

**The Filson Club Historical Society**

**The Brown-Ewell Family Papers**

The Brown-Ewell Family Papers cover this prominent family from North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and Kentucky. Families included are Campbell, Polk, Brown, Plunket, and Ewell. The collection was received as a gift.

For information regarding literary and copyright interests for these papers, see the Curator of Manuscripts James J. Holmberg.

**Size of Collection**

**6.33 cubic feet**

**Locator Number Mss.\A\B877a**

## Biographical Note

George Washington Campbell (1769-1848), lawyer, senator, secretary of the treasury, diplomat, born in Scotland. Campbell was also U.S. ambassador to Russia and member of the U.S. Commission assigned to carry into effect the claim convention signed with France in 1831. For a full biographical sketch see *Dictionary of American Biography* (New York: Scribner's Sons, 1929), III:452.

William Polk (1758-1834), Revolutionary soldier, North Carolina businessman and legislator. Son of Thomas Polk. Unsuccessful Federalist gubernatorial candidate in several elections, who later supported Andrew Jackson. For a full biographical sketch see *Dictionary of American Biography* (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1935), XV:43-44.

Elizabeth McKay [Lizinka] Campbell Brown (1820-1872), daughter of George Washington Campbell. Married first James Percy Brown, and second her cousin Richard Stoddert Ewell (1817-1872) in 1863.

Richard Stoddert Ewell (1817-1872), Confederate General and son of Thomas Ewell. Graduated West Point, 1840 and served in the Mexican and Civil Wars. For a full biographical sketch see *Dictionary of American Biography* (New York: Charles Scriber's Sons, 1931), VI:229-30.

George Campbell Brown (1840-1893), son of Lizinka Brown Ewell, served on the staff of Gen. Richard Ewell (stepfather) during the Civil War. After the war settled in Tennessee.

Percy Brown (1874-1934), a son of Campbell Brown and Susan Rebecca Polk (1847-1922). Percy married Gertrude Margarete Plunket, daughter of James Dace and Jennie Swope Plunket.

## Scope and Content Note

The Brown-Ewell papers contain materials relating to this prominent family of North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and Kentucky. This collection includes papers of George Washington Campbell, the Polk family, Brown family, Plunket family, and Richard S. Ewell. The majority of the collection contains correspondence, but also features land indentures, diaries, miscellaneous items, and genealogical information about these interconnected families.

The correspondence section includes family letters relating to activities and experiences of these allied families in the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. Of particular interest are the antebellum political and Civil War military papers of the families.

The earliest papers are from George Washington Campbell (1769-1848). Many reflect his early work as an attorney specializing in land claims, chiefly in Tennessee. The collection also includes correspondence between Elizabeth McKay [Lizinka] Campbell Brown (1820-1872), her husband Confederate Gen. Richard S. Ewell and her two children George Campbell and Harriot Stoddert Brown during and after the Civil War.

The papers continue through the lifetime of Percy Brown (1874-1934) a son of Campbell Brown and Susan Rebecca Polk (1847-1922). Percy married Gertrude Margarete Plunket (1883-1936) and this collection includes a voluminous Plunket and Brown correspondence. Also, correspondence from their children, Percy (1912-1964) and Gertrude Polk Brown Albrecht concerns the Brown-Foreman distillery and twentieth century culture.

The other sections contain land indentures, diaries from various Brown family members, miscellaneous materials, and genealogical information on each of the families.

Mss.

A  
B877a

Brown-Ewell Family  
Papers, 1781-1984

Box 1

- fl.     Introductory materials
- fl. 1    Campbell, George Washington, Correspondence, 1799-1806
- fl. 2    Campbell, George Washington, Retained Letterbook Drafts, 1807-1821
- fl. 3    Russian Period, 1817-1819, Letter re. land to Wm. Polk, 1818
- fl. 4    Polk Family Papers, 1820-1824
- fl. 5    Polk Family Papers, 1825-1829
- fl. 6    Van Buren, Martin, Correspondence with Miss Eastin, 1829-n.d. [c.1831]
- fl. 7    Polk Family Papers, 1830-1835
- fl. 8    Polk Family Papers, 1844-1849
- fl. 9    Brown Family Correspondence, 1850-1857
- fl. 10   Brown Family Correspondence, 1860
- fl. 11   Brown Family Correspondence, 1861
- fl. 12   Brown-Ewell Correspondence, 1861-1864

Box 2

- fl. 13   Brown and Ewell family correspondence, April 20 through May 31, 1865. Ewell and G. C. Brown write from Fort Warren prison in Boston Harbor.
- fl. 14   Brown-Ewell Family Correspondence 1865
- fl. 15   Brown and Ewell Family Correspondence, July-Sept 1865
- fl. 16   Correspondence, 1866-1869
- fl. 17   Correspondence, 1870-1875
- fl. 18   Correspondence, 1882-1888
- fl. 19   Correspondence, 1891-1898
- fl. 20   Correspondence, n.d.

Box 3

- fl. 21   Correspondence, 1889-1898, between some of the members of the family of Geo. Campbell Brown [1840-1893] and Susan Rebecca Polk [1847-1922].
- fl. 22   Correspondence between members of Gertrude and Percy Brown's family, 1905-1919.
- fl. 23   Correspondence, Dec 1920-June 1922
- fl. 24   Correspondence, July-Dec 1922
- fl. 25   Correspondence, 1923-1924

- fl. 26 Correspondence, 1925-Aug 1926
- fl. 27 Correspondence, Sept-Oct 1926
- fl. 28 Correspondence, Nov-Dec 1926

Box 4

- fl. 29 Correspondence, 1927
- fl. 30 Correspondence, Feb 1927
- fl. 31 Correspondence, March 1927
- fl. 32 Correspondence, April 1927
- fl. 33 Correspondence, May-Sept 1927
- fl. 34 Correspondence, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec 1927

Box 5

- fl. 35 Correspondence, Jan-Sept 1928
- fl. 36 Correspondence, Oct 1-14, 1928
- fl. 37 Correspondence, Oct 17-23, 1928
- fl. 38 Correspondence, Oct 25-31, 1928
- fl. 39 Correspondence, Nov-Dec 1928
- fl. 40 Correspondence, Jan-April 1929

Box 6

- fl. 41 Correspondence, May-August 1929
- fl. 42 Correspondence, Sept-Dec 1929
- fl. 43 Correspondence, 1930
- fl. 44 Correspondence, March 1932-Dec 1933
- fl. 45 Correspondence, 1940s
- fl. 46 Correspondence, 1950s
- fl. 47 Correspondence, June 1965-1977
- fl. 48 Correspondence, 1980s
- fl. 49 Correspondence, n.d.
- fl. 50 Correspondence to Percy Brown, Jr., n.d.
- fl. 51 Correspondence, General, n.d.

Box 7

- fl. 52 Percy Brown, Jr., Receipts and Bills
- fl. 53 Percy Brown, Jr., Report Cards, 1926-1928
- fl. 54 Percy Brown, 1874-1934, Family Papers, Misc., 1894-1934
- fl. 55 Percy Brown, 1912-1964, Misc. Papers, 1918-1939
- fl. 56 Correspondence to Gertrude Polk Brown, 1913-1983, Jan-March 1932

- fl. 57 Correspondence to Gertrude Polk Brown, 1913-1983, April-July 1932

Box 8

- fl. 58 Gertrude Polk Brown, 1913-1983, Materials from her New Orleans Debut, 1932-1933
- fl. 59 Correspondence to Gertrude Polk Brown from her family, Jan-Dec 1933
- fl. 60 Misc. papers of Percy Brown, Jr., 1912-1964. Papers dated 1933-1964
- fl. 61 Brown Family Correspondence to Gertrude Polk Brown, 1913-1983
- fl. 62 Correspondence to Gertrude Polk Brown, 1935
- fl. 63 Correspondence between Gertrude Polk and Gertrude Brown, n.d.

Box 9

- fl. 64 Diary of Campbell Brown, 1850s-1860s.
- fl. 65 Diary of Gen. Richard S. Ewell, 1866
- fl. 66 Diary of Gertrude Plunket Brown, 1911-1915
- fl. 67 Christmas Diary of Gertrude P. Brown, 1907-1926
- fl. 68 Diary, [1922?]
- fl. 69 Diary of Percy Brown, 1923
- fl. 70 Diary, n.d.
- fl. 71 Diary of Percy Brown, Jr., 1922
- fl. 72 Diary of Gertrude P. Brown, 1932
- fl. 73 Travel Diary of Gertrude P. Brown, n.d.
- fl. 74 Travel Dairy of Gertrude P. Brown, 1964
- fl. 75 Address book of Gertrude P. Brown,
- fl. 76 Travel Diary of Gertrude P. Brown, 1969
- fl. 77 Travel Diary of Gertrude P. Brown, n.d.

Box 10

- fl. 78 Percy Brown, 1874-1934, Business Correspondence, 1913-1917
- fl. 79 Percy Brown, 1874-1934, Business Correspondence, 1918
- fl. 80 Percy Brown, 1874-1934, Business Correspondence, 1919
- fl. 81 Percy Brown, 1874-1934, Business Correspondence, 1920-1924
- fl. 82 Polk Family, Business Papers, 1836-1878
- fl. 83 Richard Stoddert Ewell, 1817-1872, Checks, 1870-1871
- fl. 84 Brown Family Legal Papers, 1822-1866
- fl. 85 Brown Family Legal Papers, 1891-1924
- fl. 86 *Plunket vs. Brown*, 1919-1922

**Box 11**

- fl. 87 Land indentures, 1813, 1817, 1823, 1828, 1834 for the Polk family, Ewell Family, Mary Eastin and David Hubbard, for land in Tennessee, North Carolina, Washington City, New Orleans, La., and Alabama.
- fl. 88 Land Grants
- fl. 89 Military Commission, 1861
- fl. 90 Autographs
- fl. 91 Autograph Book
- fl. 92 Civil War Memoirs of Major Campbell Brown, Vol. I
- fl. 93 Civil War Memoirs of Major Campbell Brown, Vol. II
- fl. 94 Typescript copies of letters from George Washington, Andrew Jackson, et. al.; also a typescript copy of Mary Catherine Rogers's 1860 diary.

**Box 12**

- fl. 95 Memoirs and Stories by Percy Brown [1874-1934]
- fl. 96 Misc. Papers of Gertrude Plunket Brown: Poetry, notebooks, etc.
- fl. 97 Gertrude Plunket Brown: Misc. poetry and notes.
- fl. 98 Writings, Anonymous
- fl. 99 Letters of Rebecca Stoddert, 1799-1811; also a plat of Ewell Farm.

**Box 13**

- fl. 100 Newspaper Fragments
- fl. 101 Plunket Correspondence, Feb 9, 1834-Nov 17, 1848
- fl. 102 Plunket Correspondence, May 1, 1851-Dec 6, 1854
- fl. 103 Plunket Correspondence, July 14, 1855-Dec 26, 1859
- fl. 104 Plunket Correspondence, Jan 1860-1863
- fl. 105 Plunket Correspondence, 1864-1866
- fl. 106 Plunket Correspondence, Jan 20, 1867, 1868, 1870-1875
- fl. 107 Plunket Correspondence, 1876-1880, 1883, 1923
- fl. 108 Plunket Correspondence, n.d.

**Box 14**

- fl. 109 Plunket, James Dace, Autobiographical Reminiscences, 1839-1920
- fl. 110 Papers of James Dace and Eliza Jane Plunket, 1910-1934
- fl. 111 Plunket, Joseph Munro Compositions, poetry
- fl. 112 Plunket Family Misc. Papers, 1837-1918
- fl. 113 Plunket, James Dace, Account Book, 1918-1923

Box 15

- fl. 114 Skipped
- fl. 115 Skipped
- fl. 116 George Garvin Brown Family Letters, 1910
- fl. 117 George Garvin Brown Family Letters, 1920s
- fl. 118 George Garvin Brown Family Correspondence, 1932
- fl. 119 George Garvin Brown Family Correspondence, 1933
- fl. 120 George Garvin Brown Family Correspondence, 1940s
- fl. 121 Brown Family Correspondence, 1939-1945
- fl. 122 Brown Family Correspondence, 1952-1954
- fl. 123 George Garvin Brown Family Correspondence, 1950s
- fl. 124 Brown Family Correspondence, 1956-1957
- fl. 125 Brown Family Correspondence, 1960-1967
- fl. 126 George Garvin Brown Family Correspondence, 1969
- fl. 127 Brown Family Correspondence, 1971-1972
- fl. 128 Brown Family Correspondence, 1978
- fl. 129 Brown Family Correspondence, 1983-1984

Box 16

- fl. 130 Brown Family Correspondence, n.d.
- fl. 131 Brown Family Papers, Lyons and Clay Correspondence, 1863-1911
- fl. 132 George Garvin Brown Papers, Misc., Business papers, pictures  
1950s-1960s
- fl. 133 Photo of James Brown Journal, 1780 Clark Expedition
- fl. 134 George Garvin Brown Papers, Misc. 1969-1978
- fl. 135 Misc., Christmas cards, etc.
- fl. 136 Brown Family Papers, Architect Drawings of Brown Foreman  
Distillery

Box 17

- fl. 137 Gertrude P. Brown, Misc.
- fl. 138 Brown Family Papers, Legal papers
- fl. 139 Brown Family Papers, Orient Trip, 1969, Receipts, cards,  
brochures

Box 18

- fl. 140 Civil War Newspapers
- fl. 141 Brown Family Newspaper Clippings
- fl. 142 Envelopes
- fl. 143 Misc. Cards, Invitations
- fl. 144 Misc.
- fl. 145 Gertrude P. Brown Christmas Book, 1940-1982

fl. 146 Brown Family Genealogy

Box 19

fl. 147 Genealogy: Brown, Owsley, Bodley, Temple Families

fl. 148 Genealogy: Brown, Plunket, Swope Families

fl. 149 Genealogy: Brown, Hawkins, Polk Families. Estate records,  
clippings

fl. 150 Genealogy: Brown Family

fl. 151 Genealogy: Brown Family

fl. 152 Genealogy: Hunton Family

Oversize

fl. 153 Gertrude Margaret Plunket diploma, DAR certificate  
Cemetery headstone sketch - Percy Brown, Sr. : Gertrude Plunket  
Brown