs. Maria Pope, Fotheringay, Montgomery Co., Virginia.

Cautions Maria not to be drawn into difficulties during her stay in Virginia. Discusses various business transactions concerning land and accounts to be attended to and relays news of local people. "The Paper is going about town for the building of the State House;" lists subscribers and gives information on the land for the building. "William is going to school to thomson. Caroline and Josephine take french lesons at home and Susan Hickman from a Mr. Monroe." Mentions: Capt. Chambers, Maj. Peyton, William Croghan, Alex Pope, Aunt Patsy, William Pope, Mrs. Pearce, Col. Russell, Gen. Frank Preston, Jake Kent, Gordon Cloyd, Allen Taylor, Mr. Crocket, Gen. Breckinridge, Mr. Hogue, Boston Wigle?, Col. McDowell, Hite Ormsby, Mr. Colmanesnell, Mr. Herndon, Mr. Overstreet and others.

AL, 4 pp.
1826 Dec. 4. Francis Preston, Mr. Harts, [Ky.] to
Mrs. Caroline H. Preston, Louisville, [Ky.].

Plans to leave for Maj. Thompson's and then back to
Virginia very soon. Mr. Duncan will inform Mrs. Preston
that her brick suit was continued; encloses
Gen. Breckinridge's letter on this subject. Has taken
Mr. Bibb's opinion on the manner in which deeds are to
be made and will execute deeds shortly. This matter
would have been cleared up sooner but for the misleading advice of Worden Pope. Refers to her dower lands
in Botetourt Co., Virginia, which he hopes she will
relinquish for various reasons. Wants to clear up his
legal affairs before his death. Discusses other land
and legal business. Mentions: Mr. Hart, Mr. Smith,
John Preston, Maj. William Preston, Gov. [William]
Clark, James [Breckin]ridge, and Mr. Campbell.

ALS, 3 pp.

[ca. 1826.] Worden Pope, [Louisville, Ky.] to [Mrs.
Caroline Hancock Preston, Louisville.]

Long letter discussing Mrs. Preston's Louisville
property and early land lines there. Letter is in
relation to a settlement with Gen. Francis Preston.
Mentions: John Gwathmey, John Connolly, John Campbell,
William Meriwether, David W. Meriwether, Gen. Clark,
Mr. Hempenstall [Abraham Haptonstall], Mr. Dandridge,
Robert K. More, Evan Williams, John Clark, William
Clark, Edmond Clark, Francis and John Preston, and

ALS, 6 pp.

1827 Jan. 28. H[enrietta] S. P[reston], Major Peyton's,
[Virginia] to Miss Caroline Letitia Preston, Louis­
ville, Kentucky.

Received three letters from Caroline last night
telling of the society and happiness with which she is
surrounded, apologizing for her long silence and
praising Josephine's Nutt. Wishes to hear about her
old friends. Is sorry to hear of William Hurst's
illness. Is glad that their aunt has spent a pleasant
time with her Kentucky friends since she is separated
from society during the winter at Fotheringay. Has
spent her time in monotonous seclusion since her
return from the springs. "Since I left our poor old
infirm relatives at Roanoke, my time has been spent
principally at Aunt Floyd's," who is not well. Uncle
Floyd is expected home immediately and Sarah Lewis is
still there. Maria has been here ever since they left
Grandmama's. Has passed her time talking with William
Floyd and reading. "I have read Marmontee's Memoirs,
Sully's Memoirs, Hallam's Middle Ages and Hundreds of
novels, not to speak of Byrons Poems which I have read
a dozen times—or at least William has read them to me. I hope my **learning** will not turn me **Blue** before I go home." Both she and Maria have grown fatter. Wishes the Cole river land might be sold that they might have the means of getting home and taking care of mama's immediate necessities. Spent the $110 Uncle Floyd gave them at the springs and hopes to receive $20 of Elliott Cox for rent in five or six weeks. Has received invitations from Uncle McDowell and Col. Benton, but cannot find the means of accepting. Asks for news of her friends, Walker Hawes, Hill, Drain, and Matilda Maupin. Wishes to know who Caroline's Nashville beau is and wants to see her married as soon as you like, "as for me I expect to pass my days in single blessedness 'or wretchedness' so dont be so polite as to wait for me. As for the celebrated McDuffie I have no hope there. I believe he is lately courting or **engaged** to Miss S---- and Col. Williams is to be given per force to Sarah Lewis and there is no one here that will suit. Present me kindly to Mrs. Hancock, Miss S. and Mr. Ormsby, and the rest." Asks about Dabney. "Tell Josephine not to love her officer too well. They are as you say gay deceivers." Plans to write to Mr. Hurst. Maria and John Peyton are continually romping or quarreling.

ALS, 4 pp.
1827 April 15. [Mrs. Caroline H. Preston, Louisville, Ky.] to Mrs. Maria Pope, Fotheringay P. O., Montgomery, Virginia.

Has received Maria's letter of March 29. Is very concerned about legal and financial problems and is disappointed by those friends who have failed to help her. Mentions "Billy Field who is now sherrif in the place of Poor old Mr. Buckner." Discusses the necessity of selling several tracts of land, but adds "we should then have 19 Negroes as valluable as any in Kentucky left and 500 acres of land on Baregrass and the farm by Middletown and our land by St. Louis left with that and the arrangements I can hereafter make If I live 10 years you will have a better property than you had at your fathers death at least a more productive one. . . . Eliza says it would give her and Mrs. Croghan grate pleasure if Mama would live with them. . . ." Mentions her mother, Mrs. George Hancock, Sr.'s affairs. Should the family have great difficulty in Louisville, then they will remove to St. Louis. Plans to do her best to keep things together and receive fair prices for her land. "Mrs. Jesup got to her mothers this Morning." Requests Maria to burn all her letters. Mentions: Gen. Francis Preston, W. Pope, Sanders Seaton, Mr. Jacobsx [Jacobs],
John Preston, Mr. Goran, Henrietta Preston, Nat Floyd, Gen. Breckinridge, Caroline and Josephine Preston, and Gen. Floyd.

ALS, 4 pp.


The power of attorney mamma gave me was only to attend to the land business and therefore I have no power to settle with Maj. Robinson; has written to her to correct this situation. The only prospect for a loan is from Frank Smith and he is either in Richmond or Abingdon; will you ask of it at Aunt Madison's or rather H. Peyton and let me know if he has passed on his way to Abingdon. Maj. P. seems unwilling to have anything to do with us except to buy 500 acres of the tract. "Maj. P. and uncle Floyd thinks it will be impossible to get money on our interest in the tract, as all the property is subject to the creditors extending it. Notwithstanding I am willing to try F. Smith." Discusses further business. If William Griffin cannot bring the papers, I had better go down for them. Urges Maria to write.

ALS, 1 p.

Discusses Henrietta Preston's interest in finding a suitable husband and asks Maria to "tell her not to let the scarcity of that article in the mountains drive her to a rash step. Our town is teaming over with officers, travellers and young men of the Navy more than I have ever seen in Louisville." Hopes to send Henrietta on a trip to New York this winter. Plans to send Caroline to St. Louis in October. Discusses Gen. [Francis] Preston's dislike for Maria and his comments on the subject; Mrs. Preston explained to him that the trouble was created by Mrs. Floyd, who "has been famous in her family for creating disturbance." Discusses old Mr. Pope's character and mentions Constance Massey, Mrs. Gaines, William Preston III, Susan Preston, Mr. Smith, Mr. Crutchfield, James Brown, Mrs. Hart, Mrs. Madison and Howard Peyton.

ALS, 4 pp.


Letter opens, Dear Maria. Received her letter of the 16th. Mother has written a long letter to Maria.
"I am though that she pesters you with the Pope's works for they aught never to be minded. God only knows what sort of people they are for I do believe they are so aversive that they would tear their own eyes out for money, that is my private opinion of them and I would abuse them if it had not been for Garnet Duncan he was talking of Patrick and I said for goodness sake do not talk of the Pope's for I dislike some of them so much that I cannot bear to hear their name called. He said with a very grave face 'Josephine I advise you as a friend never to speak against them people for it only injures you and not them for every body knows what kind of people they are & how they have treated Maria.' I will take his advice although I know If I have arright to abuse any people in the world it is them. Do my dear Maria never abuse them or fret yourself about any thing they can say or do for they cannot hurt you if they take every thing that belonged to my dear brother for instead of doing for you as they should it would give them pleasure I believe to see you broken hearted. . . ." Worden Pope has been helpful to mother with her business. Miss Mary Ming married a rich widower named Foster from Natchez and has left town. Mrs. William P. Lee is to be our next door neighbor; she plans to keep a milliner's shop and will
pay her rent quarterly. It is said that Miss Polly Elder and Mr. Elliott are to be married. Directed the letter to Henrietta, so that it might be for both Henrietta and Maria. Sends regards of various friends and relatives.

ALS, 4 pp.

1827 Dec. 10. Henrietta Preston, St. Louis to Mrs. Maria Pope, Louisville, Kentucky.

Reports on her trip to St. Louis and the travellers on the boat. "But last, though not least—I must mention Josephine's favorite Capt. Clark whose society constituted one of the principal attractions for us all." Discusses her activities and people in St. Louis and describes the city. Mentions: Capt. and Mrs. Gantt, Mrs. Wilkinson, Mr. William Hurst, Miss L. Bul-litt, Mr. Hill the steamboat captain, Augustin K., Aunt and Uncle Clark, Pat Maginis, Col. Wooley, Mrs. Mysner, Mrs. Nimrod Moore, Miss Edwards, Col. McGee, James Johnston and Mrs. Hughes.

ALS, 3 pp.


Discusses the family's financial and legal difficulties and proposes various courses of action to help
remedy them and says "our distress is well known here and there is many willing to take advantage of it."

Gives local news and events. Mentions: Henrietta and Susan Preston, George Hancock, Jr., William Pope, Dr. Wilson, Allen Taylor, Mr. Peyton, Gen. Breckinridge, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Pope, Arthur Wallace, William Preston, III, Lucinda and Georgeann Floyd, the Misses Speed, Mr. Churchill, Mrs. Dupont, Norbern Beal, Mr. Russell, Mr. Turner, Susan Hobbs, Dr. Luckett of Maryland, Mrs. Hughes, Eliza Field, Mrs. Addison, Mrs. Anderson, and Mr. Neelston.

ALS, 4 pp.

[ca. 1827] G[eorge] H[ancock], [Fotheringay?] to Mrs. Maria Pope, Fincastle, Botetourt [Co., Va.].

Was disappointed on his return home not to find a letter from Henrietta telling of her determination to accompany us to Kentucky. Wrote her that he would leave next Sunday. Mrs. Pope's mother's business is so pressing that he cannot wait longer than Wednesday and if she is not here by then will assume that she will wait and accompany Gen. Frank Preston to Kentucky. Has been unable to pay Maria's account at Patten's Store, but will settle with him. Urges her not to spend much on the repairs of her Dearborn. It is doubtful that her mother will get any part of her claim.
against Mr. Griffin for some time as there are many bonded debts, "all of which are of superior dignity to hers. . . . I fear my dear Maria that this circumstance, and my own difficulties may cause you some embarrassment in the means of spending your time more to your satisfaction, but as Genl Floyd owes your Estate largely, and as he has the Funds I know he would feel pleasure in honouring any draft you might give on him adequate to your wants." Asks that if Henrietta decides to spend the winter in Virginia and Maria wants to return to Kentucky, that she be here by Tuesday or Wednesday.

ALS, 1 p.


Sends this letter by Ned Freeman. Left Smithfield last Saturday "after an unsuccessful effort at the object of my journey." "When I arrived at Thorn Spring I was so bruised and cramped with the small saddle and hard days ride that I could scarcely get to the house or walk for three days after, but Dr. Watson happened to come down and after a copious bleeding &c, with good rest I got restored. I find that Dr. Nat Floyd of Lynchburgh has the money for the purchase of the whole
tract but that he is unwilling to jeopardise his title as purchasee by getting it before a decree from the court of chancery will authorize its legal sale and I discover we can not in the present state of our affairs sell our own shares to anyone until that is effected. I have therefore written to Genl Smyth who is the best lawyer in this district to know what is his opinion with regard to our claims, and what steps are necessary for us to pursue to get the decree we wish in May. I also hear that Robinson Peyton and Adair are all willing to buy but that the land would be so hacked up by such a division that it would sell for very little. I suppose N. Floyd would purchase the whole or none. . . . " Dr. Floyd is in Rockbridge. Discusses methods of having some painting done. Plans to write to Col. McDowell and has written to Gen. Breckinridge "whose influence with the chancellor is uncounted." Should Uncle G[eorge Hancock] bring any papers for her during the week, please send them by W. Griffin, as they are much wanted.

ALS, 3 pp.


Apologizes for not having answered Col. Woolley's letter about Mrs. Preston's business earlier, but the
letter has been mislaid. Says he was employed by Gen. and Maj. Preston to prosecute two suits; one against Luckett and one against Campbell's heirs. The Luckett case was decided favorably in the Federal Court while the suit against Campbell is still unsettled and probably will be lost. Agrees to take Mrs. Preston's cases, except the one with Gen. Francis Preston. Hopes the case with Francis Preston can be settled without an appeal to law. Understands Col. Woolley's brother will return to Lexington in May to settle permanently. Both Mr. Woolley and Wickliffe's daughter were in poor health when they left Kentucky. Asks to be remembered to Mrs. Woolley.

ALS, 3 pp.


Received Mrs. Preston's letter of April 5 and will be unable to attend the meeting at Smithfield this spring; told this to Gen. Preston when he was in Kentucky. His daughter, Louisiana, will visit in May. His sons are "much engaged in farming, raising Hemp the principal object, which we intend to water rot for the eastern Market where it will command a good price." Recalls that Maj. Preston bought empty porter bottles very cheaply from the Steam Boats and hopes
Mrs. Preston can buy a half gross of them for him to use to bottle cider. Had a gross of Pittsburg bottles but they have been used. Asks that the bottles be packed in a Salt barrel and he can get them by the wagon.

ALS, 3 pp.


Only a few days ago wrote a long letter to both Mrs. Pope and mother, but she did not expect the letter to arrive before Mrs. Preston's departure. Nassau's departure was an unexpected event and caused much inconvenience, but the Col. [Woolley] has hired a hostler for a month who also serves as coachman. The truck with Caroline's things and my linen arrived yesterday. Describes her wardrobe and need to add to it. Both she and Joe [Josephine Preston] are eager to get home. "No opportunity has offered of our going home or I should certainly have been with you ere this; as I think it is necessary for me to endeavor to make some arrangements, by which I can have a prospect of future comfort and if possible independence. At least I begin to feel as everyone else naturally does after they come to any reflection, that it is necessary I should at least know what I have to depend on, and what my
prospects in life are most apt to be." Wants very much to spend the summer with Maria and her mother as it may be the last summer they can all be together. Discusses Joe's beaux and says Capt. Harney is in love with her, but has gone to Green Bay. Capt. Riley is still here and Major Fowle has arrived with the 5th Regiment. There have been several dancing parties; Capt. Riley gave two and Mr. Johnston and Perkins gave one, Mr. Hooe and Van Burens another and James Kennerly one. "I assure you the ladies from the outposts can keep me in countenance. But we have one or two Pennsylvania belles, and some Louisville gals and Missouri damsels to shame our lack of splendour." Is sorry that William Hurst is displeased that she has not written, but she and Joe have decided it is improper to write to any young man not a relative. Joe will not answer Mr. Bullen's letter. Asks to be remembered to Joe Bush. William Griffin wrote from Norfolk and expects to be at sea shortly. Has written asking Grandmama to come out with Mama; would be so glad to have her at Middletown this summer. Hopes her mother will write her business letters to Col. Woolley as he wants to read her letters to Henrietta and she does not like to show them to him. Urges Maria to sell Saladin as she needs money. Sends love to her mother and to Sue and William but hopes that one is in Virginia and the other
at Augusta College by this time. "Are you as much of a Jacksonite as ever? I begin to waver in my politics."

ALS, 4 pp.


Mr. DeFerier has informed her that her mother is ill and she asks for information. Introduces Mr. Slaughter, a cousin of the Poet, to her sister. Josephine received Maria's letter by Mr. B--- and Henrietta agrees he is a worthy young man. Is glad Maria and Sue are living with Mrs. Matthews and asks when they can meet their mother and all go on to Middletown. She and Josephine are enjoying Jefferson Barracks and Caroline's house. Discusses personal and family matters; mentions: Dr. Sale, Dr. Harney, Mrs. Lee and Mr. Furman of South Carolina.

ALS, 3 pp.

1828 June 2. [Caroline H. Preston], Wythe Court House, [Va.] to Mrs. Maria Preston Pope, Louisville, Kentucky.

Discusses local news and her Virginia land transactions. Describes her trip from Louisville to Virginia; took the packet to Cincinnati where the Attilanta and the packet raced all night; proceeded by land to Virginia. George Hancock has bought a fine
carriage and will soon send it to Fredericksburg to pick up Mrs. Jesup. Describes Eliza [Hancock's] new wardrobe from New York. Discusses household problems and business affairs. Is upset over the business with the insurance company and feels afraid to trust anyone. Mentions: Mr. Taylor, Harol Smyth, Charles Johnston, Gen. Smith, Gen. Preston, Gen. Floyd, James Preston, Mrs. Floyd, Aunt Madison, Mrs. Peyton, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Gains Bakewell, Eliza Page, Bob Ormsby, Mr. Lanyon, Mr. Pott, Gen. Breckinridge, Sally Snelson, James Wilson, Uncle Kenerly, Gen. Jesup, Mr. Edminster, Henrietta Preston, Mrs. Woodville, Mr. Armstrong, Mr. Buckner, Mr. Bullin, Susan Preston, Mr. Guthrey, Mrs. Chambers, Maj. Estill, William Hurst, John Morton and Mrs. Misner.

AL, 4 pp.

1828 June 18. [Caroline H. Preston], Fotheringay, [Va.] to Mrs. Maria Preston Pope, Louisville, Kentucky.

Received Maria's letter of May 30. Discusses things that need attending to in Kentucky--planting and putting up of pickles; tells of her business activities in Virginia relating to the sale of land. Asks Maria to attend to various business matters and to turn to Gen. Breckinridge and Garnet Duncan for help should she need it. Refers to various financial
transactions and notes to be paid or collected. Asked Simon Buckner to help collect one so that Maria might buy a barrell of brown sugar and pay for Susan's and William's schooling. Mentions other business to be attended to. Mentions: Mr. Smyth, Col. Woolley, Henrietta Preston, Mr. Tuler, Mr. Spicer and Mrs. Misner.

AL, 4 pp.

1828 June 27. [Caroline H. Preston], Fotheringay, [Va.] to Mrs. Maria Preston Pope, Louisville, Kentucky.

Urges Maria to write and to move to the Middletown farm for the sake of her health and to escape the approaching diseases. Promises to let Maria have Ned and the carriage for a trip to Bardstown if she will move to Middletown. Lists the household chores to be attended to and tells Maria to buy 10 or 15 lbs. of raw cotton for Sally to spin into a chain so that Mrs. Preston can weave a carpet since the tax on carpeting has greatly increased their cost. Discusses her brother, George Hancock's, problem with several slaves. Describes Eliza [Hancock's] new carriage. George Hancock sold his turnpike to Major Edmunston. Discusses land business, local news and hopes Henrietta will return to Louisville soon. Gives details of her impending sale of land and expects 7 or 8 thousand dollars for it or $15,000 if it is divided. Feels that
if the land sale is not soon concluded, they will have to take her to the lunatic hospital in Williamsburg.

Mentions: Susan, Josephine and William Preston, Dr. Galt, Andrew Lewis, Grandmother Lockhart, Mrs. Linkinorger (?), Mrs. Mays, Mary Brown, Mrs. Offut, William Griffin of Norfolk, Col. Woolley, Dr. Faould, Mrs. Floyd, Howard Preston and Mr. Smyth.

AL, 4 pp.

[1828] Sept. 18. [Mrs. Caroline Hancock Preston], Fotheringay, [Va.] to Mrs. Maria Preston Pope, Louisville, Kentucky.

Received her letter of August 9 and one from Mr. Duncan with the power of attorney; they arrived after the sale of the land on 12 August at Wythe Court­house to the highest bidder. David Cloyd and James Kent bought the land for $9000; they will give a draft from the United States Bank in Richmond on the United States Bank in Louisville. Will not be able to leave before October 20, "the deeds will then be made for the land and I expect there will be a division of old Col. Prestons estate, there will be 80 Negroes—which will have to be divided among the Legatees and $7000 that is in the hands of Frank Smith besides several tracts of undivided lands." Has made six trips to Wythe, but has been able to get only $90 "including the
rents of 9 years and Bonds to the amount of $1100" from Robinson. Has passed receipts with him "after giving up all the rents due for the last 2 years to Howard Peyton he still had me in his debt $45 which I have given my Note for. Brother says he will take it up at the sale of his property and I will repay him in Kentucky." Is uneasy about her debt to the Insurance Company which is due the last of October. Wrote two letters to Garnet Duncan and two to Mr. Guthrie and directed Garnet Duncan to send the amount of the debt and she could let them draw the money out of the Bank at Richmond. Asks Mrs. Pope to help with this transaction. Feels she has nothing to fear from Mr. Guthrie but does not know whether Mr. Pope might not think fit again to push this business. Wonders what pickles and preserves Mrs. Pope has made during her absence and asks whether "you ever got the refuse wool for the matresses from the machine." This could be mixed with the hair in the garret for fine matresses. Also wants to know whether any knitting has been done. Wants 5 or 6 lbs. of fine wool to be gotten for Sally to spin for stockings for Susan, William and myself; also wants shoes made. Asks about the wood hauling. Tell "Joe I rely on his giving a strate account of his work and making some arrangements with good customers while the weather is good this fall. . . . Mr. Hul,
Mrs. Bradstreet, Mr. Chamberlain at the corner, Mr. Hall, Mr. Coy the Blacksmith and Mrs. Kenedy are to be supplyed." Wants Joe to find out what wood W. D. Payn will want this winter. Worries about Susan's progress. Has not heard from Caroline since July. Gives more instructions for business to be attended to. "I see in the Focus there is letters in the office for Mrs. M P Pope and for Miss H Preston--do have them taken out or they will go on to the general post office. Forward Henrietta's to St Louis to her."

AL, 4 pp.


Mother wrote Caroline on September 25 that she does not expect to leave Virginia until after the 20th of this month. Is glad to know that mother is closing her business in Virginia peaceably and "that with a little prudence we may so soon be rid of our difficulties. Henrietta is eager to get home. Doesn't wish to leave Caroline until she is able to go; Col. W[oolley] ascribes part of her wish to my influence, justly. Col. Woolley was upset by Josephine's arrangement and since Henrietta still owes him for her passage she cannot apply to him. He is much pushed for money by his Pittsburgh debts. "Besides that, I suppose you
know Mr. [Albert S.] Johnston is nothing of a favorite with his intended Brother-in-law. Less so now than even when Joe was here. Col. W[oolley] very justly, though unintentionally said to me, that Mr. J[ohnston] could not do for a staff appointment, because, he had an independence and elevation of character and a pride of port, that was unsuited to his low rank in the army. I told him he might not like what was unsuited to his feelings, but if Mr. Johnston were less so, he would not suit mine—for I believed as an officer of any grade in the service of his country, he was entitled to as much dignity of demeanor as he pleased to observe it, as a Field Marshall and that what was termed arrogance was quite fascinating to me. Did I not sauce him good... I hope dear sister that you will like Johns[ton] he means to love you dearly he says & Mamma too. But I think Joe has fitted herself snugly in one of the warmest places in his heart. He is always sending you messages that I cant take time to write. John Louis Pope is a fine fellow. Carry thinks him like you but I do not. He looks Woolley." Hopes to go home on the next trip of the 'Galena Packet, if possible; Caroline will then be able to travel.

ALS, 3 pp.

Hopes Maria will write regularly to her. Tells of Maj. R[ogers] and his promotion. Discusses affairs at the post and tells of her husband, Albert Sidney Johnston's, activities. Describes her housekeeping plans. Mentions: Mrs. Caroline H. Preston, Josephine Preston, Caroline and William Preston, Mr. Baker, Miss Atkinson, Aunt Clark, Mary [Clark], Mrs. Cropman, Preacher Bascom, Mr. Buchanan and Mrs. Thompson.

ALS, 3 pp.


Expresses deep appreciation for Maria's expression of sympathy to him during his stay in Louisville. Plans to write to Mrs. Caroline Preston at Fotheringay upon his arrival in Washington proposing that he meet her and return with her to Louisville. If he is unable to return with Mrs. Preston, he will leave the steam boat at Maysville and take the stage to Lexington. Discusses his plans for Henry and Samuel and gives instructions for the care of his son John. Asks to be remembered to Col. and Mrs. Chambers and sends his kind remembrances to Locust Grove.

ALS, 3 pp.

Discusses financial business; plans to return to Kentucky day after tomorrow through Giles to try to dispose of her Cole River land. Hopes managing the family has not been too much trouble for Maria. Mentions: Gen. Breckinridge, Mr. Patton, Mr. Guthrey, Mr. Coleman and Josephine, Henrietta, William and Susan Preston.

ALS, 4 pp.


Arrived in Washington on Saturday, May 30. Saw Gen. Jackson Sunday evening at Col. Bonferds. Believes there is a prospect that justice will be done, "so far as it is in the power at this late period to repair my wrongs." Hopes to hear from Mrs. Caroline Preston, whom he has written at Fotheringay and Fincastle. Mentions: Gen. and Mrs. Jesup, Col. and Mrs. Bomferd, Gen. Macomb, Mr. Ingham, Mr. Eaton, Henry and Samuel Woolley, Col. and Mrs. Chambers, and Mr. and Mrs. Ormsby.

ALS, 3 pp.
1829 June 29. M[aria] P[ope], Louisville, [Ky.] to
Mrs. Henrietta Johnston, Jefferson Barracks, Missouri.

Thanks Henrietta for the present she sent and
informs her of Judge and Mrs. Johnston's visit.
Mr. Forest is in Louisville and the Theatre will be
open for a fortnight; he played William Tell last night
and Rolla tonight. Mrs. Crocker, a widow, hopes to get
a school together in St. Louis to teach painting on
velvet and Maria hopes Henrietta will help her get
students; the lessons last 2 hours and consist of 20
lessons at 6 dollars a lesson. Mrs. Crocker is highly
recommended and came from Boston. In Louisville, her
students included the Prathers, Pearces, Mrs. E. Cosby,
A. Croghan and Maria Pope. Everyone is busy preserving
now. William Hurst will marry Susan Preston of Green­
field next fall. Mentions: William Preston, Mr. Lewis,
Lt. Marras, Mr. Livingston of Louisiana, Mrs. Clark,
Mrs. Farrar and Josephine Preston.

ALS, 4 pp.

1829 July 17. A. R. Woolley, St. Louis, [Mo.] to
Mrs. Maria Pope.

Has not heard from Washington and has "almost con­
cluded that I am to be denied Justice by the Executor."
As a last resort, he will, if necessary, appeal to
Congress. Wishes to bring action for damages against
Atkinson, Cluick (?) and others. Plans to take Caroline to Illinois and Indiana on the way to Pittsburgh and stop off for a visit in Middletown for 10 or 15 days. They will spend the winter in Washington. Josephine will travel with them.

ALS, 3 pp.

[ca. 1829.] Nancy Meisner, Cincinnati, [Ohio] to Mrs. Maria Preston Pope, Louisville, [Ky.].

Imagines Mrs. Pope's patience is exhausted. Has been trying to get her things sent to her. She took them to Mr. Reding's, but his house and shop burned down, but Mrs. Pope's things were saved. Another man did the work, but she is not pleased with it. Has sent two paint saucers, but could not find the figures Mrs. Pope wished. Has found a place to live and acquired some household goods, but has no work yet. Hopes to be married. Urges Mrs. Pope to write.

Mr. Waldo, the Universalist preacher, boards with her. Her brother wants her to sell her house and come to Buffalo, but she has not decided. Thanks Mrs. Pope for her friendship.

ALS, 4 pp.
Mrs. Maria Preston Pope, Louisville, Kentucky.

Informs Mrs. Pope that Amelia's mother has married
Mr. Martin of Cincinnati. Amelia still attends
Mr. Picket's school.

ALS, 1 p.

1830 June 23. Nathaniel Hart, Jr., Spring Hill, [Ky.] to
Mrs. Caroline Preston, Louisville, Ky.

Nathaniel, Jr. is coming to Louisville to sell some
cattle. Brings to Mrs. Preston's attention an old debt
of her husband's to be settled and is willing to take
a lot in Louisville as payment, since he has an idea
"of engaging in the business of Butchering in Louis­
ville." Encloses a copy of Maj. William Preston's
statement of indebtedness to Hart; this account runs
from 1801-1818.

ALS, 3 pp.

1830 July 31. A. R. Woolley, Pittsburg, [Pa.] to
Mrs. Maria Pope, at Mrs. Prestons, Louisville, Ky.

Addresses his sons Samuel and Henry, whom he
reproves for leaving their uncle's. He would have come
to Louisville, but for his business, which requires
that he stay until September 1. Mrs. Woolley finds
Pittsburg unhealthy, so they will not live there; they
plan to remove to St. Louis in October. The boys will
have to remain in Middletown until then. Discusses the boys' education and says he will try to set Samuel up as a merchant and will educate Henry. Samuel refused to study and will be given no further education. Mentions Mr. Wurts and Mr. Forsyth.

ALS, 3 pp.


Was pleased to hear from Caroline and to know that little Will was improving so fast. Apologizes for her delay in answering, but her time is much occupied. "I wish exceedingly you wair all at Middletown it looks so comfortable and neat we have an exelent spring house and mamma is going on to make some repairs on the house. . . . Mr. Johnston is more than anxious to get his Wifes share [of the family property] and went to Gen. Breckinridge to see if he had any objection, as mamma feared the securities would not be willing, but the old Gentleman sayed he had not, and advised it should take place as soon as possible. As that was the only obstacle Mamma saw to impede it, of corse she consented and we have concluded that 3 commissioners would be better than 6 as it would save expence and answer every perpos. Henrietta and Josephine have decided to
appoint one, Mamma another for William & Susana, & you & myself the third." Believes Garnet Duncan would be a good choice. Asks for Caroline's opinions on this arrangement. If Col. Woolley prefers the Middletown farm to that near St. Louis, Mr. Johnston has no objection to its going in as part of his share. Urges her to choose a trustee other than Mr. Forsythe. Has prevailed on her mother not to see Forsythe or Mr. Worts about Sam until we hear from his father. Discusses the deficiencies in Sam's education in relation to entering a counting house. Both Henry and Sam are doing well for the present. Col. Woolley was right in his judgment as to the boys letter to him about their uncle's conduct. Sophy Oldham died last Thursday of a bilious fever and left a 2 months old baby.

ALS, 3 pp.

[ca. 1830.] Henrietta Johnston, [Jefferson Barracks, Mo.] to Mrs. Maria Preston Pope, Louisville, [Ky.].

Has hoped to hear from Maria, but Mother's letter "mentioning the death of our dear little nephew explains your silence." Josephine and Mr. and Mrs. Johnston have spent several days with Aunt Clark. Hopes Maria will visit them. She is eager to have Josephine [Preston] stay with them, but feels the responsibility is too great and "cannot therefore ask
her to remain after the urgency with which Mamma writes for her return. . . . Some persons are of opinion that the remainder of this regiment will be removed to the Little Platte this autumn." Mr. Johnston "says he is desirous of astonishing you with his improvement in drawing from nature. He sends you a sketch of the Illinois Orator and hopes you will shade it and finish it to your own taste." Mr. Johnston sends a pair of moccasins to Mrs. Pope. The Johnstons will miss Josephine's company. Asks to hear about the latest fashions. Mentions: various family members and Col. Morgan.

ALS, 3 pp.


Apologizes for not writing sooner. Supposes that his uncle, to whom he has written by every opportunity, has informed her of his travels and experiences. Compliments South American women profusely. Asks Mrs. Pope to exercise her "taste in selecting some pretty Kentuckian who would like a Sailor." Asks to be remembered to his cousins the Johnstons and Josephine Preston. Uncle writes that John is at Augusta College and supposes that William is with him. Sent Aunt E.
drawings of the costumes of Peru. Sends regards to his friends at Louisville and Locust Grove and his little sister. Expresses great interest in his sister's welfare. Sails for Callao tomorrow. Asks to be excused for the haste in writing this letter and for his poor spelling, "you know I was not famous for it at Fotheringay."

ALS, 3 pp.


Received Mrs. Pope's letter of December 14. Discusses her visit to Louisville. Tells of social activities and an entertainment held for the poor. Mentions: Mr. Duke, Mr. Levy of New York, Mrs. Benham, Mr. Bateman, Miss M. Phillips, Mr. Lindley, Mr. Hill, the Bullitts, Mrs. Rogers and Mrs. Gray.

ALS, 3 pp.

1831 March 20. W. C. P. Griffin, U. S. Ship St. Louis, Callao, Roads to George Hancock, Louisville, Kentucky.

His ship arrived here from Valparaiso about three weeks ago and the Guerriere sailed for Valparaiso a few days ago. Talks of the band, balls and plays given by the Guerriere and its crew. Particularly mentions Capt. Smith's encouragement of the ship's theatre and the play "Tragedy of Arnolds Treason" by John Comstock.
All the elegant people of Lima are now in Callao for the bathing season. Describes in detail a bull fight he recently saw in Lima. States, "you have no idea of the depraved state of morals and ignorant situation of the lower class of beings in this country. . . ." Discusses the character of the people. Has just heard that the British Frigate Thetis was sunk 10 days out of Rio Janeiro with $1,500,000 on board. The first lieutenant of Griffin's ship, Mr. Fitzhugh of Virginia, has just been given the command of the schooner Dolphin and Griffin expects to join his crew. Secretary Branch has just given them a new uniform. Asks to be remembered to Grandma, Aunt E[liza], Mrs. Croghan and Charles, and Aunt Preston and the Louisville cousins. Hopes brother John is doing well at Augusta and that little sister is in a good school. If his ship returns by Cape Horn, he expects to be in the United States in 8 months, if by India it will take 12 or 14 months.

ALS, 5 pp.


Received Mrs. Woolley's letter yesterday. Hopes that Mr. Woolley has returned by this time. Has been quite indisposed until the last week. Discusses her
health and housekeeping activities. Wishes to see Mrs. Woolley's children, William and Mary. Asks about Eliza Griffin. Describes the illnesses of various people. Mr. Drayton has been to Washington and expects to leave next Sunday; she will write to mama by him and would also then write her sister Caroline but her husband urged her to write by this mail. Tells Caroline not to worry about Col. Woolley's debt, as she is not concerned by it and can wait until Col. Woolley's return for it to be settled. Asks that her music book be sent to her. Asks how Maria likes New Orleans and is sure she will be pleased there by Cousin Catharine. Feels sure that Maria will see her friend Mr. Bush in New Orleans. States that although they have been married four months now, she and Mr. Rogers have not quarrelled yet. Wishes she could see William before he goes to college, but she and Capt. Rogers plan to visit in the north and may see him in New Haven. Rogers' family has been very kind and she is eager to meet them and know them better. Hopes to see Mary Kearny before she leaves here. Mrs. McKee is going to Prairie du Chien and her husband has been promoted to Captain. Mrs. Hutter will be in Louisville in May. Asks if Rachel Walker is with Maria and says she was not at all astonished to hear of Rachel's father killing himself.
1832 March 8. William Griffin, Brooklyn, [N. Y.] to Master John S. Griffin, care of George Hancock, Louisville, Ky.

Received the letter from John and Grandma. Urges John to apply himself to his studies, for the only hope of passing for a gentleman is to have the education of one, and never to swear. William has suggested to his uncle, that instead of putting John in a store, he obtain a Lt.'s commission in the Marine Corps for him when he is eighteen. William has received orders from the Secretary to hold himself in readiness for sea service. In the meantime he enjoys the company of ladies and goes occasionally to the theatre to hear Mrs. Austin; wishes John could go with him, but supposes there is a theatre in Louisville. Asks John to tell Mr. Preston to call on him at the Navy Yard in Brooklyn on his way to Yale. Urges John to write and asks to be remembered to Grandmother, uncle, aunt, all his friends at Locust Grove and to Aunt P. and his Louisville cousins.

ALS, 3 pp.
1831 April 24. Edmund P[endleton] Gaines, Jefferson Bar-
racks, Missouri to Mrs. Caroline H. Preston, Louis-
ville, Kentucky.

Received his cousin, Mrs. Preston's, letter of
April 5 and promises to help Lt. Albert S. Johnston and
his wife in every way possible. Comments on Johnston's
moral character and how fortunate a husband he is for
Henrietta Preston. Mrs. Gaines is in Nashville and
will return in the fall. The Gaines look forward to
Mrs. Preston's visit. Mentions Lt. Lowndes and
Lt. Butler.

ALS, 3 pp.

1832 April 19. S. W. Kerrny, Louisville, [Ky.] to
Mrs. S. R. McKay, Montreal.

Introduces Mrs. Pope, a friend and relation of
Kerrny's wife to Susan McKay.

ALS, 1 p.

1832 May 20. M[aria] P[reston] Pope, [Louisville, Ky.] to
Mrs. I. T. Preston.

Apologizes for not writing sooner. On her way to
Jefferson Barracks, her boat caught fire. Shortly
after her return home, her mother learned of
Mrs. Johnston's illness and "determined to go on and
remain in Missouri until the detachment of troops now
against the Indians return as my brothers in law are
both on that expedition." Urges her cousin to spend a few months visiting her this summer. Mentions recent visits to Louisville by Mrs. Davidson and Mrs. Honnen and John Floyd. Mr. Morse says Louisa Bullit will announce her engagement. Miss Fanny and Mr. Liverich should now be married. Mentions: Mr. Kaufman, Miss Rowan, Mr. and Mrs. Layton and little Frank Preston.

ALS, 3 pp.

1832 May [--]. [William] Preston, Bardstown, [Ky.] to Mrs. Maria Pope.

Introduces Dr. Harrison of Bardstown and requests that "my cloths" be sent up by the next mail. Tell John Floyd that Edward Preston is well. Regards to Sue and Sister Carry.

ANS, 1 p.


Hopes to visit Louisville August 1. Provides chatty news of the activities of family and friends. Enquires whether Josephine feels uneasy about the Indians. Mentions: Josephine Preston, Mrs. Benton of Missouri, Mr. Dick, Cuthbert and Eliza Bullitt, Mr. Hope, Mr. Worthington and Mrs. Caroline H. Preston.

ALS, 3 pp.
1832 June 17. Catherine Preston, [New Orleans] to
Mrs. M[aria] P[reston] Pope, Louisville, [Ky.].

Ann Hewes married Gov. Pointdexter, who is much
ger than she, but learned. Mrs. Nisbet has a son
born June 1st. Mrs. Palfrey has gone North. Fanny is
ill. Mentions: Josephine Preston, Mr. Worthington and
Charles Leverich.

ALS, 2 pp.

1832 Oct. 27. William Preston, Bardstown, [Ky.] to
Mrs. Maria Pope, Louisville, Kentucky.

Enjoyed his sister's letter and is happy to know
she will help him with his difficulty. The amount he
owes is $480. Asks that this letter be burnt after it
is read.

ALS, 2 pp.

ferson Barracks, [Mo.] to Mrs. Maria Preston Pope,
Louisville, Ky.

Mr. Drayton will call when he is in Louisville and
"tell you all about my Billy Boy [William Preston
Johnston]. Wrote Mrs. Pope a long letter before
said that she would visit, "but when Josephine heard
that it depended on her going with you to N. Orleans
she said that she candidly answered you she would not,
as Capt R[ogers] could not get a furlough." Sees much of Josephine. Was told the Count could not get farther from Maria than Cincinnati. Wants to hear what Maria did with her English beau, Mr. Ainslie. Has Louisa Bullitt any admirers? Wants a plain bonnet sent to her by Col. Taylor and send me a cake like you sent Joe. Maj. Riley and Mr. Drayton took a late supper with her; asks to be remembered to Grandma [Hancock], Carry and Col. Woolley. Mrs. Benton asks kindly after Maria. Expects Rachel will soon have a child "but am well supplied with hired servants at an enormous price though. I think Josephine's woman a fine bargain. I wish I could make such an one." Mentions Mary Kearney and Mrs. Mcfee.

ALS, 2 pp.


Sends best wishes to Mrs. Pope on her illness. Is getting ready to attend a party and would not go had the promise not been made to attend.

ALS, 1 p.
1832 Nov. 27. B. Riley, Louisville, [Ky.] to Mrs. M[aria] P. Pope.

Orders compel him to leave town tomorrow, but wants to see Mrs. Pope before he leaves.

ALS, 1 p.


Wrote by the last mail requesting Maria to get her a bonnet and send it on by Mrs. A who arrived yesterday. Supposes she will order a bonnet by the time this letter arrives. Wants one like Josephine's. Little Henny [Henrietta Johnston] is teething rapidly. Plans to give the blue frock Maria sent William to Henny since Joe braided one for him. Hopes to bring her children to see Maria for a few weeks this spring. Thanks her for the trouble she has taken. Maj. Riley will mail this letter in town. Joe is recovering and will go home as soon as he feels well enough. Will send the money for the bonnet on by him. "Put it [the bonnet] in a small board box and address it 'to A S Johnston, To the care of Hill and McGonnigle St Louis, Mo' and it will come safe on any of the St Louis boats. Col. Woolley will tell you which Boat to send it on." Is glad Caroline is recovering from the shock of her dear babes death.

ALS, 2 pp.
1833 March 5. S. H. Bullen, Louisville, [Ky.] to
Mrs. M[aria] P[reston] Pope, Jefferson Barracks,
Missouri.

Mrs. Drake consented to act four nights; "the
theatre with the exception of a few ladies, has become
very fashionable." A masquerade ball was given on the
22nd at the Vaux Hall Gardens. Local news and gossip.
Mentions: Messrs. Hill, Moffitt, Bascom, Cooke,
Cooper, Miss Talbott, Col. Woolley, Gen. and Mrs.
Breckinridge, John Rowan and Peter Grayson.

ALS, 4 pp.

Preston Pope, Louisville, Kentucky.

Introduces the bearer of her letter, Dr. Minis of
the U. S. Army. Comments disparagingly of Maj. Phil-
lips. Assumes Maria will have returned from Nashville
by this time and understands that cholera is ravaging
Nashville. Urges Maria to write as the only news she
has of her Louisville friends comes from E. Hobbs.
Col. Benton tells her their cousin Letty Wallace will
be Mrs. Pope's neighbor. Col. Benton will go to Vir-
ginia in 2 or 3 weeks. Hopes Maria will visit after
Henrietta's accouchement. Asks that the enclosed let-
ter be given to William Preston. The cholera is in
St. Louis now. Mentions: Mr. Ward, Maj. Kearney,

ALS, 3 pp.

1833 July 31. Henrietta Johnston, Jefferson Barracks, Missouri to Mrs. Maria Preston Pope, Louisville, Ky.

Josephine Preston Rogers had a baby girl July 29 whom she has named Caroline Preston. Discusses family news. "Col. Benton tells me that Arthur Wallace is going to buy a summer residence near Louisville. He speaks of getting Wards place for which he can offer $30,000. Pretty well I say for Letty." Mentions: Capt. Rogers, William and Henrietta Johnston, Mrs. Bul-litt, George Hancock, H. and Will Griffin and Cousin Hancock.

ALS, 3 pp.


Mr. Johnston returned home three days ago after about four weeks. "He had a tedious journey in the boat and was only one day at Cantonment Leavenworth. They brought back 11 Indians who came voluntarily on a visit to the Red-Head. Genl. Leavenworth gave them a
pow-wow speech which was just in the papers. He held a
council up the river and they are to have a talk with uncle. . . ." Meant to send Maria a pair of real
Indian moccasins. Joe is well. Rachel has had a
severe illness; she is in no danger but very weak. Is
eager to hear from Caroline; Col. Woolley promised to
write from Vincennes. Is going to Aunt Clark's to pre­
serve some peaches. Thanks Maria for the preserves and
yellow pickles she made. Hopes Maria will visit them.
Perhaps Col. Morgan may be here.

ALS, 2 pp.

1833 Sept. 26. Cuthbert Bullitt, Louisville, [Ky.] to
Mrs. Maria P. Pope, Louisville, [Ky.].

Regrets to tell Mrs. Pope that he has been the
cause of much displeasure to his father-in-law by vio­
lating his instructions in disposing of the girl, Rose.
According to an understanding with Mr. Booth, Col.
White was to keep Rose, her mother and her two
brothers. Asks Mrs. Pope, therefore, to please return
Rose and cancel the bill of sale. If Mrs. Pope wishes
the girl to have her husband, he asks her to name the
price and Mr. Bullitt will buy him.

ALS, 1 p.
1833 Sept. 27. Cuthbert Bullitt, Louisville, [Ky.] to Mrs. Maria P. Pope, Louisville.

Received Mrs. Pope's note yesterday and showed it to Col. White. They were disappointed at Mrs. Pope's refusal to deliver up the slave Rose. Mr. Bullitt hopes that Mrs. Pope will change her mind and turn Rose over to him. Promises to bind himself to take Rose in his own family so that her husband may have the opportunity of seeing her.

ALS, 1 p.


Received Mrs. Pope's letter of September 28 regarding the slave Rose and finds "that consistent with my obligations to Mr. Booth, I cannot consent to the sale made to you by Mr. Bullitt." Mr. Bullitt had no authority to sell her and told Mrs. Pope so, and White regrets that Mrs. Pope has sent Rose out of the state. Asks that the slave be delivered to him or else Mrs. Pope will be accountable "for the ultimate delivery of the said slave Rose and all losses & damages I may sustain in the pursuit of my legal rights as well as her Wages at the rate of Ten Dollars per month ... while you illegally withhold her from my service."

ALS, 1 p.
1834 Jan. 6. Mr. and Mrs. S[amuel] Churchill, Spring
Grove, [Jefferson County, Kentucky] to Mrs. M. P. Pope,
[Louisville, Ky.].

Request the pleasure of Mrs. Pope's company at
5:00 Thursday evening.

1834 Feb. 3. T[homas] H[art] B[enton], Natchez to
Mrs. M[aria] Preston Pope, Louisville, Kentucky.

Wonders whether Mrs. Pope received his letter of a
month ago and hopes she will write. Leaves today for
Vicksburg until April 1st and then will start up the
river by way of Jefferson Barracks. Asks that
Mrs. Pope tell Mr. Johnston not to bring his wife to
Natchez as it has rained all but two days for the past
5 weeks.

ALS, 1 p.

1834 April 10. Albert S[idney] Johnston, Orleans to "dear
mother."

the city for Philadelphia this morning and will give
you this letter. Henrietta promises to stay with you
should she be delayed at Louisville. Johnston and
Henrietta left his brother's Saturday with Mrs. J. S.
Johnston. They are now at Dr. Davidson's since
Henrietta has been stricken with dysentery. Discusses
his wife's health and her disappointment at not hearing
a word from Kentucky since their departure. Asks to be remembered to Mrs. Pope, Mrs. Woolley and Susan H.

ALS, 1 p.


Saw Miss Kemble every night she played in New York and was "not at all disappointed indeed she far exceeded our expectations, after she left we had Mr. and Mrs. Wood and were delighted." Spent two days at West Point. Saw Susan in Philadelphia and Mrs. J. Johnston, whom they hope will in time be more reconciled to the place and the separation from M---. William Radford is stationed there. Cousin Sophy has invited them to spend a few days with her. Asks to be remembered to the Rowans and "to our dear friend Knox who I presume has left you before this...." Mentions Lewis and Abby, and Mr. Bush.

ALS, 3 pp.


Pleased that Mrs. Johnston's health is improved after her visit to New Orleans. Sends news of the Johnston children. Describes her trip home and the health of her own children. If Mrs. Preston agrees, she would like to take Susan to New Haven at
commencement time in August. Likes Philadelphia and wishes "destiny had placed me here and not on the Red River." Sends regards to Mrs. Preston and Mrs. Pope. Mentions: Mrs. Jesup, Mrs. Chroghan and Mr. Brown.

ALS, 3 pp.


Introduces Don Costello of the Havana and asks that Mrs. Pope extend every courtesy to him.

ALS, 1 p.


 Writes her cousin that she has not been well since she left Louisville. Rachel Lewis was taken to Frankfort and Mira has taken her as a boarder. Miss and Mrs. Campbell promise to pay attention to her and she sleeps with Mrs. Marshall's daughter Agatha who will help her with her studies. Has heard there was a wedding in Louisville where eleven persons died from poison and that cholera has broken out in the city and many people have died, including Mr. Anderson, son-in-law of Mr. Martin. Does not believe these things but would like to hear from Mrs. Pope. Asks that her son Thomas write her. Asks about Henrietta Johnston and
Mr. Johnson and Caroline. Dr. [Louis] Marshall will be home by July 4. Hopes that Henrietta can see him and that she will be able to travel to the mountains and the Virginia springs for her health. Sends regards to Mrs. Preston, Mrs. Woolley and the children; asks about William and Susan Preston.

ALS, 2 pp.


Has not heard from the family during the ten weeks since she left Louisville. Heard from Mr. Williams, who saw Mr. Johnston in St. Louis, of Henrietta's return and of the improvement in her health. Is so far pleased with the North, but the climate is changeable and she would not wish to remain for the winter. The "country around Boston is more beautifully improved than any place I have ever seen." Tells of her daughter Caroline and Cary. Mentions William P. Johnston. Has heard from Susan Preston in Philadelphia and says of her, "I do not know that the school will do her much good but 'twill be an advantage certainly to get from Louisville the young ladies there are so forward and imprudent." Visited relatives in New York, who treated her well. William wrote that uncle was to
marry Miss Davidson. Sent a coloured silk dress to Maria by Mr. Wheeler who promised to hand it to her or leave it at Mr. Forsyth's store. Mentions: Capt. Brown, Capt. Rogers, Haris Johnston and Caroline [Woolley].

ALS, 3 pp.


Sends a book on fashionable amusements by a distinguished divine. Mitchell signs as agent for McKendreean College.

ALS, 1 p.


Asks Mrs. Pope to send her a winter bonnet as soon as possible by Maj. Riley or Mrs. Atkinson. Mrs. Johnston is now in second mourning and it is not necessary that the bonnet be a costly one. Asks that her dresses be sent on, too, and requests the bill for the purchase of the bonnet. Joe has arrived at Jefferson Barracks; he was badly scalded but is recovering rapidly and expects to go to Louisville in a few days. All are well and Josephine is "as fat as a butter ball."
1835 Jan. 26. [ -- ], Louisville, [Ky.] to [William Preston], [New Haven, Conn.].

Feels well enough recovered to answer William's letter of December. Expects great things of William during his life. Urges William to guard his health. Thought William might have spent the rest of the winter at home, but Mrs. Preston was opposed. William's mother is distressed about his lack of money and will try to raise the amount he named.

ALS, 2 pp. [Retained draft copy.]


Apologizes and explains her delay in writing. Discusses her family. Dr. Marshall has given a vacation of some weeks in his school. Mentions: Jose­phine, Henrietta, Mrs. Preston, William and Susan Marshall Preston.

ALS, 1 p.

1835 June 5. E. E. S. to Mrs. Maria Pope, at Mrs. Rogers.

Expresses joy that her letters have prevented Maria marrying "that proud, haughty upstart Mr. Cuddy." Discusses the man's character.

ALS, 1 p.

Arrived from Paducah after an absence of ten days and found Mrs. Pope's letter. Would enjoy accompanying Mrs. Pope and their aunt to the East, but fears the attitude of society towards this. Believes that the lady Mrs. Pope refers to would feel he was trying to convince her he loved her sight unseen and that others would think he was fortune-hunting. His business in St. Louis also requires his presence. For these reasons he must decline the trip. Sends his regards to the family.

ALS, 2 pp.


Asks Mrs. Pope to accept his gift of two boxes of champaigne [sic].

ALS, 1 p.

[1835] June [--]. [Mrs.] C. E. Duncan, Louisville to Mr. and Mrs. R. I. Ingersoll, New Haven, [Conn.]

Letter of introduction for Mrs. Maria P. Pope. Mrs. Duncan is anxious that Mrs. Pope form a favorable opinion of Eastern hospitality during her stay in New Haven. Mrs. Pope is accompanied by her mother, Mrs. Preston, Mr. [Joseph] Bush, a portrait painter
from Natchez, and a son of Gov. [William] Clark of St. Louis. Mrs. Pope is George Hancock's niece.

ANS, 1 p.


Has heard that Mrs. Pope planned to marry Mr. Cuddy. Tells Mrs. Pope that Cuddy is a foreigner, has a bad temper and gambled away a fortune and "nearly destroyed his Family by Horse racing, cock Fighting and gambling of every description." Describes further character faults and past deeds of Mr. Cuddy. He "lead the rabble in the new court and Jackson times to which his fierce and wicked spirit gave effect and force." Says he is Irish and Roman Catholic and has illegitimate children by a mistress, according to the writer's husband. "My regard for you makes me give you this information in order to avoid a second unfortunate match in your family."

ALS, 3 pp.


Introduces Mrs. Preston and her daughter Mrs. Pope of Louisville, who intend a short visit to Boston while visiting Mrs. Preston's son in New Haven.

ALS, 1 p.
1835 July 6. James Freeman Clarke, Louisville, [Ky.] to Mrs. R. P. Clarke, Newton, Mass. at Rev. Dr. Freeman's. Introduces Mrs. Preston and Mrs. Pope of Louisville and asks that they be introduced at Uncle McLellan's and that brother William show them Boston and its vicinity. Hopes to see his mother, Mrs. Clarke, during the summer or fall and sends regards to his grandparents.

ALS, 1 p.


Calls Caroline her favorite sister and tells her she misses her. "Mama had a public sale on friday last from which we calculated to obtain funds sufficient to extricate the estate from its few remaining imbaresments, but we wais defeated in it in the outset." Mrs. Preston halted the sale after a few lots were bid in and sold a few lots to Mr. Gelts who intends to improve them immediately, which will improve the value of the adjoining property. Mrs. Preston is having the Middletown house refitted and an addition of two rooms and a folding door added. The family are still in town, but the mosquitoes are so bad they will probably move up next week. Henrietta and Mr. Johnston are still with them and will remain for two months.
Mary Radford is to marry Mat Corny in October, and Mr. Clements is to marry Caroline Hale. "Jo Bush has taken my portrait over it looks as rachel says charming." Henry sends his love to his father. Worden Churchwell died in Lexington; all the Prather family are there. Mentions: Messrs. Swan, Ranals [Reynolds?], Langhorn and Forsyth.

ALS, 4 pp.

[ca. 1835.] Mrs. O. E. Duncan, [Louisville, Ky.] to Mr. Dennis Kimberly, New Haven, Conn.

Introduces Mrs. Pope as a "belle of our city ... a particular friend of mine, and old sweet heart of my husband; and the niece of George Hancock. . . ." Asks Mr. Kimberly to see that she enjoys her visit in New Haven.

ANS, 1 p.


Wrote her mother a short letter last week telling her that she was in St. Louis and "that my good husband had left." Since then her son Preston has been sick but is now well. Understood that some of the family might come over with Lewis and Abby [Clark] so she will not leave until she hears from Capt. Rogers. Mr. Hobbs
came to the garrison to see her Saturday and said there were "various rumours about you & a Methodist preacher, but I expected that when I left Louisville." Supposes Mr. Johnston has returned and hopes he and his children are well. Mentions: Sue [Preston], William [Preston] and Cary [Rogers]. Cousin Alzire (?) wants a bonnet handsome and well trimmed sent by Lewis Clark. Hopes her husband will be back in five or six weeks. Mr. Radford says Maria must ask him to her wedding.

ALS, 2 pp.


Has just found the enclosed letter I wrote a week ago in William's coat pocket and due to its length and the business it contains I have decided to send it on. Will send your brown dress and a fashionable cape by the first opportunity. Lewis Clark arrived here two days ago and brought books and splendid drawings with him; he promised to paint me two large ones to frame. He and mother left for Middletown immediately after breakfast. I fear Henrietta and Josephine have persuaded Mama until she will send my poor dear little Rachel to her relatives in spite of all I can do for they are violently opposed to her staying in the house.
except she be on an equality with Lucy and that she never shall be.

ALS, 1 p. [Torn.]


Asks Mrs. Pope and Miss Preston to write. Is progressing in her studies. Her brothers George and Andrew are going to Missouri to live. Mentions her brother William. Expresses gratitude to Mrs. Pope for her kindness and sends regards to Mrs. Preston, Mrs. Woolley, Capt. and Mrs. Rogers, Henrietta and William Johns[t]on, Mrs. Hancock, Helen and Caroline Davidson, and Sue and William Preston.

ALS, 2 pp.


Sends a bunch of evergreens as a Christmas gift.

ALS, 1 p.


Sends a picture, a copy of Raphael's favorite holy family by Lambdin, as a new year's gift. Hopes the new year will be happy for Mrs. Pope.

ALS, 1 p.

Caroline [Preston] Woolley gave birth to a baby boy on October 7; she named him Lewellen Powell, after the doctor. She has hired a young, healthy, clean Dutch woman as a wet nurse. Susan has had scarlet fever and Maria and Mrs. Rogers both caught it. Discusses other members of the family who were ill. Mr. Hobbs was married three weeks ago and has left for St. Louis with his bride, Fanny Henning and Miss Williamson. Alexander Chur[c]hill and Miss McKinley are to be married on the 20th; Miss Nichols on the 15th and Martha Pope and Charley will be married next week. Margaret Wickliffe paid Susan a visit with Robert. Mr. Page and Mary are to be married. Asks about Rachel and the school Mrs. Pope placed her in. Has not yet attended to Maria's affairs. Mentions: Capt. Rogers, Eliza Hassan, Mr. Hennessy, Dr. McDowell, Mrs. McDowell, Sarah McDowell and Dr. Wantyn.

ALS, 4 pp.


Caroline feels that she will not live long and wants to see Maria again before her life is over. Caroline's son was three months old on January 7. He
was born on the day Hancock Griffin died. The day after he was born, Mrs. Didrick, a Dutchwoman, went to the house to nurse him. Caroline and Susan had arranged to go to Cuba, but the closing up of the river prevented it and the doctors advise her to give up the trip due to her condition; "she is thiner than my Dear Mother was and looks as much reduced as Henrietta in the last stage of her complaint." Mr. [James Freeman] Clark this morning baptised the child in the Unitarian Church; Dr. Powell and Mary Hancock stood for the child, who is named for Dr. Powell. All of Josephine's family had severe cases of scarlet fever, but have recovered. Henrietta and William [Johnston] are well and William Woolley looks very well. Mary Johnston does not look well and her mother is in the last stages of consumption and cannot last long. Dr. McDowell's family are well. Edward Hobbs married a niece of Mr. Tarlton's; William Speed married Miss Phillips; Abby Clark has a fine son. Old Mr. Kenerly arrived the day after William Preston left with his family; the Kenerlys left after two days and Mrs. Kenerly died 30 hours after they reached George Kenerlies. James Kenerly wrote this news. Betty Cotton has been here since Susan returned from Lexington. Mrs. Taylor's family are in the south; Mrs. Johnson and Addison have been back some time. Tell William how much he is
needed in Kentucky. "The distress for money is such that nothing can be got. Many families have left the city in hopes of bettering their situation and many have run off[f] without giving any notice of their intentions (there is twenty thousand) less than there was two years since in the city. lots cannot be sold at any price or can property be rented."

ALS, 3 pp.

1840 Jan. 20. S. H. Chambers, Louisville to Mrs. Maria Preston Pope, Washington City, D. C.

Mrs. Pope is missed by all her friends. "Mr. Guthrie is ensconced in all his dignity at the Capital this winter,--his daughter has made her debut, and is spending the winter there also." Discusses a ball given at the Exchange. "The times are so alarming about money matters that there are fewer parties than have been given for many years." Mrs. Woolley is in poor health and Josephine fears it is consumption. Asks about their "Revered friend in Augusta" and discusses him and his wife. Mentions Edward Hobb's bride. Discusses other local people. Knows Mrs. Pope has changed Rachel's school from New Haven to Georgetown. Mrs. Chamber's children are all well and Maria often speaks of Mrs. Pope. Mr. Chamber's still suffers from dyspepsia and talks of moving to the country. "I was
glad to hear you were in Washington where you ought to be, instead of sticking yourself down in that Yankee village. . . . you must read Nicholas Nickleby if you want to be interested and amused." Mentions: Alfred Thruston, Mr. Trotter, Susan Preston, Miss Cotton [Colton?], Caroline Davidson, John Griffin, Capt. Rogers, Sarah McDowell, Miss Luckett, Miss S. Beall, Mrs. Johnston and Mrs. Addison.

ALS, 4 pp.

1840 Feb. 27. Martha [ -- ], Shelbyville, Ky. to Miss Rachel Walker, Georgetown, D. C.

Has a daughter nearly three months old. Mag Wickliffe was here this afternoon from Louisville; she said you were very serious about uniting with the Church "to which Mrs. Pope resolutely objected. Mentions the birthnight ball attended by Mrs. Pope, Susan Preston and Margaret Wickliffe. Points out that God provided Rachel with a protector when her mother died, placed her in a situation affording her every temporal comfort and gave her an opportunity of cultivating her mind and body. Asks her not to be despondent. Urges her to obey Mrs. Pope as it is not necessary to belong to one particular sect of Christianity to do good. Mentions: Mrs. Lewis' school, Mary Downing, and Sally Cooper. Urges Rachel to read Mrs. Parker's *Domestic Duties*
and Mrs. Sigourney's letters to young ladies.
ALS, 4 pp.

Asks Mrs. Pope to deliver the enclosed pamphlet to Mrs. Thompson's friend Capt. Jason Rogers, late of the Army; the pamphlet is a sermon preached on her late husband, Capt. Rogers' former commander. Hopes Mr. and Mrs. Rogers will receive some satisfaction from the work. Recently left a lithographic representation of her husband's monument at Mrs. Pope's, also for Capt. Rogers.
ALS, 1 p.

Mrs. Marshall is very pleased to hear from her cousin that Maria Pope has found God and religion. Discusses Mrs. Pope's character. Dr. [Louis] Marshall was in Louisville and "thought of proposing to take Dear Carolines Son William but he could not bring himself I suppose to name it." Mentions "our precious John," Francis, Agatha and Mrs. Lewis.
ALS, 2 pp.

Judge Rowan said he saw Mrs. Pope in Louisville; it is only through such reports that the Benton's hear of her and they wish she would write. Rachel looks well. Washington has been very hot. Mr. Hodgson plans to visit the West this summer and plans to see Mrs. Pope when he is in Louisville. Congress adjourns next week and we can leave "this dusty city;" ma goes in the country not far from here, "I will go up into Virginia. Father goes home in September & will see you and return you your jewels with my best thanks and love, for your having trusted me with them. . . . To supply the want of gayety this warm weather, they are giving Musical soirees which are rather stupid as the performances are not very fine and I have escaped them— at last I have persuaded Ma it is not very wrong to see Fanny Ellseler."

ALS, 3 pp.


Has been "at Paroquet a little watering place in the neighbourhood 20 miles from the city" and found Eliza's letter when she returned. Rachel wrote on the 3rd that Eliza had accompanied her father to Virginia,
so she will direct this letter to Rockbridge. Asks what Eliza means by teasing her about Mr. Hodgson. Says she is never going to "the metropolis until I can see your father in the presidential chair." The Wickliffes are expecting Mr. William C[ampbell] Preston and family to pay them a visit this summer. Leaves for the upper part of the state tomorrow to visit friends.

ALS, 3 pp.

[Maria P. Pope] to [Mrs. Agatha Marshall].

Received Mrs. Marshall's letter last Saturday and hoped to leave Monday to visit Buckpond. Had arranged to go up with Mr. Breckinridge "when the baby became so ill from teething that it would have been impossible for him to have stood the journey." Hopes to be at Buckpond by Saturday. Mother is well. Ends with religious sentiments.

ALS, 2 pp.

[The above letter and that of 18 August 1840 are both in draft on one sheet of paper.]


Has not heard from Maria for two weeks. Asks her to write when she expects to return. Discusses travel
arrangements for a return trip. Margaret Donnally is rapidly dying of consumption. Mrs. Didrick took her child to the neighbourhood of Shepherdsville and has returned well. Col. Woolley and William went to Ohio to see Charles. "Col. Benton spent an evening with us a few days after you left and said if he had known you were at Doctor Marshall's nothing would have prevented his calling to see you. He looks unusually well."

Hopes Maria will return and will make up with her sister Josephine and her family, who feel very kindly towards her. Knows that the fault is all with Maria. Henrietta and William [Johnston] send their love, asks to be remembered to Agatha and Mrs. Marshall. Mentions: Mrs. Mitchell, Mr. Graves, Susan Preston, Rachel Walker, Dr. McDowell and Mrs. Powell.

ALS, 4 pp.


Describes her health. Understands Gwynn Page has married a Miss Barbour of Bullitt County. Has "just heard of my dear Maria Popes bereavement and feel inexpressibly anxious to see her." Goes on about Mrs. Pope's son and how dear he was to her. "There is now in Louisville a Lady from Philadelphia with whom I
became slightly acquainted when I was there. Her name is InGraham, she is a fine sensible woman, in reduced circumstances. She is living in Louisville with her seven children, that she may be nearer to her husband, who is in some Lucrative business at the Grand Gulph, and who is not willing to risk the health of his family there. She lives out on Centre street near Broadway, a new street between 5th and 6th and comes out in front of the City Hall, which is now building. . . . I thought if you were riding out at any time I would like you and Mrs. Lewis to call and see her."  Mentions: Agatha, William, Ann and Alexander Marshall, Dr. Smith, Hebe Smith, Sarah McDowell, Mrs. Lewis, Cousin Francis, Fanny, Robert Breckinridge, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Berryman and Mrs. Biddle.

ALS, 4 pp.


Thanks Mrs. Pope for the gifts sent by Capt. Rogers. "You have heard no doubt before this reaches you of Gen. Harrisons death, I have just returned from witnessing the funeral procession, it was a splendid, yet solemn spectacle, the streets hung with mourning, the muffled drum, and solemn funeral dirge seemed to fill every one with sadness. The dead received the
highest military honors, which are to a distinguished Citizen and statesman. . . . The procession moved at twelve o'clock, minute guns were fired by detachments of artillery stationed at the city hall, at the same hour the bells of several churches in Alexandria, Georgetown and Washington were tolling. The military from New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore headed the procession, then came the funeral car covered with rich black velvet, the coffin was placed on the car and by it lay his two swords, a green wreath, together with a few flowers strewed about them. It was drawn by six white horses dressed in black Crepe, on each side went the pall-bearers, next came the family of the late President then came the ex-presidents, senators and officers of the senate, foreign ministers, and others, that I cannot recollect of at present. I will endeavour to get a paper from Washington which contains a full description and if successful I will send it to you immediately." Understands Mrs. Pope will visit Virginia this summer and hopes it will be soon since she wants to see her very much. Had a letter earlier from Miss Susan Preston.

ALS, 3 pp.

Urges Mrs. Pope to write. William Woolley came by from Mrs. Taylors, but will not stay long. Lists various relatives and wishes they might visit more often than they do. Mentions John Breckinridge's serious illness and that Robert Breckinridge is bringing John's little girls to Mrs. Breckinridge's. Hopes Maria is not bitter over her bereavement. Mentions: Gen. Johnson, Dr. Marshall, Sarah McDowell and Mrs. Preston.

ALS, 2 pp.


Dined at Col. Benton's on Monday. Rachel had asked for news of Mrs. Pope two days before. Rode to George Town with Benton this morning to see Rachel and Benton's niece and delivered Mrs. Pope's package to Rachel and told her she would receive another by Mrs. Crittendon. Relates his conversation with Rachel Walker. Jesse and Sarah Benton went to Rockbridge for the wedding of James McDowell's eldest daughter to Francis Thomas, former Maryland congressman and older than her father. "Congress meets on Monday many of the members are here. It is understood abroad and to the
furthermost parts of the land that there is to be a
general removal after Congress meets, office seekers
are congregating here in great numbers. . . ." Men-
tions: Miss Williams, Miss English Boarding School,
Mr. Fox, Mr. Ewing, President John Tyler, Daniel
Webster, Mr. Granger, Mr. and Mrs. John Tyler, Jr.,
Gen. and Mrs. Jesup, Mrs. Gaines, and Judge McKinley.
ALS, 3 pp.

1841 June 23. A. R. Woolley, Washington to Mrs. Maria
Preston Pope, Louisville, Kentucky.

Went to Georgetown to see Miss Walker, who is well,
and assured her Mrs. Pope would visit Washington in
August. Breakfasted with Mrs. Benton this morning.
Sally Campbell McDowell married Francis Thomas of
Maryland, candidate for Governor and ex member of
Congress. "Col. Benton is immersed head over feet in
politics, he says that in two years, he will carry such
a Resolution as Sir Robert Peel's, Congress Voting,
that the administration of Tyler does not possess the
confidence of the nation. Senator Buchanan said that,
Benton always told him he had not enough of the D--1 in
him. Buck said he was getting the D---1 in him he
found quite fast. . . ." Relates news of various
Pitcher, Judge Huntingdon, Mrs. Fitzhugh,
Mrs. Florida White, --- Churchill, William Preston Woolley and Samuel Woolley.

ALS, 3 pp.


Is very disappointed not to receive a letter from Mrs. Pope. Rachel wrote that she was obliged to leave in August and wished to know whether she should spend her vacation with Mrs. Benton or Miss English. Miss English planned to go to Piney Point, but now plans to leave for Philadelphia day after tomorrow and will spend much of her time in travel. Mrs. Benton left for Piney Point yesterday morning. Rachel does not feel that Mrs. Pope would like her school if she were acquainted with it, but is now more contented with it. Hopes Mrs. Pope will write, since Rachel is lonely now that all the students have gone home for the vacation. Mrs. Benton sends best wishes and would like to hear from Mrs. Pope. The Bentons have been very kind since Mrs. Pope left "especially Jessie. I think she is one of the sweetest creatures I have ever met with."

ALS, 3 pp.


Asks his grandmother for fifteen dollars if not the $25 he wishes. Feels Mrs. Preston would have sent the
money had she not been influenced by the stories spread about him. Plans to tell all the truth to Mrs. Preston when he is in Louisville. Refuses to borrow the $15 and feels he can only rely on Mrs. Preston for it.

ALS, 2 pp.


Apologizes for not writing sooner. Attended a large ball given by the Russian minister last night and saw Miss Mary Wickliffe and Mrs. Huntington there. "I suppose you have heard of Jesse's [Benton] marriage she did at last marry Mr. Fremont. although it was against her father's express command. She ran off with Mr. F. the day after Col. Benton left for Kentucky and got married, they then returned, each to their own houses and did not intend it to be made public for a year after, but they forgot that after the license had been drawn, it was obliged to be recorded. it was found out the very next day, and although every body knew it, they all positively denied it until Col. Benton arrived (I mean her own family) and then he sent word to Mr. Fremont to come and claim his bride. They started them to Baltimore where they remained a few days then returned and took rooms at Gadsbys Hotel where they are still living. I am told that
Col. Benton is very angry with them both and that she does not visit her Fathers; but I think it must be a mistake for Col. Benton is more devoted to Jessie than any one of his other children." Charles Woolley has joined the navy. Mentions her brothers and her hope that Andrew will be placed in college until he is 21. Mentions: Col. Woolley, Mr. Boardman, Mr. Pittcher, Miss Susan Preston and Mr. Christy.

ALS, 3 pp.


Waits impatiently to hear when Mrs. Pope wants her to return to Kentucky. "It is now little more than two years since you left me here and I am now about to leave school." Mrs. Wickliffe and Margaret called two weeks ago and wanted her to come see them during her vacation. She did not accept since she has only been in Washington once this winter. At that time she called on Mrs. Pope's cousin, Miss Mary, who has since been in Georgetown several times but has not visited Rachel. Supposes Mrs. Pope has heard of Miss Croghan's elopement; she married a man older than her own father and has fled to England with him. "It is said that Miss Inglis made the match or rather helped, for the gentleman was her own Cousin; her school is broken up
for it anyhow, a just reward." Miss McDowell quarreled with her husband old Mr. Thomas and is come down to Col. Benton's and vowed never to live with her husband. "I heard yesterday that they both had applied and succeeded in obtaining a divorce." Has heard that Susan [Preston] and Mr. Christy are courting and that he gave Susan his miniature. Mrs. Benton asks about Mrs. Pope and sends her regards.

ALS, 3 pp.

1845 Sept. 18. D. D. Mitchell, St. Louis to [ -- ].

Describes his family's health. Martha, Fanny and he are all sick. Hopes that Mrs. Pope will come with Sue and Howard [Christy] and visit. Asks to be remembered to Mrs. Preston and to William and his wife.

ALS, 2 pp.


Detailed plan for reorganizing army defenses under the new military conditions brought about by railroads and steam boats.

[Printed circular letter addressed to commanders of Departments, Regiments and Posts. Two pages with folding map of the defense plan.]

Describes his boat trip from the Mouth of the Ohio River. Tells of his activities and how much he is enjoying seeing all his friends again. Asks his son to have Mr. Maury at the Post Office forward all his letters to him. Mentions: Mr. Mitchell, Howard Christy, Miss Fanny Wash, Aunt Pope and Col. Davenport.

ALS, 2 pp.


Adds remarks "to the constitutional aspect of my Railroad Views, contained in my Memorial to Congress, of the 31st December 1839." Argues for the application of steam power "to every Military Operation to which it is applicable by land and by water," and that Congress should allow the President "full and free use of every other invention or discovery . . . in anywise applicable to war, and tending to the good of the service. . . ." Argues that it is the duty of Congress to legislate favourably should it be found necessary "to extend to the Pacific Ocean, one or two of our Rail Roads from the Central States of Tennessee and
Kentucky. . . . The present is of all others, the most fit and proper time for us to extend our Railroads, first, from Memphis Tennessee to the principal North Eastern Sea port of the Bay of California; secondly, from Louisville, Kentucky "via" Independence, Mo. to Santa fee, and thence to the Pacific.

"The existing War commenced against us by Mexico gives us a full and perfect right to construct Rail Roads, Canals and fortifications, throughout any part of the Mexican Nation, for the efficient movement, comfort and accommodation of our land and Naval forces; and for our commercial facilities and for all other purposes to which we choose to apply them during the War." Natural law or the law of self preservation is the basis for such actions. Before the United States can expand into Mexico, we must secure our sea ports and other "vital points of approach. . . . I am under the impression that the best possible measures we can now adopt for terminating this war would be, to call into service fifty thousand volunteers, principally Mechanics and Laborers, and construct a Rail Road, from Memphis, Tennessee, to Monteray; and moreover to construct at Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Louisville and Memphis, twelve to fourteen War Steamers . . . . We may thus terminate the war at less than one half the expense of time and blood and treasure that there is
reason to apprehend it may otherwise cost us." This will also greatly strengthen our borders and the laborers, after the war is won, should be sent to our seaports to strengthen them so that they are impregnable to steam powered fleets.

ALS, 7 pp.


Asks for Preston's opinion of his proposals of the 15th and for him to examine his memorial to Congress, which can be found in the congressional documents for 1840 or spring of 1841 with one of Poinsett's last official communications while Secretary of War.

[Lewis] Cass, "to thwart me & profit by my views . . . made out his report in favor of our relying mainly on a great naval force for the national defence rather than upon Forts. . . . Cass being a party man--and somewhat a favorite with the Van Buren administration (he being appointed U. S. minister to France soon after the date of his Report), Poinsett and his Board of Engineers resolved to spare Cass, as much as possible and direct their fire at me. But much as I have been directly or indirectly abused, it is now obvious that my system of national defence is sure to be sustained by the sound practical men of all Parties." Sent
copies of his June 15th letter to several friends. Wishes to avoid party politics, as he feels all military men should.

ALS, 4 pp.


Was glad to hear from Preston and to hear that he and his brother, Sidney, were well. Glad that he is pleased with his school as it is the one chosen by his dead father. Urges him to study and be good. Received a letter from Preston's aunt Susan Rogers saying the New York relatives are well and send their love. Mentions: Mr. Graves, Harriet Graves, Carry Preston and Fanny Mitchell.

ALS, 2 pp.


Just learned from Harry that Col. Woolley is in Lexington; Harry brought a note from Mr. Hancock asking Maria to sell him to a good master for $450. "Mr. Hancock sent for Bob to be appraised but I sent messenger and note back saying I would have nothing to do with him. I am determined to break Carolines will If I
can for you know she never intended William Johnston to have her property."

ALS, 2 pp.


Has delayed writing in hopes of enclosing a receipted bill for Mrs. Pope's necklace from Mess. Tiffany & Co.; however, the necklace is still unfinished. Told Susan that Mrs. Pope had offered her the pearl necklace and $75 for her use. Informs Mrs. Pope of the charges and arrangements for Susan's schooling. Thanks Mrs. Pope for her kind attentions toward her orphaned cousins Susan and Maria.

ALS, 3 pp.


Encloses a letter from Uncle William to me and one for yourself from St. Louis. Quotes a provision referred to in Uncle William's letter repealed in Missouri last winter having to do with the signing of wills by an authorized second party. Plans to pay his aunt's state tax to avoid a penalty. "Mr. [Joseph] Bush is painting the face of the little dauguereotype & the dress & figures of the larger" on a portrait of Uncle. Rosa and Mrs. Duncan send love. Has his aunt's
silver packed in his room. "Welle-Kemper is hesitating about selling 20x102 ft. on the corner of Colley and Marshall for you at $35 per foot." Kopmeir has become a new client.

ALS, 2 pp.


Certifies that Col. A. R. Woolley was an officer in the regular army of the War of 1812 according to the army register and personal knowledge. Woolley plans to attend the convention of officers and soldiers of the War of 1812 to be held in Philadelphia next week. Gives this in absence of Col. Williams, President of the Washington meeting.

ALS, 1 p.


Mr. Preston of Kentucky, member of the House of Representatives, wishes to find a school for two nephews where they can finish preparation for Harvard. Has recommended Mr. Allen of Sterling. Asks Walker to advise him where else to look.

ALS, 1 p.
1855 Sept. 2. Charles A. Page, Cincinnati, [Ohio] to Will Preston Woolley, Burnett House, Cin[cinnati].

Has to return home on business and will take the Madison packet this evening. Encloses $90 and will send the rest by mail. Asks for Woolley's address so he may write Woolley in Europe.

ALS, 1 p.


Consoles Col. Woolley on the death of his son. Mrs. Pope "saw him laid by the side of his lamented mother. . . ." Has "seen Salve and ordered a monument befitting the memory of my lamented sister and our dear William. Will write to Charles, soon; his wife and child are at May Gatelin's in Missouri.

ALS, 2 pp.

1855 Sept. 28. William Preston Johnston, New York City to Dear Aunt, [Susan Preston Christy].


ALS, 1 p.

Received his aunt's note this morning. Wishes he were able to help her and is glad that Uncle William has decided to go with her. Will be housekeeping around December 1. "Mrs. Fish left her card for Rosa, instead of calling, and I was amused with Rosa's spunk in returning her visit in the same way." Discusses New York plays they have seen. Mentions Cornelia Deming and the Duncans.

ALS, 4 pp.

1855 Oct. 31. William Preston Johnston, New York City to [Susan Preston Christy].

Believes his aunt will be back in Louisville by now. Describes the baby and says their doctor is John Metcalfe formerly of Natchez, Mississippi. Expects to be in their comfortable house on Stuyvesant Square around December 1. The furniture is ordered for it. Plans to apply for examination and admission to the New York Bar next week. Contrasts the healthy climate with the "marsh miasma of Ormsby Hite's place."

Mrs. Hite wrote Mrs. Duncan that Edie wanted Mr. Hite to buy her and Levi as they did not want to be returned to New Orleans. Gives directions for shipping his pictures. Asks that mail be sent either to
1855 Nov. 15. William Preston Johnston, New York City to [Susan Preston Christy].

Received his Aunt's letter today. Is pleased to hear that her law suits are near a successful end. The house is coming along well and Johnston hopes to be in it by the promised time. Hopes his aunt will be able to visit during New Years. Rosa has been buying carpets for the house. Asks "why cannot Uncle William be run for Vice President next time. If the thing was properly managed he might very well get the Democratic nomination." Has been studying the New York law code. Comments on the chances for success and financial reward in New York legal practice. Fears his father is disappointed that Johnston moved to New York. Discusses his family and mentions the marriages of Lewis Clark and William Gilpin.

ALS, 4 pp.


Apologizes for her delay in writing. Has been busy getting the house ready and looks forward to
Mrs. Christy's visit in January. "The view from your window is charming. Dr. Syng's beautiful church just opposite and two pretty Parks with a fountain in each." Gives news of her young child. Went to the opera Monday night; the House itself is worth going to see and the scenery is beautiful. Took Cornelia Dean to the theatre to see Hamlet last night. Talks of parties and guests. Mentions: Mrs. Adele Granger Thayer, Will Duncan and Mrs. Alex Duncan. Note by Wm. Preston Johnston about financial business of the family.

ALS, 8 pp.

1855 Dec. 22. William Preston Johnston, No. 8 Wall St., New York City, to [Susan Preston Christy].

Sends congratulations to Aunt Mag on the birth of Sidney. Mr. Cutler has promised to take Johnston into partnership in the spring. Rosa and Henny are well. Mrs. Griffin and Mr. Fish have not been helpful in introducing them to society or business acquaintances. Mrs. Handy has been kind and attentive. Rosa and the Marshalls are here with Kit Rogers and his wife. Mentions financial business.

ALS, 2 pp.
1856 Feb. 4. William Preston Johnston, 8 Wall St., New York City to [Susan Preston Christy].

Discusses financial business. Wishes he could be of help with the St. Louis matter, but cannot. Provides family news. The Marshall girls are staying with them. "I want you to make out for me, at your leisure, a sketch of Uncle William's life, be particular about dates. Try and enclose me a copy of his speech in the Convention on Native Americanism. Give me dates about all his life and materials for a sketch. A friend of mine is going to publish a book of the Eminent Democrats. . . ." Further discussion of bank drafts.

ALS, 3 pp.


Received Mrs. Christy's two letters yesterday. Discusses financial business. Received a letter from his father dated January 17 at Fort Mason. Mrs. Fremont and her daughter called on us Sunday evening. Relates news of his family and urges his aunt to come to New York to visit them.

ALS, 3 pp.
1856 Feb. 22. William Preston Johnston, 8 Wall St., New York City to [Susan Preston Christy].

Discusses private financial business. Asks what deed Mrs. Christy wishes Henny's release for. Mentions Greer Duncan, Mr. Connelly and Mr. Seibold.

ALS, 2 pp.

1856 Feb. 28. William Preston Johnston, New York City to [Susan Preston Christy].

Discusses personal financial business and asks the aid of Mrs. Christy and Uncle William [Preston]. Hopes Mrs. Christy can pay them a visit as soon as her trial in St. Louis is over.

ALS, 1 p.

1856 May 21. William Preston Johnston, 8 Wall St., New York City to [Susan Preston Christy].


ALS, 1 p.

1856 May 8. William Preston Johnston, New York City to [Susan Preston Christy].

Received his aunt's note and despatch from St. Louis. Cornelia was with them and Lewis Clark has
come on for her and will take her to St. Louis. The article Mrs. Christy sent from the St. Louis Pilot copied from the Chicago Times was written by George Johnson, "my friend, at my instigation." Hopes she can visit. "I might take you back in time for the Cincinnati Convention."

ALS, 2 pp.

1856 May 19. William Preston Johnston, No. 8 Wall St., New York City to [Susan Preston Christy].

Will be coming to Louisville in a week. Ask Wedekemper to have his accounts ready for me and also sister's, and to have "ready all his purchases of real estate and the men who owe me on notes." Gives personal news. Cornelia returns to school today.

ALS, 1 p.

1856 May 24. William Preston Johnston, New York to [Susan Preston Christy].

Plans to leave for Kentucky Wednesday with Rosa, sister and the little baby. Asks her to pay a draft for $300 drawn on her by Johnston in favor of Duncan Sherman & Co.

ALS, 1 p.
1856 June 10. Susan Preston Christy, [Louisville, Ky.]

Two receipts for money drawn by Mrs. Christy on William P. Johnston and endorsed by F. Wedekemper. To the amounts of $500 and $2500.

1 p.

1856 June 30. William Preston Johnston, 9 Nassau Street, New York City to [Susan Preston Christy].

Discusses financial business. Cornelia Dean is staying with them. Understands Uncle William left New York yesterday. Saw little of him during his stay.

ALS, 2 pp.

1856 July 10. William Preston Johnston, 9 Nassau Street, New York City to [Susan Preston Christy].

Hopes to hear from his aunt. Fears that Mrs. John Preston has met some relapse from her convalescence. Provides family news and discusses personal financial business.

ALS, 3 pp.

1856 July 10. William Preston Johnston, 9 Nassau St., New York City to [Susan Preston Christy].

Just received his aunt's letter enclosing a check for $1020. Tell Henny we are sorry to hear she has been sick. Discusses personal finances. Urges her to
come on as soon as possible and they "are using blanket shawls at Che[rry] Valley."

ALS, 1 p.

1856 July 15. William Preston Johnston, 9 Nassau St., New York City to [Susan Preston Christy].

Concerns personal financial business relating to bank drafts.

ALS, 2 pp.

1856 July 15. W[illiam] P[reston] J[ohnston], 9 Nassau St., New York City to [Susan Preston Christy].

Concerns personal financial business. Mentions Greer Duncan. The family is going to Cherry Valley. Has just heard from his father, who has been sick and is weak. Tell Henny.

ALS, 2 pp.

1856 July 19. William Preston Johnston, 9 Nassau Street, New York City to [Susan Preston Christy].

Concerns personal financial business. Wishes his aunt and Henny would come on; his family goes to Cherry Valley the 21st. "I do not know what is going to become of us all, if Politics keep as they seem now to be driving. Fremont will probably carry New York. If he is elected I see nothing but Strife ahead and if he is beaten there seems to be active hostility enough
here against the South to break up the Union." The family is well.

ALS, 2 pp.

1856 Aug. 5. William Preston Johnston, Cherry Valley, New York to [Susan Preston Christy].

Sent books by Adams Express to be presented to Mr. Bushnell for my two little girls. We go to Sharon next Monday.

ALS, 1 p.

1856 Oct. 11. William Preston Johnston, 9 Nassau St., New York City to [Susan Preston Christy].

Asks whether his aunt could lend him some money. "My law business does not quite pay expenses." Hopes his aunt can join Mag Woolley in her visit to New York.

ALS, 1 p.

1856 Nov. 3. William Preston Johnston, 9 Nassau St., New York City to [Susan Preston Christy].

Supposes his aunt will not come to New York until after Mag Woolley's wedding. Mrs. Duncan "has been using all her energies to persuade me to go West as she thinks my extravagance will break me in New York. She wants me to go either to Iowa or Arkansas or Mississippi." Mary Morris is very ill; Henny has been sitting up with her. Wrote to Dunning to borrow
$1000; if he cannot lend it "I want you and Wedekemper
to do it for me, in some way or other. I don't mind
the interest, I must have it to get on."

ALS, 2 pp.

1856 Nov. 8. William Preston Johnston, 9 Nassau St.,
New York City to [Susan Preston Christy].

Will be unable to pay his aunt's two drafts for
$1000 and $1500. Fears he cannot borrow enough to
cover them and "New York was never tighter for Money.
2 & 3 per cent per month are current rates. . . . Con­
gratulate Uncle William for me on B[uchanan] & B[reck­
inridge] Victory." Comments on the election and the
Freesoilers carrying the state.

ALS, 2 pp.

1856 Nov. 14. William Preston Johnston, 9 Nassau St.,
New York City to [Susan Preston Christy].

Discusses two bank drafts drawn on him by his aunt.
Still expects her to visit them. "I am glad that so
much K. N. [Know Nothing] coin has gone into good
Democratic hands. I rejoice exceedingly that Uncle
George has made up his Scott losses.

ALS. 2 pp.
1856 Nov. 17. William Preston Johnston, 9 Nassau St.,
New York City to [Susan Preston Christy].

Expects to be in Louisville about Saturday night.
Mentions Henny and Rosa Johnston, Mag Woolley,
Mrs. Strong and Mr. and Mrs. Bailey.

ALS, 2 pp.

1856 Nov. 19. William Preston Johnston, 9 Nassau St.,
New York City to [Susan Preston Christy].

Received and accepted her draft of $2000 yesterday
and received her letter today. Discusses personal
financial business. Leaves for Louisville Monday and
will probably be bringing his sister.

ALS, 1 p.

1857 March 10. William Preston Johnston, New York City to
[Susan Preston Christy].

Concerns financial arrangements for a loan and
instructions in how to arrange for it. Hopes to leave
soon. Asks whether Ormsby Hite will pay the $150 he
owes.

ALS, 2 pp.

[Susan Preston Christy].

Today Mrs. Christy's bill of exchange from Lexing-
ton for $2000 with R. W. Woolley and others falls due
and Johnston must allow it due to lack of money. We are packing and my books are to be finished today. Monday we will take up the carpets. Tuesday we will start on the furniture. Asks why he has not heard from his aunt since we left and what of our two houses?

Post script of 17 March: Johnston has discovered that Mrs. Christy is in St. Louis and, therefore, could not put $1000 in the Bank in Louisville to cover the protested note.

ALS, 3 pp.

1857 April 20. William Preston Johnston, 12 Livingston Place, New York to [Susan Preston Christy].

Discusses financial arrangements. The weather has delayed the shipping of their things. We go tomorrow to the Hotel and the next night leave for Philadelphia where he has important business. "I have not been able to sell any furniture, and I return with the paraphernalia of the Sultan of Siam... I am in good spirits, as I have made arrangements here which will ensure me a good practice, with a [ -- ] like Bullitt & Fairtherne of Phil. & go to Philadelphia, where I have a similar arrangement to complete my plans with Davis & Birney of that place." Believes they will take Uncle William's Ormsby Row House after all. Mentions the children, Dr. Caldwell, Mrs. Fisher and Mrs. Duncan.

ALS, 3 pp.

Business letter in French.

1857 Oct. 12. Preston [--], Columbus, Hickman County, Kentucky to Dear Mother.

He and his fellow doctors are now beginning to have some leisure. He has been caring for a young lady who suffers with congestive fever, "our most malignant disease." Wishes to visit Louisville, but cannot now do so. Describes a recent riding accident he had. Has not heard from Louisville in two months. "I am anxious to hear how you all stand the hard times. How does Father make his way. I trust comfortably,—But I will know soon." Mentions: Col. Barry, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Taylor, Miss Edmonia, Will Fall and Will Church.

[On p. 4 is a note dated 22 Oct. 1856, forwarding the letter from R. W. S. to Cousin Sunie.]

ALS, 3 pp.


Explains why he has not sent a specimen of the Espirita Santo flower; it will not bloom in the United States. We went to sea on January 17, a few days after Mrs. Preston did. Describes the voyage in detail
including the effects of a strong gale. Tells of the
depth of Mr. Crocker, an officer aboard the boat and
his burial at sea. After sixteen days the boat
arrived at Greytown. The sailors have been there a
month. Describes Greytown as presenting "to an obser-
vant eye a low sand beach and nothing else, since
shanties in the distance give a pleasing background.
The principle productions appear to be Jews and Jamaica
negroes. The principle occupation of the inhabitants
drinking new rum, sleeping in the sand and cursing the
United States (we burnt the place up once). As for
manners they have none, and the town is not old enough
to possess Customs. The principle object of strangers
visiting the place, is to get away so soon as pos-
sible." Asks to be remembered to Miss Henny Johnston
and your several nephews and Miss Mary Johnston.
Expects that Mrs. Christy has heard from Mrs. Preston
and that they get along without trouble.
ALS, 8 pp.

1859 Aug. 4. William Preston Johnston, Louisville, Ky. to
Mrs. Susan P. Christy, Brevoort House, New York City.

Expects that Sister and Sid have arrived by now.
Hopes she will be able to visit the Virginia springs
this summer; "The people are so much more decent there
than at Newport." Rosa and the children are well and
the crops are doing well. "The Election was conducted as usual in the city. Fraud and force both used by the Plugs. Not so much fighting needed as usual, but a great deal of intimidation. Holt beaten about 750 votes in district. Magoffin has 12 or 15,000 majority. Democrats elected in the County & in the 1st & 2nd ward--a gain of 3 in all here. Only two Know Nothing Congressmen elected. No excitement among the City Democrats. A good many Dutch & Irish & nearly all the Jews with the opposition. Our gain is in the Country.
.
I was one of the judges of the election at the two mile House. Everything was fairly done there. I see no money floating around & if you see $20,000, you had better get it & bring it home." Poindexter has another daughter and Pres' house is nearly done.

ALS, 2 pp.


Has postponed writing in the belief that Mrs. Hepburn would be back in Louisville soon. "Since my last letter there has been some change in political affairs. The war has broke out in Kentucky, probably you have seen that in the papers. There was no battle fought yet but they look for one every day now. . . . I think it is necessary that we should arrange our things. . . .
I dont collect we borrow any thing here at any price. I have kept up our credit so far & have kept things together. . . . money matters are a great deal worse here than I can write to you. . . . I was in hopes when your brother Col Preston returned, he would help me fix up things. he was in Lexington & sent me word once or twice that he would come down. But I never saw him . . . he is gone away. . . . There are a good many notes that he agreed to pay for you & still in your name & the people still come to me and want their interest." Believes it would be good if Col. Preston had taken up Mrs. Hepburn's notes and given his instead. "Mr. W[illiam Preston] Johnston and family have gone south also Miss Henny. . . . I got a letter from Mrs. Preston last week requesting me to see Dr Bush if they could give up the house that she wanted to live there this winter. Also Col. John Preston was here a few days ago from the farm he gave up your house on the 15th day of August & rented it to Charles Reicke. . . . Mr. Johnston rented his whole place house, furniture, and everything for $200 a year." Sends regards to Mr. and Mrs. Hepburn and hopes to see her in Louisville.

ALS, 4 pp.

"I have this day sent by Mr. James B. MacLellan the Signal Officer of the steamer City of Petersburg a large, square, white canvass, iron-bound, French travelling trunk, marked in black 'W. P.' to Miss Elizabeth Lovett, Holle's Street, Halifax, subject to your order or mine, to be kept till called for. It contains my despatch box, gun, uniforms etc. for which I have no present use. Retain it in some safe place till the troubles are over.

"I will write to you about my private affairs fully and send the letter for you to Mr. Norton of the firm of James Hewitt & Co., Liverpool, from whom you will get a letter and enclosure, in explanation of my views.

"See that my dear boy is properly educated. Do not let him grow up ignorant & uncultivated. This I mention in case of accident to his mother or myself."

ALS, 1 p.

1865 July 28. Caroline H. Preston, Quebec to [Mrs. Susan Preston Hepburn, New York].

Was glad to hear that her aunt is safely in New York. "We have not heard a word from papa since the second of June, when he was at Shreveport, George Magruder left him there, but I have no hope of seeing
him in Quebec until the last of August, sometimes I think he must have gone to England, however I will write you as soon as I learn anything definite. Mamma received a dispatch yesterday from Cousin Will Johnston he had reached the Clifton house and was expecting Cousin Rosa." Likes Quebec better than Montreal, although it is more expensive. Margaret made her debut at a ball given by the Rifle Brigade. Gives more family news and believes "we will go home." Sends greetings to Cousin Henny.

ALS, 4 pp.


"I am here at home once more working away with some prodigal negroes who have left the sty, and trying to fix up this shattered place. The house is comfortable, the outbuildings dilapidated, the grounds unenclosed and neglected. Sam Giles is back with me refusing to quit me. The children are all well & the people very courteous." The Browns are with Preston's girls and parties keep them cheerful. Asks about his sister's St. Louis property and whether he can help. "Susan Clay looks shrunken and old. She is offered ($90,000) ninety thousand dollars for Ashland & has refused it, but I think she will sell it as she is
anxious to do so."

"Yesterday the drums & fifes were beaten, the Conservatives having carried the City Election against the Radicals. The drum & fife! They should have been heard in front of our bayonets at Shiloh & Chicamauga. . . . Margaret needs a pair of carriage horses. I heard Mrs. Curran Pope wished to sell hers, which were bought by her from Margaret. My wife says they are gentle & would suit her." Asks his sister to find out if the horses are for sale. Also asks whether Uncle and Stoddard have gone South and whether Will Johnston is in Louisville yet. Has a satisfactory note from Duncan Shannon & Co. about the Halifax money.

ALS, 4 pp.


Describes Florida and discusses the weather. Writes about the food, hunting and fishing.

ALS, 6 pp. [In pencil.]


Received Judge Barr's letter enclosing the opinion in Graydon v. Hurd and comments briefly upon the case. "The work here is agreeable, but very steady and
pressing especially as the session is drawing to a close, when parties submit many cases.

ALS, 2 pp.


Sends copies of two old letters of the Preston family recently sent him by Mrs. Brockenbrough Lamb of Richmond, Virginia. Suggests she give them to her son Preston. Is glad that Preston Joyes is now a member of the Society of Colonial Wars.

TLS, 1 p.

1941 April 23. Janie Preston Boulware Lamb, Richmond, Virginia to Mr. J. Adger Stewart, Louisville, Kentucky.

Discusses various articles about the Preston family and copies of Preston manuscripts. Mentions the restoration of the Floyd-Breckinridge burial ground in Jefferson Co., Ky. Describes the present condition of "Smithfield," which she owns jointly with her brother, William Ballard Preston Boulware. Many people visit the house and the graveyard, where Col. William Preston, his wife and his sons Gen. John and Maj. William Preston are buried. Hopes some day to restore "Smithfield" and the graveyard as a shrine. "Solitude," the home of Col. Robert Preston, is now owned by the Virginia Polytechnic Institute. "Whitehorn," another
Preston house, is now owned by the Heath family.

TL, 2 pp.  [Copy.]


TLS, 1 p.


Mentions a portrait owned by Joyes painted by Joyes great-uncle John Morton, who spent most of his artistic life in Mexico. Believes work should be done on Morton's life. Your great-uncle Joseph Venable Morton was also a portrait painter and was very good at it. Wants Joyes to write the Mexican ambassador for a list of Morton's Mexican paintings and an account of his life.

TLS, 2 pp.


Enquires about a duel between George Rogers Clark Floyd and Cassius Garrard in 1816.

TLS, 1 p.
1963 Nov. 19. [Preston Pope Joyes, Louisville, Ky.] to
Miss Anna M. Cartlidge, Baltimore, Maryland.
Writes that he is searching through his papers
for references to a duel fought by G. R. C. Floyd.
TL, 1 p. [Carbon copy.]

1963 Nov. 28. Anna M. Cartlidge, Baltimore, Md. to
[Preston Pope] Joyes, [Louisville, Ky.]
Enquires about the Floyd family for a book she is
writing.
TLS, 1 p.

to Mr. Preston Pope Joyes, Louisville, Ky.
Discusses Miss Anna Cartlidge and her work and the
location of a diary of Richard C. Anderson.
TLS, 1 p.

1963 Dec. 24. [Preston Pope Joyes, Louisville, Ky.] to
Miss Anna M. Cartlidge, Baltimore, Md.
Informs Miss Cartlidge of the Richard Clough
Anderson diary and that he has not found anything on
the Floyd-Garrard duel.
TL, 1 p. [Carbon copy.]

Thanks her cousin, Mrs. Pope, for her beautiful jewels, which she has worn with great pleasure. Will miss Mrs. Pope, especially since she must leave due to Cousin Caroline's health. Sends her best to Rachel.

ALS, 2 pp.

n.d. George Hancock to Mrs. [Maria Preston] Pope, [Louisville, Ky.].

Finds it impossible to come down today as expected, but will come for her tomorrow. Dr. Croghan has to leave town today on business and Hancock must remain with his mother. Dr. Skinner said he would ride up today to see Hancock's mother.

ANS, 1 p.

n.d. Susan [Preston Christy Hepburn], Rue Fronchet, Paris, France to [Susan Preston Rogers (Mrs. John Watson Barr), Louisville, Ky.].

Wrote to Mr. Barr before she left New York but scarcely knows what she wrote "for the riot was all around us outside, and my packing and trunks inside and I wrote a line--packed a trunk and ran to the window to see the fires & fights alternately as I wrote you." Told Mr. Barr she had drawn on him for the $500 he had for her and for $200 more that she wanted him to
collect and pay to Rich and that when he had any of her money to send $200 more to Mrs. Kyle to pay her bills. Also said if he could raise $300 or $500 on sales to send it to her in Paris since it will be 2-1/2 months before Mr. Hepburn can get any more from San Francisco. Sends her Paris address. Plans to remain at least three months since they have comfortable, cheap apartments centrally located. "Henry our former courier is our only servant and is invaluable, he cleans the boots, cleans the dining room & parlour, cooks our breakfast superbly, waits on the table & answers the bell, goes to market & goes our messages & on grande occasions when we can afford a grand equipage goes as footman." Describes other domestic arrangements and the cost of the rooms and servants. Feels that Mr. Hepburn will recover sooner in Paris than in California; he is trying the Vichy waters and if they work, he will go to Vichy and leave the rest in Paris with Sidney. The Emperor's physician thinks the Vichy waters are better than any other remedy for the liver. Sid and Henny are both well. Gives further financial instructions for Mr. Barr. They have met some friends and are not lonely. "Paris is much improved & beautified since I last saw it." Henny enjoyed England where they saw the Tower, Greenwich Hospital, the principal streets, Westminster Abbey, St. Paul's, etc. "I am
going to have my dear mother's portrait copied & made a likeness if possible. I am so much obliged to sister for it & to you for sending it."

ALS, 8 pp.


Apologizes for not sending a rocking chair earlier, but found very few in town. The one she sends cost $25. Wishes they were coming to visit, but her husband finds it impossible. Asks to be remembered to Mrs. Caroline Preston. Sends regards to her cousin Josephine; mentions her child Frank.

ALS, 1 p.


Upon arriving in Frankfort found the Louisville incorporation bill was in progress before the house. The committee had excluded from the proposed town limits all our land except the lots of the enlargement. Felt that a slight opposition would defeat the bill from the reluctance of the Legislature to erect corporations & sought the aid of several influential legislators & presented a counter petition to which he added Mrs. Preston's name. Neither of the town members seemed concerned for the bill & Mr. White is opposed
to it. Believes the bill will not pass, but you must expect an annual contest on the subject. Discusses arrangements to sell wood from their land. Mentions Mr. Anderson and Mr. Whiteley.

ALS, 2 pp.

18— June 18. Dr. Tompkins, [Louisville, Ky.] to Mrs. Maria Preston Pope, Louisville, [Ky.].

Introduces Mrs. Pierpont and Mrs. Roy now staying at the Louisville Hotel to Mrs. Pope.

ANS, 1 p.


Sends this letter by Mr. Tilden. Urges Mrs. Pope to write to her. It is very dreary at Jefferson Barracks, but she and Caroline while away their time pleasantly. Mentions: Mr. Turner of the Artillery, Mr. Crosman, Capt. Wharton, Josephine [Preston], Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Atkinson, Mrs. Bullitt, Mrs. Davenport, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Lea, Mr. Cuddy, Mr. Bullen and Miss Cauffman.

ALS, 3 pp.


1792 April 4. Deed, Zachary Taylor, Fayette County, Kentucky District, sells to James Coleman, Orange Co., Virginia, 250 acres, part of a survey made by
Hancock Taylor & Co. known by the name of Lees big Spring, Woodford Co. for £100. Witnessed by Samuel Brookings, Elijah Harrod, James Carlile, Simeon Buford and Elizabeth Lee.

2 pp.


2 pp.


3 pp.


3 pp.
1811 Aug. 3. Agreement of Francis Preston to relinquish claim to the Briar Patch property adjoining Louisville, Ky., according to the arbitration decision of John Wickham, William Wirt, George K. Taylor, Daniel Call and George Hay. The property, left to Francis Preston in the will of his father, Col. William Preston, was forfeited by the provisions of that will to William Preston, Jr. Attested by Worden Pope, Clerk of Jefferson County, Kentucky, 18 Dec. 1823.

2 pp.

1811 Nov. 28. Memorandum of agreement between Francis and William Preston relating to 1000 acres of land surveyed by Hancock Taylor for William Preston, deceased, father of Francis and William Preston. Francis and his brother John Preston to inherit this land provided they accede to certain provisions, if not the land to go to William Preston and James P. Preston. Francis purchased John's share and William purchased James P. Preston's share. The land, lying next to Louisville, Ky., is here divided and the agreement is witnessed by Dr. John Floyd and William P. Anderson.

4 pp.


1 p.

3 pp.

3 pp.

5 pp.

Excellent impression of the Seal of Jefferson County on page 3.

3 pp.

1826 Dec. 30. Deed, George Hancock and Eliza his wife, formerly Eliza Croghan of Virginia, sell to Caroline Preston of Louisville, Ky. 700 acres on Cumberland River for $5000. The land originally patented by William Croghan, 29 Nov. 1794.

2 pp.


5 pp.

1830 Sept. 15. Deed, Eliza Collins and James Chew Johnston of Louisville sell to Caroline H. Preston land in Preston's enlargement.

3 pp.

1831 March 7. Francis Preston conveys certain lots in Louisville to the heirs of William Preston.

1 p.
1831 Oct. 4. Deed, Jason and Josephine Rogers of Louis­
ville for $1050 sell to Caroline H. Preston a tract in
Louisville.
2 pp.

1834 March 1. Deed, Albert S. Johnston and wife, Abram R.
Woolley and wife, Maria P. Pope, Jason Rogers and wife
to Caroline H. Preston.
3 pp.

1845 July 15. Deed, William Preston and Margaret Wick­
liffe, his wife, sell to Susan Preston Christy land in
Louisville.
1 p.

4 pp.

1866 Nov. 7. Deed, George Hancock and John Preston,
trustees of the estate of William Preston, William and
Margaret Wickliffe Preston to John W. Barr and Susan
Rogers, his wife.
4 pp.

n.d. Notes on early grants of land in Jefferson County,
Kentucky--John Connolly, William Preston, Zachary
Taylor, Arthur Campbell, Alexander S. Dandridge and
James McCorkle grants.
2 pp.
n.d. A list of property belonging to Jason Rogers' heirs.
4 pp. and map.
LEGAL PAPERS

[1793?] Petition of Abram Trigg to the House of Representatives of the United States.

Protesting the election of Francis Preston to Congress.

AD, 4 pp.


Protesting the election of Francis Preston to Congress.

6 pp.


Concerning his election campaign and his difficulties with Alexander Smyth.

3 pp.

ADS, 2 pp.


ADS, 3 pp.

1811 Nov. 28. Edward Hempstead, administrator of the estate of the late Meriwether Lewis of St. Louis sells certain Missouri lands to William Preston.

3 pp.

1814 Aug. 22. Title transferred by Littleton Waller Tazewell of Norfolk, Va. to William Preston to a mulatto slave, Joe, for $400.

ADS, 1 p.

1820 Jan. 12. Newspaper clipping containing a letter of John Preston, Treasurer of Virginia, concerning the shortages in the state treasury.
Mentions George Strother, deceased, great-grandson John
Strother Griffin, great-granddaughter Eliza Griffin,
brother Samuel Kennerly of Botetourt Co., Va., nephew
Lockhart Kennerly, son James Lockhart, daughter
Margaret Hancock.
ADS, 2 pp.

1827 Sept. 24. Deposition of Letitia Floyd in the case of
Francis Preston vs. Caroline H. Preston, 7th Circuit
Court of the United States for the District of Kentucky
held in Frankfort. Concerns Maj. William Preston's
affairs at the time of his death in 1821.
3 pp.

1847 April 1. Newspaper clippings of letters of A. R.
Woolley and W. Preston.
The letters concern a disturbance between Col.
Woolley and Mr. Preston at the Galt House in Louisville
regarding a trust set up for Col. Woolley's son and
managed by Preston.

n.d. Note of deficiencies of Returns from the 3d division,
Montgomery, Greenbrier and Kanawa counties, Virginia.
Signed J. B. Dandridge.
2 pp.
MILITARY PAPERS


2 pp.


3 pp.


1 p.


1 p.

1798 April 10. [Printed] An Act, To provide an additional armament for the further protection of the trade of the United States; and for other purposes. Endorsed on p. 3, "not yet agreed to Apr. 20th."

3 pp.

3 pp.


1 p.

1809 April 29. Printed letter, William Eustis, Secretary Department of War to the Governor of Virginia. The President has directed that the detachment of 10,198 militia men is no longer required.

1 p.


1 p.

1810 April 20. Printed letter of John Rhea, of Tennessee, to his constituents. Signed by Rhea.

Concerns activities in Washington with emphasis on the difficulties with Great Britain and military and naval considerations.

3 pp.
CERTIFICATES, GRANTS, ETC.


DS, 1 p.


ADS, 1 p.


DS, 1 p.


DS, 1 p.

Lt. Col. Thomas Butler.

ADS, 1 p.

1798 Nov. 17. Appointment of William Preston as Commissioner of the U. S. 3rd Division, State of Virginia. Signed John Adams, President of the United States and Timothy Pickering, Secretary of State. [In separate folder.]

DS, 1 p.


DS, 1 p.
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

WILLIAM PRESTON ANDERSON, was the son of William Anderson and Margaret (Patton) Buchanan, daughter of Col. James Patton of Augusta County, Virginia. Anderson's mother was first married in 1749 to Col. John Buchanan, who died in 1769. Sometime after March 1773, the widow Buchanan married William Anderson and they were living in Botetourt County in 1777. The Anderson's moved to Kentucky around 1796. The two sons of this marriage (both mentioned in the Preston papers) were Patton Anderson and William Preston Anderson. William P. Anderson married in 1814 Margaret Adair (1794- ), a daughter of Governor John Adair of Kentucky. Later Anderson settled in Tennessee and was living near Nashville in 1824.

THOMAS HART BENTON (1782-1858), born at Harts Mill, North Carolina on 14 March 1782, attended Chapel Hill College (now the University of North Carolina) and the law school at the College of William and Mary. Admitted to the bar in Nashville, Tennessee in 1806, he began practice in Franklin, Tennessee and served in the senate of that state (1809-1811) and saw military service in the War of 1812 as lieutenant colonel of the 39th United States Infantry from 1813 to 1815. He moved to St. Louis, where he edited the Missouri Enquirer and was elected to the U. S. Senate, serving from 10 August 1821 until 3 March 1851. He was elected to the United States House of Representatives in March 1853, where he served until March 1855. Benton married Eliza McDowell, daughter of Col. James McDowell and Sarah Preston, and granddaughter of Col. William Preston of Virginia. Senator Benton died in Washington on 10 April 1858.

HUGH BRADY (1768-1851) was born in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania on 27 July 1768. He served in the Army of the United States, beginning as an ensign in March 1792 and was attached to the Fourth Sublegion in September of that year. Brady served in Wayne's army in the northwest after the defeat of General St. Clair. He resigned 20 October 1795, but returned as a captain of the 10th Infantry on 8 January 1799 and was honorably discharged 15 June 1800. Returning to service again as a colonel of the 22nd Infantry in July 1812, he transferred to the 2nd Infantry in May 1815 and became a brevet brigadier general in 1822 and a major general in 1848. Brady died 15 April 1851 in Detroit, Michigan.


JAMES BRECKINRIDGE (1763-1833), son of Robert Breckinridge and Letitia Preston, who was a sister of Col. William Preston, was born near Fincastle, Botetourt County, Virginia, 7 March 1763. He served in Col. Preston's rifle regiment under Gen. Nathaniel Greene in the
Revolution. He attended Washington College and graduated from the College of William and Mary in 1785. He became a lawyer and practiced in Fincastle. James Breckinridge served in the Virginia House of Delegates several times between 1789 and 1824. He was interested in the construction of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal and assisted Thomas Jefferson in the founding of the University of Virginia. He was a brigadier general in the War of 1812. From March 1809 until March 1817, James Breckinridge was a Federalist Congressman in the United States House of Representatives. He married on 1 January 1791, Ann Selden, daughter of Col. Cary Selden (1723-ca. 1792) and his wife Elizabeth Jennings (-1807) of near Hampton, Virginia. He died at his home "Grove Hill," in Botetourt County, Virginia, 13 May 1833.

[Biographical Directory of the American Congress (Washington, 1928), p. 732; Orlando Brown, Memoranda of the Preston Family (Frankfort, Ky., 1842), p. 4; Mary Selden Kennedy, Seldens of Virginia and Allied Families (New York, 1911), I, pp. 94-96.]

JOHN BRECKINRIDGE (1760-1806), was born 2 December 1760 near Staunton, Virginia, the son of Robert Breckinridge and his second wife Letitia Preston, a sister of Col. William Preston. Breckinridge received his education at Augusta Academy and the College of William and Mary. He served in the House of Burgesses and as a subaltern in
the Virginia militia during the Revolution. After the war, he studied law and began practice in Charlottesville. Breckinridge moved to Kentucky in 1793, settling near Lexington, where he practiced law. He became attorney general of Kentucky in 1795 and continued in this post until November 1797. From 1798 until 1800 he served in the Kentucky House of Representatives and was instrumental in the adoption of the Kentucky Resolutions. He was in the United States Senate from March 1801 until August 7, 1805, when he was appointed Attorney General of the United States by Thomas Jefferson. He held this office until his death at "Cabell's Dale," his Kentucky home, 14 December 1806.


JOSEPH CABELL BRECKINRIDGE (1788-1823) was born in Albemarle County, Virginia, 24 July 1788, the son of John Breckinridge (1760-1806) and his wife Mary Hopkins Cabell. He attended the College of William and Mary and graduated from Princeton in 1810. During the War of 1812, Breckinridge was a major. He later served in the Kentucky House of Representatives and as Speaker of that body, and was Secretary of State for Kentucky at the time of his death in
MARY HOPKINS CABELL BRECKINRIDGE (1769-1858), born 22 February 1769 in Buckingham County, Virginia, was the daughter of Col. Joseph Cabell and his wife Mary Hopkins. She married 28 June 1785 at her parents' home, John Breckinridge (1760-1806) and together they lived at "The Glebe" in Albemarle County, Virginia. The Breckinridges moved to Fayette County, Kentucky in 1793, where they lived at "Cabell's Dale." Mary H. Breckinridge died at the home of her son Rev. William Lewis Breckinridge in Louisville, Kentucky, 26 March 1858.

ROBERT BRECKINRIDGE (1754-1833) was the son of Robert Breckinridge and his first wife, Sarah Poage, of Augusta County, Virginia. He served as an officer in the Revolution and was captured at Charleston, South Carolina. He settled in Kentucky in 1785 near Louisville where both he and his brother Alexander were commissioners for the allotment of bounty lands to the soldiers in the expedition under George Rogers Clark against Vincennes and Kaskaskia. Robert Breckinridge was active in public affairs in Kentucky and accumulated a sizable estate. He was connected
to the Preston family through his father's second wife, Letitia Preston, sister of Col. William Preston. He died a bachelor on 11 September 1833 in Jefferson County, Kentucky.


JOHN BROWN (1757-1837), son of Rev. John Brown and Margaret Preston, was born in Staunton, Virginia on 12 September 1757. He attended Washington College and Princeton, and graduated from the College of William and Mary. In 1782, Brown was admitted to the bar and began his practice in Frankfort, Kentucky. He served in the Virginia Senate from Kentucky from 1784 until 1788. In 1787 and 1788 he was a member of the Continental Congress from the district of Kentucky. He served in the United States House of Representatives from Virginia beginning in March 1789 until Kentucky became a state in June 1792, when he was elected to the United States Senate from Kentucky, where he served from 18 June 1792 until 3 March 1805. He was chosen President pro tempore of the Senate on 17 October 1803 and 23 January 1804. After his Senate service he reopened his law practice in Frankfort, where he died on 29 August 1837.
SAMUEL BROWN (1769-1830), son of Rev. John Brown and Margaret Preston, was born in Rockbridge County, Virginia on 30 January 1769. He graduated from Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania in 1789 and studied medicine with his brother-in-law Dr. Alexander Humphreys, at Staunton and was later a private pupil of Dr. Benjamin Rush. He spent two years at the University of Edinburgh and a short time at the University of Aberdeen, where he took his M.D. degree. Brown moved to Lexington, Kentucky in 1797 and to New Orleans in 1806. From 1819 to 1825, he served on the faculty of the Transylvania University Medical School, later moving to Alabama. He died near Huntsville on 12 January 1830.

SAMUEL H. BULLEN is first recorded as a co-proprietor of the Western Courier, a Louisville newspaper, which became the Emporium and Commercial Advertiser in 1821. He established the Morning Post, a semi-weekly newspaper, which Bullen sold in 1824. Bullen married Martha Field, daughter of Reubin Field, on 18 October 1825 in Louisville. He was a member of the Unitarian Church in
Louisville during James Freeman Clarke's ministry there. In 1832 Bullen was a turner and lived on Market Street. By 1843 he was teller of the Bank of Kentucky, becoming cashier by 1850, when he lived over the bank on Main Street between Second and Third Streets. He had apparently retired from the bank by 1865 and was rooming on west Jefferson Street. In 1870 Bullen is listed as janitor of the City Building and was boarding at the Spurrier House. He must have died around 1871, as his name disappears from the city directory after 1870.

[J. Stoddard Johnston, Memorial History of Louisville (Chicago, 1896), II, pp. 58, 61, 253; Louisville City Directories, 1832, 1836, 1843-44, 1844-45, 1848, 1850, 1855-56, 1859, 1865-66, 1870; Jefferson County, Kentucky, Marriage Book 1, p. 167.]

CUTHBERT BULLITT (1810-1906) was born in Louisville, Kentucky, 16 January 1810, the son of Cuthbert Bullitt (1780-1854) and his wife Ann Neville. He was educated at St. Thomas College in Bardstown, Kentucky and was a businessman in New Orleans before the Civil War. Cuthbert Bullitt married Eliza White, daughter of Col. Maunsel White of New Orleans, and died in Louisville on 4 August 1906.

[Emily Montague Bullitt, Genealogies of Emily Montague Bullitt, Louisville, Kentucky. Typescript, 2 vols. The Filson Club, Louisville, Kentucky;

JOSEPH H. BUSH (1794-1865), born in Frankfort, Kentucky, was the son of Philip and Elizabeth Bush. Under Henry Clay's patronage, he was sent to Philadelphia to study painting under Thomas Sully. He specialized in portraits and painted in New Orleans, Vicksburg, Louisville, and Lexington. His portrait of Zachary Taylor hangs in the White House. He also painted religious subjects. Bush died in Lexington, Kentucky on 11 January 1865.


THOMAS BUTLER (1754-1805) was born in Pennsylvania in 1754. Butler stopped his study of law in 1776 to join the army and was commissioned as first lieutenant in the 2nd Pennsylvania Battalion in that year. He fought at Brandywine and Monmouth with distinction and retired with the rank of captain in January 1781. He re-entered service as a major in 1791 in command of a battalion from Carlisle, Pennsylvania in Gibson's regiment under General Arthur St. Clair and was wounded on 4 November 1791 at St. Clair's defeat. Subsequently, Butler was major of infantry in 1792 and assigned to the Fourth Sub-legion, becoming lieutenant-colonel commanding the Fourth Infantry on 1 July 1792. On
1 April 1802 he became colonel of the 2nd Infantry. In 1797 Butler was ordered to expel settlers from Indian lands in Tennessee and negotiated several treaties with the Indians in the area. He died in New Orleans on 7 September 1805.

[James Grant Wilson and John Fiske, eds., Appleton's Cyclopaedia of American Biography (New York, 1887), I, pp. 480-481; Francis B. Heitman, Historical Register of the United States Army (Washington, 1903), I, p. 270.]

EDWARD CODRINGTON CARRINGTON (1790-1855), son of Judge Paul Carrington, Jr. (1764-1816) and his wife Mildred Howell Coles (1769-1840), was born in Halifax County, Virginia on 4 January 1790. Carrington served as second lieutenant in the 1st U. S. Light Dragoons from 12 October 1812 and as captain of the 3rd U. S. Rifle Corps from 17 March 1814 until his discharge on 15 June 1815. He served in the Virginia House of Delegates from Halifax County in 1819-1820 and from Botetourt County in 1850-51. He married on 10 May 1820 in Abingdon, Virginia, Elizabeth Henry Preston (1796-1877), daughter of General Francis Preston. The Carringtons lived first in Halifax County, later moving to Botetourt County. Carrington was usually referred to as General Carrington. He died in Botetourt County on 7 March 1855 and is buried at the Fincastle Presbyterian Church.

[Francis B. Heitman, Historical Register of the United States Army (Washington, 1903), I, p. 286;

JULIA HANCOCK CLARK (-1820) was a sister of Caroline Hancock (1785-1847), who married Major William Preston (1770-1821). Julia Hancock was married at Fincastle, Virginia on 5 January 1808, to William Clark (1770-1838), the famous partner of Meriwether Lewis and younger brother of General George Rogers Clark. Julia Hancock Clark died 27 June 1820.


WILLIAM CLARK (1770-1838) was born in Caroline County, Virginia 1 August 1770, the son of John Clark and his wife Ann Rogers. His family removed to Jefferson County, Kentucky in 1785, where he took part in expeditions against the Indians. He entered regular military service in 1792 and served under Gen. Anthony Wayne at Fallen Timbers. He left the army in 1796. In 1803 he joined with Meriwether Lewis to explore the newly acquired Louisiana Purchase territory for the United States government. The
completion of this exploration in 1806 led to Clark's appointment as a brigadier general of the militia of Louisiana Territory and superintendent of Indian affairs at St. Louis, where he lived for the rest of his life. His first wife, Julia Hancock, was a sister of the wife of Major William Preston (1770-1821). Clark died in St. Louis on 1 September 1838.


JAMES FREEMAN CLARKE (1810-1888), born in Hanover, New Hampshire, Clarke graduated from Harvard in 1829 and from the Harvard Divinity School in 1833. Between 1833 and 1840, he was the Unitarian minister in Louisville, Kentucky, where he edited the Western Messenger. He returned to New England from Louisville and served as minister at the Church of the Disciples in Boston from 1841 through 1850 and again from 1854 until his death. He was interested in woman suffrage, temperance, and abolition of slavery. He achieved fame as a Transcendentalist.

THOMAS HUMPHREY CUSHING (1755-1822) of Massachusetts served as sergeant of the 6th Continental Infantry, January to December 1776, rising through successive grades during the Revolution. He was a captain in the 2nd Infantry in 1791 and was assigned to the Second Sublegion 4 September 1792 and became a major in the First Sublegion 3 March 1793. From 27 February 1797 until 22 May 1798 he was inspector of the army and became a lieutenant colonel in 1802 rising ultimately to brigadier general in 1812. He was honorably discharged on 15 June 1815 and in 1816 was appointed collector of customs in New London, Connecticut, where he died 19 October 1822.

[Francis B. Heitman, Historical Register of the United States Army (Washington, 1903), I, p. 348; James Grant Wilson and John Fiske, eds., Appleton's Cyclopaedia of American Biography (New York, 1887), II, p. 40.]

DENNIS FITZHUGH (1775-1822), was the son of John Fitzhugh of Caroline County, Virginia. He removed to Jefferson County, Kentucky, where he married, as her third husband, on 13 May 1805, Frances Clark Thruston (1773-1825), sister of Gen. George Rogers Clark. He was a successful businessman in Louisville and left two children at his death.

[Katherine G. Healy, "Calendar of Early Jefferson County, Kentucky, Wills." The Filson Club History Quarterly, Vol. 6, p. 187; Diary of General Jonathan Clark,
GEORGE ROGERS CLARK FLOYD (1781-1821), son of Col. John Floyd (ca. 1750-1783) and his second wife Jane Buchanan, was a brother of Governor John Floyd of Virginia. G. R. C. Floyd married first 21 September 1806, Maria Maupin, and second 16 April 1810, Sarah Fontaine. He served as a captain in the 7th Infantry Regiment in 1808 rising to major of the 4th Infantry in 1810, lieutenant colonel of the 7th Infantry in August 1812 and resigned 30 April 1813. He was a commander in the 4th United States Infantry at the Battle of Tippecanoe under Gen. William Henry Harrison and a member of Captain Joyes Company, 13th Regiment Kentucky Militia from 10 November 1814 to 10 May 1815. Floyd fought a duel with Cassius Garrard in April 1816 which resulted in litigation. He was a member of Louisville Chapter No. 5 of the Masons. He died in Kentucky 5 June 1823 and is buried in the Floyd-Breckinridge Graveyard near Louisville.

[Tombstone inscription of G. R. C. Floyd; Anna Margaret Cartlidge, Children and Grandchildren of William and Abadiah (Davis) Floyd (n.p., 1966), unpaged; N. J. Floyd, Biographical Genealogies of the Virginia-Kentucky Floyd Families (Baltimore, 1912), p. 75; Francis B. Heitman, Historical Register of the U. S. Army (Washington,
JOHN FLOYD (1783-1837), born at Floyd's Station, Kentucky (near Louisville) on 24 April 1783, was a son of John Floyd, Kentucky pioneer, surveyor, and Indian fighter and his wife Jane Buchanan, who married secondly, Alexander Breckinridge. Floyd attended Dickinson College and graduated from the medical school of the University of Pennsylvania in 1806. He settled in Lexington, Virginia but soon moved to Christiansburg in Montgomery County, Virginia. He served as a major in the Virginia militia from 1807 through 1812 and as a surgeon in the War of 1812; later he was a brigadier general of the Virginia militia. A member of the Virginia House of Delegates in 1814 and 1815, he was elected to the United States House of Representatives, serving from March 1817 until March 1829. From 1830 through 1834, John Floyd was Governor of Virginia. He married Letitia Preston, fifth daughter of Col. William Preston. Governor Floyd died near Sweetsprings, Monroe County, Virginia on 17 August 1837.
EDMUND PENDLETON GAINES (1777-1849) was born in Culpeper County, Virginia on 20 March 1777, the son of James Gaines and his wife Susannah Strother. Edmund P. Gaines was first cousin once removed of Caroline H. Preston, wife of Major William Preston, through the Strother family. Gaines grew up in North Carolina and Tennessee and began his military career at the age of eighteen achieving the rank of captain by 1807. When the War of 1812 began, Gaines became a major and quickly advanced in rank, becoming a colonel in 1813. His regiment covered the American retreat at the Battle of Chrysler's Field on the Canadian side of the St. Lawrence River in 1813, where James Patton Preston was wounded. Gaines became adjutant-general and was given command of Fort Erie, which he successfully defended, and was honored for his service with the rank of brigadier-general and a gold medal from Congress. He served in the Creek and Seminole Wars and in the Black Hawk War, between 1817 and 1835, during which period an intense rivalry developed between Gaines and Winfield Scott. Gaines submitted a report on the defense of the frontier in 1838 and developed his defense plan in a memorial to Congress in 1840. Gaines served in the Mexican War as head of the eastern department of the army. Throughout his career he was involved in controversy with the War Department and General Scott. Gaines died of cholera in New Orleans on 6 June 1849.
WILLIAM CLARK PRESTON GRIFFIN (1810-1851), second son of John Caswell Griffin and his wife Mary Hancock, was born 25 February 1810. Griffin was commissioned a lieutenant in the United States Navy in 1838. In 1839 he was assigned to the Grampus; he was with the Brazil Squadron in 1846 and with the Home Squadron in 1847. Griffin was ordered to the New York Receiving Ship in December 1847 and died in New York on 4 December 1851.

FELIX GRUNDY (1777-1840) was born in Berkeley County, Virginia, 11 September 1777. Grundy's family moved to Brownsville, Pennsylvania and in 1780 went to Kentucky. He was educated at Bardstown, and began law practice there in 1797. He was a member of the Kentucky Constitutional Convention of 1799 and a member of the Kentucky House of Representatives from 1800 through 1805. In 1806 he became a judge of the Kentucky Supreme Court and in 1807 became
chief justice of the state. In 1807 he moved to Nashville, Tennessee, where he was elected to the United States Congress serving from March 1811 until 1814. In Congress he was a war hawk. He served in the Tennessee legislature from 1815 to 1819 and in 1820 he helped settle the boundary line between Kentucky and Tennessee. Grundy served in the United States Senate from October 1829 until July 1838, when he became Attorney General of the United States, serving until December 1839. He returned to the Senate in December 1839 and died in office at Nashville on 19 December 1840.


JOHN FRANCIS HAMTRAMCK (1757-1803) was born in Canada. He served in Dubois's New York regiment during the Revolution, becoming a major of infantry on 29 September 1789. On 18 February 1793 he was commissioned a lieutenant colonel in command of the First Sublegion and commanded the left wing of Anthony Wayne's army. He won distinction in the victory on the Miami River on 20 August 1794. Hamtramck was commissioned colonel in 1802. He died in Detroit, Michigan on 11 April 1803.

[James Grant Wilson and John Fiske, eds., Appleton's Cyclopaedia of American Biography (New York, 1887), III, p. 70.]
GEORGE HANCOCK (1754-1820) was born in Fincastle, Botetourt County, Virginia, 13 June 1754. He was a colonel of infantry in the Virginia Continental Line during the Revolution and was a member of the staff of Count Pulaski. Hancock was taken prisoner at Savannah and was paroled and sent back to Virginia. In 1785, he became colonel of the Botetourt County Militia. He practiced law in Fincastle and was elected to the United States House of Representatives, serving from March, 1793 to March, 1797. Hancock spent his later years managing "Fotheringay," his estate in Botetourt County, where he died 18 July 1820. George Hancock married Margaret Strother (1763-1834), daughter of George Strother and Mary Kennerly. Hancock was the father of Caroline Hancock Preston, wife of Major William Preston.


GEORGE HANCOCK (1798-1875), born 8 April 1798 in Botetourt County, Virginia, was the youngest child of George Hancock (1754-1820) and his wife Margaret Strother. He graduated from Yale in 1818. Hancock served in the Virginia House of Delegates from Montgomery County in 1822-23 and afterwards removed to Jefferson County,
Kentucky. George Hancock, Jr. died in Louisville on 27 August 1875.


NATHANIEL HART (1770-1844) was born 30 September 1770 in Caswell County, North Carolina, the son of Nathaniel and Sarah Hart. He removed to Kentucky and built "Spring Hill," in Woodford County. On 7 October 1797, Hart married Susanna Preston (1772- ), a daughter of Col. William Preston. He died 7 February 1844 at "Spring Hill," leaving several children.


EDWARD DORSEY HOBBS (1810-1888), born in Jefferson County, Kentucky, he served as Louisville city engineer from 1830 to 1835 and established the first real estate agency in the city. He was an agent for the Preston family in their land dealings in Jefferson County. He moved to a farm near Anchorage, Jefferson County, Kentucky in 1840 and was elected to the Kentucky Legislature in 1843, serving
three terms and was elected to the Kentucky Senate in 1847. From 1855 to 1867, he was president of the Louisville and Frankfort Railroad Company. He retired to his farm in 1867.

[J. M. Armstrong & Co., The Biographical Encyclopaedia of Kentucky (Cincinnati, 1878), pp. 384, 387.]

BENJAMIN HOWARD (1760-1814) was the only son of John Howard and his wife Mary Preston, who was a sister of Col. William Preston. Shortly before the Revolution, the Howards moved to Boonesborough, Kentucky. Howard was a lawyer and served in the Kentucky Legislature in 1801-02. He served in the United States House of Representatives from 1807 until 1810, when he was appointed Governor of the District of Louisiana, which position he held until 1812. On 12 March 1813, he was appointed a brigadier general in the United States Army and given command of the Eighth Military Department, including lands west of the Mississippi River. He married Mary Armistead Mason, daughter of Stevens Thomson Mason of Virginia, who died in Lexington, Kentucky, 21 March 1813. Benjamin Howard died in St. Louis 18 September 1814 and is buried in Bellefontaine Cemetery there.

[Biographical Directory of the American Congress (Washington, 1928), p. 1118; Orlando Brown, Memoranda of the Preston Family (Frankfort, Ky., 1842), p. 10;
THOMAS HUNT (1730-1808), of Massachusetts. Served during the American Revolution from Lexington and Concord in 1775 through Yorktown in 1781. He transferred to the Third Massachusetts in January 1783 and was in Jackson's continental regiment from November 1783 until June 1784. He was a captain in the Second United States Infantry in March 1791 and was assigned to the Second Sublegion on 4 September 1792 and became a major 18 February 1793. In November 1796, Hunt was assigned to the First U. S. Infantry and named lieutenant colonel 1 April 1802, becoming colonel 11 April 1803. He died 18 August 1808.

[Francis B. Heitman, Historical Register of the U. S. Army (Washington, 1903), I, p. 557.]

ALBERT SIDNEY JOHNSTON (1803-1862) was born in Washington, Mason County, Kentucky, 2 February 1803. He graduated from West Point in 1826 and served in the Black Hawk War. Due to the illness of his wife, Johnston resigned his commission in 1834. He moved to Texas and became commander of the Texan Army in 1837 and from 1838 to 1840 was secretary of war for the Republic of Texas. He was a colonel in the United States Army during the Mexican War and later was in command of the Department of Texas.
Johnston commanded the punitive expedition against the Mormons from 1858 until 1860. When the Civil War began, Johnston was given the rank of general in the Confederate Army and placed in charge of the Western Department. General Johnston was killed at Shiloh on 6 April 1862. Johnston's first wife was Henrietta Preston, daughter of Major William Preston.


WILLIAM PRESTON JOHNSTON (1831-1899), was the eldest child of Albert Sidney Johnston (1803-1862) and his first wife, Henrietta Preston (1803-1835), and grandson of Major William Preston. He was born in Louisville, Kentucky on 5 January 1831. After the death of his mother, Johnston was reared by his aunt, Josephine Preston Rogers, and later by his uncle, General William Preston. Johnston graduated from Yale and received his law degree from the University of Louisville. In 1861, William Preston Johnston became a major in the Second Kentucky Regiment, Confederate States Army, later transferring to the First Kentucky Regiment as a lieutenant-colonel. In May, 1862, he became a military aide to President Jefferson Davis and was present at
Seven Pines, Cold Harbor, Petersburg and other engagements. Johnston was captured with Jefferson Davis in Georgia following the surrender of Joseph E. Johnston and was imprisoned at Fort Delaware for several months. After a year's exile in Canada, he returned to Louisville. In 1867 he was named professor of history and English literature at Washington College (now Washington and Lee University). He succeeded to the presidency of Louisiana State University in 1880 and became the first President of Tulane University in 1884, where he remained until his death in 1899. He was the author of several books of history and poetry.


HENRY KNOX (1750-1806) was born on 25 July 1750 in Boston, Massachusetts, of poor parents. Following a limited education, he established himself as a bookseller in Boston with success. From 1772 until mid-1775, Knox served as second in command of the Boston Grenadier Corps. He joined the American army in June 1775 and was made colonel in charge of artillery in Washington's army in November, 1775. Knox proved himself resourceful and became very close to Washington. After the Battle of Trenton in
1776, he was commissioned brigadier-general. Knox participated in the battles of Dorchester Heights, Princeton, Brandywine, Germantown, Monmouth and Yorktown. In November, 1781, he was commissioned a major-general. Henry Knox organized the Society of the Cincinnati in 1783 and remained active in the organization throughout his life. He was chosen as Secretary of War under the Confederation in 1785 and kept that position under the new Federal Constitution during the presidency of George Washington, retiring in December, 1794. Settling on his lands near Thomaston, Maine in 1796, Knox engaged in business activities and held various political appointments from time to time. He died in Thomaston on 25 October 1806.


JAMES McDOWELL (1770-1835), son of James McDowell and Elizabeth Cloyd of Rockbridge County, Virginia, married Sarah Preston, second daughter of Col. William Preston. McDowell was a Justice of the Peace for Rockbridge County for many years and was given command of a rifle corps in the Virginia Militia on 28 June 1813. He served as a colonel in the militia during the War of 1812. McDowell had three children, Eliza McDowell who married Senator Thomas Hart Benton of Missouri, Governor James McDowell of Virginia, and Susan McDowell who married Congressman
William Taylor of Virginia.


JAMES McDOWELL, JR. (1796-1851) was born at "Cherry Grove," Rockbridge County, Virginia, on 13 October 1796, the son of James McDowell, Sr. and his wife Sarah Preston. He was educated at Washington College and Yale and graduated from Princeton in 1817. McDowell was a member of the Virginia House of Delegates from 1830 to 1835 and in 1838. From 1842 to 1846, he was Governor of Virginia. He was elected to the United States House of Representatives to fill the vacancy created by the death of his brother-in-law, William Taylor, and served from March 1846 to March 1851. He died near Lexington, Virginia on 24 August 1851. McDowell was an opponent of slavery and of nullification and interested himself in internal improvements during his term as Governor. On 7 September 1818 at Abingdon, Virginia, he married Susanna Smith Preston, daughter of
General Francis Preston.


James McGillicuddy is listed as head of a household in the 1830 census of Louisville with one male between 20 and 30 and two males between 30 and 40 and one male slave aged 24 to 36. In 1832, he was a trustee of the Catholic Chapel of St. Louis in Louisville and treasurer of the Hibernian Benevolent Society.

[United States Census, City of Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky, 1830, p. 84; Louisville City Directory, 1832, pp. 140, 144.]

James McHenry (1753-1816) was born in Ballymena, County Antrim, Ireland, 16 November 1753. He emigrated to America around 1771 settling at Philadelphia. McHenry attended Neward Academy in Delaware and studied medicine under Dr. Benjamin Rush of Philadelphia. Early in the Revolution he was surgeon in the 5th Pennsylvania Battalion and from 1778 to 1780 served as secretary to George Washington. In 1780 he joined the staff of General Lafayette and remained in that post until the close of the
war. McHenry served in the state senate from 1781 until 1786 and was a member of the Continental Congress from 1783 until 1786. He was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia in 1787 and was Secretary of War from January 1796 through May 1800, when he retired from public service. McHenry died near Baltimore on 3 May 1816.


LACHLAN McINTOSH (1725-1806) was born at Raits in Badenoch, Scotland on 17 March 1725. His family removed to Georgia in 1736. McIntosh was made colonel of a Georgia battalion in January 1776, and became a brigadier-general in September, 1776, when his command was incorporated into the Continental Army. Political differences developed between McIntosh and Button Gwinnett leading to a duel in 1777, which caused the death of Gwinnett. Thereafter, McIntosh was transferred to Washington's headquarters and in May 1778 was given command of the western department headquartered at Fort Pitt. In 1779 he was relieved of this command by Washington and sent to the South, where he was taken prisoner at Charleston in 1780; he was exchanged in 1782 and brevetted major-general in 1783. McIntosh was a charter member of the Society of the Cincinnati in 1784 and was elected to Congress in the same year, but apparently never attended. Twice he served as a commissioner to
settle the boundary between Georgia and South Carolina and was a commissioner to treat with the Southern Indians in 1785 and 1786. McIntosh died on 20 February 1806 in Savannah.


ELIZA MADISON (1762-1837), the eldest child of Col. William Preston, was born at Staunton, Virginia on 31 May 1762. She married at "Smithfield," Montgomery County, Virginia on 14 January 1779, William Strother Madison, son of John Madison and Agatha Strother of Stafford County, Virginia, and brother of Bishop James Madison (1749-1812). William S. Madison was a justice of Botetourt County on 8 November 1774 and swore allegiance to Virginia on 13 August 1776. He was commissioned a captain in the army and served as commissary officer under George Rogers Clark in the Revolution. He became sheriff of Botetourt County in 1779 and in 1780 was in charge of British soldiers captured at Kings Mountain. He also served at the Battle of Guilford Court House in 1781. William S. Madison died 17 March 1782 of smallpox near "Madisonville," Montgomery County, Virginia. Elizabeth Preston Madison
lived at "Madisonville" after her husband's death and died there 4 February 1837, having never remarried.

[Orlando Brown, Memoranda of the Preston Family (Frankfort, Ky., 1842), p. 6; Preston Family Papers--Preston Davie Genealogical Collection, folder 178, The Filson Club, Louisville, Kentucky.]

BISHOP JAMES MADISON (1749-1812) was born near Staunton, Virginia on 27 August 1749, the son of John Madison and Agatha Strother. Madison was a brother of William Strother Madison, who married Eliza Preston. He was, also, a brother of Governor George Madison of Kentucky. Bishop Madison graduated from the College of William and Mary in 1771 and was ordained in England in 1775. In 1777, the Rev. Madison was elected President of the College of William and Mary and held this post until his death. Interested in science, Madison made surveys leading to the 1807 map of Virginia. In 1790, Madison was consecrated the first Bishop of Virginia. He died on 6 March 1812.

DR. LOUIS MARSHALL (1773-1866) was born at "Oak-hill," Fauquier County, Virginia, on 7 October 1773, the son of Col. Thomas Marshall and his wife Mary Randolph Keith, and the brother of Chief Justice John Marshall. He removed to Kentucky with his family in 1785. Marshall studied medicine at Edinburgh, Scotland and Paris, France. He lived at "Buckpond," Woodford County, Kentucky, which was given to him by his father in 1800. Here he practiced medicine and created a famous and successful school for young men. Dr. Marshall served as President of Washington College in Lexington, Virginia from 1830 through 1834 and was later associated with Transylvania University in Lexington, Kentucky. He married in 1800 at Frankfort, Kentucky, Agatha Smith (1782-1844), daughter of Francis Smith and Ann Preston, sister of Col. William Preston. Dr. Louis Marshall died at "Buckpond" in 1866.


WILLIAM NELSON (1824-1862) was born near Maysville, Kentucky, 27 September 1824. He was appointed midshipman in 1840 and served in the fleet supporting the landing at Vera Cruz in 1847. Nelson had become a lieutenant in the
navy by 1855. Early in 1861 he surveyed Kentucky political feeling for President Lincoln, who named Nelson's brother Thomas, Minister to Chile. Lincoln sent William Nelson to Kentucky in April 1861 to recruit soldiers for the Union, and Nelson made his base at Camp Dick Robinson in Garrard County. On 16 September 1861, he became brigadier general of volunteers and served at Shiloh in 1862. Nelson became a major general in July 1862 and fought against General Bragg during the invasion of Kentucky. Nelson was defeated by General Kirby-Smith at the Battle of Richmond, Kentucky on 30 August 1862. In September 1862, William "Bull" Nelson was shot to death at the Galt House in Louisville after a disagreement by a fellow Union officer, Jefferson C. Davis.


GARNETT PEYTON (1827), born in Stafford County, Virginia, was the son of John Rowzee Peyton and his wife Ann Hooe of "Stoney Hill," Stafford County. Peyton was captain in the 8th infantry on 10 January 1799 and was honorably discharged on 15 June 1800. He served in the War of 1812. On 2 February 1801, he married Agatha Strother Madison (1782- ), second child of
Elizabeth Preston (1762-1837) and her husband, William Strother Madison. Garnett Peyton died at "Madisonville," Montgomery County, Virginia on 22 September 1827.

[Francis B. Heitman, Historical Register of the U. S. Army (Washington, 1903), I, p. 787; Preston Family Papers—Preston Davie Genealogical Collection, folder 178, The Filson Club, Louisville, Kentucky.]

JOHN HOWE PEYTON (1778-1847) was born in Stafford County, Virginia on 3 April 1778. Peyton graduated from Princeton in 1797 and established himself in legal practice. He served in the Virginia legislature for many years and as prosecuting attorney for the Augusta district in 1808-09. Peyton was a major of militia in the War of 1812, and was deputy U. S. attorney for the western district of Virginia following the war. From 1836 to 1844, he was a member of the Virginia senate. Peyton was appointed a visitor to the United States Military Academy in 1840 and was president of the board of the Western Virginia Lunatic Asylum for ten years. He died in Staunton, Virginia on 3 April 1847. On 10 July 1802, Peyton married Susanna Smith Madison, daughter of Elizabeth Preston (1762-1837) and William Strother Madison, at "Madisonville." She was born at "Smithfield" on 13 October 1780 and died at Staunton on 15 July 1840.

JOHN POPE, JR. (1800-1825) was a son of William Pope and his wife Cynthia A'Sturgess of Jefferson County, Kentucky. He graduated from Harvard University in 1821 and entered the legal profession in Louisville. On 3 June 1824, he married Maria Preston, daughter of Major William Preston, by whom he had one son, who died young. John Pope, Jr., died at his father's home on 31 October 1825.


WORDEN POPE (1772-1838), born in Westmoreland County, Virginia, was the son of Benjamin Pope. Worden Pope became Clerk of the Circuit and County Courts of Jefferson County, Kentucky in 1796, and held these posts until 1834. At that time he became County Clerk of Jefferson County and served until his death 20 April 1838. He was a lawyer and carried on an extensive law practice while holding his clerkships. Worden Pope and his uncle William Pope, who settled in Louisville in 1779, established one of the most prominent and extensive families in Kentucky.
CAROLINE LETITIA PRESTON (1806-1840), third child of Major William Preston and Caroline Hancock, was born at "Santillane," Virginia on 21 November 1806. On 17 September 1827, she married at Middletown, Kentucky, Col. Abram R. Woolley of the United States Army. Caroline Preston Woolley died at New Orleans, Louisiana on 8 March 1840.

[The Focus, Louisville, Kentucky, 18 September 1827, p. 3, column 4; Preston Family Papers-Preston Davie Genealogical Collection, folder 190, The Filson Club, Louisville, Kentucky.]

FRANCIS PRESTON (1765-1847), the second son and third child of Col. William Preston and his wife Susanna Smith, was born at "Greenfield," Botetourt County, Virginia, 2 August 1765. He graduated from the College of William and Mary in 1783, and practiced law in Montgomery and Washington Counties, Virginia. Preston served in the House of Delegates in 1788 and 1789. From March 1793 until March 1797, he was a member of the United States House of Representatives. Settling in Abingdon, he returned to law practice and again entered the Virginia House of Delegates.
from 1812 until 1814. Francis Preston was commissioned Colonel of Volunteers in the Virginia militia in the War of 1812 and eventually became a major general of the Virginia militia. From 1816 until 1820 he was a member of the Virginia Senate. He died on 25 May 1835 in Columbia, South Carolina. On 10 January 1793, Preston married Sarah Buchanan Campbell, daughter of General William Campbell and his wife Elizabeth Henry (a sister of Patrick Henry). Sarah B. Campbell was born at "Aspenville," Smyth County, Virginia on 21 April 1778 and inherited the "Saltworks," in Washington County from her father. She died at Abingdon, Virginia on 23 July 1846.


HANCOCK PRESTON (1813- ), eldest son and sixth child of Major William Preston and Caroline Hancock, was born at "Fotheringay," Botetourt County, Virginia, on
29 May 1813. He died in childhood.

[Henrietta Preston (1803-1835), eldest child of Major William Preston and Caroline Hancock, was born at "Santillane," Botetourt County, Virginia, on 23 February 1803. She married Albert Sidney Johnston (1803-1862) in Jefferson County, Kentucky on 20 January 1829. Henrietta Preston Johnston died at "Hayfield," the home of her uncle George Hancock, in Jefferson County, Kentucky on 12 August 1835.

[Isaac Trimble Preston (1793-1852) was born in Rockbridge County, Virginia, the natural son of General Francis Preston. Isaac Preston graduated from Yale in 1812 and studied at the Litchfield Law School in Connecticut. From 31 March 1813 until 15 June 1815, he served as captain of the 35th United States Infantry. Preston then continued his legal studies under William Wirt in 1816 and after admission to the bar, settled in New Orleans. From 1824 to 1829 and again from 1843 to 1846 Preston was attorney general of Louisiana. He was a member of the constitutional
convention of 1844-45 and served in the Louisiana House of Representatives in 1845-46. Preston held several other political positions and was interested in the construction of a railroad from New Orleans to Jackson, Mississippi. In 1849 Isaac Preston was appointed to the Louisiana Supreme Court, retaining the post until his death. Isaac T. Preston was first married in November 1828 at New Orleans to Catherine Layton; he married second Margaret Layton. He died in the explosion of the steamboat St. James on Lake Ponchartrain 6 July 1852.


JAMES PATTON PRESTON (1774-1843), fourth son and eighth child of Col. William Preston, born 21 June 1774 at
"Smithfield," Montgomery County, Virginia. Preston attended the College of William and Mary. He was elected to the Virginia State Senate from Montgomery County in 1802. During the War of 1812 Preston was commissioned lieutenant-colonel in the United States Army in March 1812 and was assigned to the 12th U. S. Infantry. In August 1813, he was promoted to colonel and given command of the 23rd U. S. Regiment of Infantry. At the Battle of Chrysler's Field in Canada on 16 November 1813, James P. Preston was crippled. He was honorably discharged in August 1815. In December 1816, Preston became Governor of Virginia and served until December 1819. Preston County, West Virginia was named in his honor. After his term as Governor, he was Postmaster of Richmond and eventually retired to his home, "Smithfield," where he died 4 May 1843.


JOHN PRESTON (1764-1827), eldest son of Col. William Preston, was born at "Greenfield," Botetourt County, Virginia, 2 May 1764. He inherited "Greenfield," from his

[Orlando Brown, Memoranda of the Preston Family (Frankfort, Ky., 1842), p. 7; Calendar of Virginia State Papers (Richmond, 1892), IX, p. 4, and X, p. 42; Preston Family Papers-Preston Davie Genealogical Collection, folder 179, The Filson Club, Louisville, Kentucky; Garland Evans Hopkins, Colonel Carrington of Cumberland . . . , Cumberland County, Virginia Historical Monograph No. 2 (Winchester, Va., 1942), p. 83.]

JOSEPHINE PRESTON (1809-1842), fourth child of Major William Preston and Caroline Hancock, was born at "Robinson's Tract," Wythe County, Virginia on 25 December 1809. She married Captain Jason Rogers of the United States Army on 15 October 1831 in Louisville. Josephine Preston Rogers died in Louisville, Kentucky, 6 November 1842.
JULIA CLARK PRESTON (1811- ), fifth daughter of Major William Preston and Caroline Hancock, was born at "Robinson's Tract," Wythe County, Virginia on 18 February 1811. She died in childhood.

MARIA PRESTON (1805-1895), second child of Major William Preston and Caroline Hancock, was born at "Santilane," near Fincastle, Botetourt County, Virginia, the home of her grandfather, Col. George Hancock, on 7 September 1805. She spent her childhood at "Robinson's Tract," her father's estate in Botetourt County, Virginia and from 1815 until her death, she lived regularly in or near Louisville, Kentucky. On 3 June 1824, Maria Preston married John Pope, Jr. (1800-1825) of Louisville, a lawyer, graduate of Harvard College and member of a prominent Kentucky family. Mrs. Pope was active in Louisville social life throughout her long life. Around 1860, she built a large home on Walnut Street between Second and Third Streets. Mrs. Pope died in Louisville on 15 April 1895.
SUSAN MARSHALL PRESTON (1819-1897), daughter of Major William Preston and Caroline Hancock, was born in Middletown, Jefferson County, Kentucky on 21 July 1819. She married, first, in Louisville on 24 March 1842, Howard Farrar Christy, only son of Major William Christy of St. Louis, Missouri. Howard Christy was born in St. Louis on 8 September 1814 and died in Louisville on 20 October 1853. Susan Preston Christy married, second, Hyatt Park Hepburn of Northumberland, Pennsylvania on 18 August 1860. H. P. Hepburn was born 23 February 1815 and died 1 May 1864 in Louisville. Susan Preston was educated at Mme. de Segoigne's school in Philadelphia, to which many well-established Kentucky families sent their daughters. She died 5 October 1897.

THOMAS LEWIS PRESTON (1781-1812), fifth son of Col. William Preston, was born at "Smithfield," 19 August 1781. Preston was a student at Rockbridge Academy in 1799
and attended Washington College in 1800. From December 1801 until March 1803, he studied at the College of William and Mary. He practiced law in Montgomery County, Virginia briefly, but following his marriage to Edmonia Madison Randolph, daughter of Edmund Randolph, Governor of Virginia and U. S. Secretary of State, Preston settled in Lexington, Virginia, where he continued his law practice. In 1807 Preston was a captain of an artillery company in the militia. From 1806 to 1811 he was a member of the House of Delegates from Rockbridge County. Preston was agent for the Virginia Legislature to recover funds due Virginia in Kentucky in 1807 and 1808. Thomas Lewis Preston died at Lexington, Virginia on 11 August 1812.

[Orlando Brown, Memoranda of the Preston Family (Frankfort, Ky., 1842), p. 9; Preston Family Papers-Preston Davie Genealogical Collection, folder 206, The Filson Club, Louisville, Kentucky; Rockbridge County, Virginia, Will Book 3, p. 68.]

COL. WILLIAM PRESTON (1729-1783), only son of John Preston and his wife, Elizabeth Patton, was born in Newton, Ireland and came to Virginia with his parents in 1735. Col. Preston was at various times a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses, Surveyor and County Lieutenant of Fincastle or Montgomery County and was colonel of a regiment in the Revolution. He fought at the Battle of Guilford
Court House, where he was injured. He accumulated an extensive estate in the western parts of Virginia and was a man of great influence and importance in the state. He married Susanna Smith, daughter of Francis Smith and Elizabeth Waddy of Hanover County, Virginia. He died at the age of 53 years in June 1783 at "Smithfield," Montgomery County, Virginia.

[Orlando Brown, Memoranda of the Preston Family (Frankfort, Ky., 1842), p. 6; James Grant Wilson and John Fiske, eds., Appleton's Cyclopaedia of American Biography (New York, 1888), V, p. 114.]

MAJOR WILLIAM PRESTON (1770-1821), third son of Col. William Preston and Susanna Smith, was born 3 September 1770 at "Greenfield," Botetourt County, Virginia. Major William Preston was educated at home by Aaron Palfreman and at Liberty Hall in Lexington, Virginia, which was incorporated into the present Washington and Lee University. Governor Edmund Randolph commissioned Preston an ensign in the Second Virginia Cavalry. He resigned this commission to become a U. S. Census enumerator in 1790 and upon completion of this task, Governor Henry Lee recommissioned him as an ensign in 1791. He was appointed captain in the United States Army early in 1792 and assigned to the Second Sublegion on 4 September 1792, serving under General Anthony Wayne. On 21 November 1792, he transferred to the
Fourth Sublegion and on 1 November 1796 removed to the
Fourth Infantry. He resigned from the Army on 31 July
1798. Following his resignation, he developed his estate,
"Robinson's Tract," near Fincastle, Botetourt County, Vir­
ginia. Preston was appointed Brigade Inspector of the 19th
Brigade, Third Division of Virginia Troops on 6 April 1803.
He was a major in the War of 1812. In 1815, he left
"Robinson's Tract," removing to his extensive inherited
lands in Jefferson County, Kentucky, where he was a leading
citizen. He died 28 January 1821 in Virginia and is buried
at "Smithfield," Montgomery County, Virginia. William
Preston married on 24 March 1802, Caroline Hancock, daughter
of Col. George Hancock (1754-1820), at "Fotheringay,"
Botetourt County, Virginia. She was born 25 March 1785 and
died 19 December 1847 in Louisville.

[Orlando Brown, Memoranda of the Preston Family
(Frankfort, Ky., 1842), pp. 7-8; Francis B. Heitman, His­
torical Register of the U. S. Army (Washington, 1903), I,
p. 806; Preston Family Papers-Preston Davie Genealogical
Collection, folders 188, 190, 192, The Filson Club,
Louisville, Kentucky.]

WILLIAM PRESTON, III (1816-1887), fifth child of
Major William Preston and Caroline Hancock, was born
16 October 1816 near Louisville, Kentucky. Preston gradu­
ated from St. Joseph's College in Nelson County, Kentucky
and from Yale College. He received his law degree from Harvard University in 1838 and began practice in Louisville in 1839. During the Mexican War he was a lieutenant colonel of the Fourth Kentucky Volunteers from 1846 through 1848. In 1849 he was a delegate to the Kentucky Constitutional Convention and was elected to the Kentucky House of Representatives in 1850. From 1851 to 1853 he served in the Kentucky Senate. Preston was elected as a Whig to the United States House of Representatives to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Humphrey Marshall, serving from 1852 until March 1855. He was defeated for reelection by Marshall. President Buchanan named Preston as minister to Spain in 1858. In 1861 he resigned this post and entered the army of the Confederate States of America, reaching the rank of major-general. Preston served at Corinth, Vicksburg, Murfreesboro and Chickamauga. In 1864 he served as Confederate minister to Mexico. After a period of exile in Canada, Preston returned to Kentucky and in 1868 and 1869 was a member of the Kentucky House of Representatives. General William Preston died in Lexington on 21 September 1887. On 7 December 1840, he married Margaret Wickliffe, daughter of Robert Wickliffe of Lexington.

WILLIAM CAMPBELL PRESTON (1794-1860), son of Gen. Francis Preston and his wife Sarah Buchanan Campbell, was born in Philadelphia on 27 December 1794. He studied privately, attended Washington College and graduated from South Carolina College in 1812. He spent several years traveling in Europe, where he formed a friendship with Washington Irving, and studied law at the University of Edinburgh, where he roomed with Hugh S. Legare. Upon his return to the United States in 1819, Preston practiced law in Virginia, but moved to South Carolina in 1822. He was a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives from 1828 through 1834. He was elected to the U. S. Senate as a supporter of John C. Calhoun, serving from November 1833 until he resigned in December 1842. He then resumed law practice in Columbia, South Carolina. In 1845 he was named President of South Carolina College, but resigned in 1851 because of ill health. He was a trustee of the College from 1851 until 1857, and founded the Columbia Atheneum.
He died in Columbia on 22 May 1860.


EDMUND RANDOLPH (1753-1813), was born 10 August 1753 at "Tazewell Hall," Williamsburg, Virginia. Randolph attended the College of William and Mary and studied law with his father, John Randolph the loyalist. He was appointed as an aide-de-camp to Washington in 1775, and served in the convention which adopted the first constitution for Virginia. Randolph was elected to the Continental Congress in 1779, while still serving as attorney general of Virginia. In 1786 he was elected Governor of Virginia and the next year was a delegate to the Federal Convention, but refused to sign the completed Constitution. Washington appointed Randolph Attorney General of the United States in 1789, and from January 1794 until August 1795, he served as U. S. Secretary of State. During his term of service, both the Jay Treaty and the Treaty of San Lorenzo were negotiated. Randolph reopened law practice in Richmond after his retirement from government service and was senior counsel for Aaron Burr in his treason trial. Edmund Randolph died
in Clarke County, Virginia on 12 September 1813. His daughter Edmonia Madison Randolph married Thomas Lewis Preston, a younger son of Col. William Preston.


BENNETT RILEY (1787-1853) was born in Alexandria, Virginia on 27 November 1787. He was appointed an ensign of rifles from Maryland on 19 January 1813 and became a lieutenant on 12 March 1813. Riley was promoted to captain in August 1818 and was transferred to the 5th Infantry in June 1821 and to the 6th Infantry in October of that year. By 1837 Riley was a major in the 4th Infantry and became a lieutenant-colonel of the 2nd Infantry in December 1839, rising to colonel of the 1st Infantry in January 1850. Riley served in the Indian Wars and in the Mexican War, and was brevetted brigadier-general for gallantry at Cerro Gordo and major-general for his service at Contreras. Following the Mexican War, Riley was given command of the Pacific department and stationed at Monterey. Later he was appointed military governor of California. He died on 9 June 1853 in Buffalo, New York. It is assumed that this is the B. Riley who wrote to Maria Preston Pope, since his
letters seem to indicate military service and because of her family's close association with the military at the time Riley was a correspondent.


ALEXANDER SMYTH (1765-1830), born on the Island of Rathlin, Ireland, he came to America and settled in Botetourt County, Virginia in 1775. Here he studied law and was admitted to the bar, beginning his practice in Abingdon, Virginia, and later moving to Wythe County, Virginia. He served in the Virginia House of Delegates several times between 1792 and 1808 and was in the State Senate in 1808 and 1809. He was a colonel of a regiment of riflemen from 8 July 1808 to 6 July 1812 and became an Inspector General with the rank of brigadier general from 6 July 1812 to 3 March 1813, when he resumed his law practice. Between 1816 and 1827, he again served on several occasions in the House of Delegates. From March 1817 to March 1825, he was a member of the House of Representatives of the United States and was elected to that position again, serving from March 1827 until his death in Washington on 17 April 1830.
GEORGE STROther (1767-1816) was born 26 January 1767, the son of George Strother and his wife Mary Kennerly of Virginia. He served as an ensign in the Third Sublegion from 12 May 1794 and in the Third Infantry from November 1796, becoming a lieutenant 14 January 1799 and resigned 24 October 1799. Strother moved to Tennessee and died in Nashville on 19 February 1816, unmarried. Strother was the maternal uncle of Caroline Hancock Preston.

WILLIAM BERRY TAYLOR (1768-1826), son of Jonathan Taylor (1742-1803) and Ann Berry (1749-1809), was born in Orange County, Virginia, 26 February 1768. He bought 1,000 acres of land in Kentucky from his uncle Francis Taylor and settled on Floyd's Fork of the Salt River in 1796. He acquired large land holdings in the Kentucky counties of Shelby, Henry, and Oldham. He was a surveyor in Kentucky and land agent for several Virginia families.
William Taylor died 2 February 1826.


ABRAM TRIGG (1750-post 1809), born near Bedford, Virginia in 1750. Trigg practiced law in Montgomery County, Virginia and held local offices such as clerk and judge in that county. During the Revolution he was lieutenant-colonel of militia in 1782 and later was general of militia in Virginia. Trigg was a delegate to the Virginia Convention of 1788 that ratified the United States Constitution. From March 1797 to March 1809 he served in the United States House of Representatives.

ARTHUR HOOE WALLACE (1794-1878) was born 17 September 1794, the son of Thomas Wallace of Culpeper County, Virginia. Arthur H. Wallace, then of New Orleans, married at "Spring Hill," Woodford County, Kentucky, on 1 October 1832, Letitia Preston Hart (1802- ), daughter of Nathaniel Hart and Susanna Preston. They subsequently lived at "Ridgeway," Crittenden County, Kentucky.

[Wallace Family Papers, The Filson Club, Louisville, Kentucky, folders 1, 3, and unnumbered folder filed before folder 32; Preston Family Papers-Preston Davie Genealogical Collection, folder 194, The Filson Club, Louisville, Kentucky; Observer, Lexington, Kentucky, 11 October 1832.]

ANTHONY WAYNE (1745-1796) was born in Waynesboro, Pennsylvania on 1 January 1745. He served in the Pennsylvania assembly in 1774-1775 and became active in the American cause at an early stage and was appointed colonel of a Pennsylvania regiment in January 1776. In February 1777 Wayne was promoted to brigadier-general and given command of the Pennsylvania line in April. Wayne served conspicuously at the battles of Brandywine, Germantown, Monmouth, Stony Point and Yorktown. Following the British surrender, Wayne was sent to Georgia to help settle the Indian disturbances there. In 1783, he retired with the rank of brevet major-general, and between 1783 and 1792,
he devoted himself to managing his lands in Georgia and other civil activities, including service in the Pennsylvania General Assembly. Elected to Congress from Georgia in 1791, Wayne served until March 1792, when his seat was declared vacant due to problems of residence qualifications. In 1791 Washington named Wayne as major-general in charge of the American army and sent him to secure the northwest from the Indians. General Wayne defeated the Indians severely at the Battle of Fallen Timbers in August 1794. He died at Presque Isle, now Erie, Pennsylvania on 15 December 1796.


ROBERT WICKLIFFE (1775-1859), born 16 January 1775 in Washington, Pennsylvania while his parents were moving from Virginia to Kentucky, was the son of Charles Wickliffe and his wife, Lydia Hardin, who settled in Hardin County, Kentucky. Robert Wickliffe read law with George Nicholas, a leading lawyer and political figure in early Kentucky. In 1819, 1823, and 1825, Wickliffe was elected to the Kentucky House of Representatives from Fayette County and served in the state Senate from 1825 until 1833. He engaged in a very successful law practice. Wickliffe lived
in Lexington, Kentucky and was one of the leading figures in the state, where he has been popularly styled the "Old Duke." Wickliffe died on 1 September 1859. He married first Margaret Howard of Lexington, a daughter of John Howard and Ann Preston (sister of Col. William Preston). Margaret Howard Wickliffe, daughter of Robert Wickliffe and his first wife, married General William Preston (1816-1887), her second cousin.

[The Biographical Encyclopaedia of Kentucky ... (Cincinnati, 1878), p. 66; Orlando Brown, Memoranda of the Preston Family (Frankfort, Ky., 1842), p. 10; William H. Townsend, Lincoln and the Bluegrass (Lexington, Ky., 1955), pp. 177-182; Kentucky Gazette, Lexington, Ky., 8 May 1804; C. Wickliffe Throckmorton, A Genealogical and Historical Account of the Throckmorton Family (Richmond, 1930), p. 396.]

JAMES WILKINSON (1757-1825) was born in Calvert County, Maryland. Wilkinson served as an officer in the Revolution and was involved in the Conway Cabal. He retired to a farm in Bucks County, Pennsylvania following the Revolution and served in that state's Assembly. He removed to Kentucky in 1784 and became an influential leader there and was actively involved in the Spanish Conspiracy. He re-entered military service and led a force against the Indians in March 1791. He became a
brigadier-general under Anthony Wayne in March 1792. He continued his intrigues centering his attentions on discrediting General Wayne, whom he succeeded at the latter's death and removed to Detroit in 1797. He transferred to the Southern frontier in 1798 and in 1803 he went to New York where he involved himself in the Burr Conspiracy. In 1805 Wilkinson became governor of Louisiana Territory. In 1806 he was ordered from St. Louis to the Southern frontier again. He continued his involvements in intrigue, losing the confidence and respect of his superiors. Wilkinson died in Mexico City in 1825.


ABRAM R. WOOLLEY was born in New Jersey. Woolley served as a captain in the United States Army in the War of 1812, becoming a major of ordnance on 9 February 1815. He transferred to the 7th Infantry on 1 June 1821 and to the 6th Infantry on 11 March 1823. Woolley was named lieutenant-colonel in December 1825. He was dismissed from service 1 May 1829. Woolley married Caroline Preston, daughter of Major William Preston and Caroline Hancock.

[Francis B. Heitman, Historical Register of the U. S. Army (Washington, 1903), I, p. 1060.]
WILLIAM PRESTON WOOLLEY (1830-1850), son of Caroline Preston and her husband, Col. Abram R. Woolley, was born 2 May 1830. While in his teens Woolley was editor of a Louisville daily newspaper and was active in the cultural life of the city, particularly in the fields of literature and music. He died in Buffalo, New York on 7 September 1850, while on his way to Europe.

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