

NUCMC Catalog Record

Creator: Adger, Margaret Hall Moffett, 1820-1915.

Title: Margaret Hall Moffett Adger papers.

Date Created: 1825-1911

Extent: 9 linear ft.

Location: South Carolina Historical Society (Charleston, S.C.)

Biographical Data: Daughter of Andrew and Anna Moffett, she married William Adger (1816-1853), a Charleston, S.C., businessman, in 1840. After her husband's death, she resided in the homes of her children.

Summary: Consists chiefly of correspondence, mostly letters to Margaret H.M. Adger written between 1825 and 1911 (bulk 1860-1900) from friends and family members, including her mother, Anna Reid Moffett; her brother, George H. Moffett; her sister-in-law Elizabeth K.S. Adger (a missionary to Turkey); and others. Letters are from Charleston, Sullivan's Island, and plantations in the Pendleton area of South Carolina. Letters concern family matters of the Adger, Moffett, Law, and Manning families such as the health of family members, rearing of children, cooking, making of clothes, needlework, courtships, travels, social life, ordering of fabrics (with price notations), management of servants, financial matters, Catholics in Turkey, and news of deaths, births, and marriages. There are also mentions of universities and college life by Adger's friend Eliza and son, Andrew Moffett Adger; references to trips to Flat Rock, N.C., and Saratoga Springs, N.Y.; comments on Presbyterian sermons, services, and activities; and discussions of the migration of families, black and white, in and out of Hartsville, S.C., and problems with the freedmen.

There is additional correspondence of the Adger, Law, Smyth, and Moffett families, with correspondents including Andrew Moffett, Presbyterian minister Rev. T.H. Law, and James Adger, Jr. Of note are several wartime letters, including one (1864) from James Adger of the Charleston Light Dragoons describing the severe damage to Charleston from Union shelling; and his letter of 5 Apr. 1863 from Pocotaligo, S.C., describing Federal raids at Mackeys Point where every house but one was destroyed. A letter (21 May 1864) from Andrew M. Adger on James Island, S.C., expresses his hope that his unit will be sent north "to see the war carried home to the Yankees, as it has been too long to us. It is time for them, now, to have a turn in the horrors of war. It makes one's blood boil to hear of the devastation created by them." His letter of 8 June 1864 describes the entrenchments, fighting, and truce between

the armies of Lee and Grant at Gaines Mill (Cold Harbor, Va.), and relates that "Grant's men were badly cut up. All here agree he is a perfect butcher...perfectly indifferent to the wants of his wounded...dozens of them, many dead, too, were left within 50 yards of his works, without the least attention being paid to them." A letter of 28 June 1864 describes fighting at Petersburg, Va.

Other items include wedding announcements; visiting cards; journals of letters written and received (1879-1881); financial records including receipts (1840-1898) and household accounts; lists; notes on sermons; poems; photographs; a record of medication and treatment (1853) for William Adger (who died of smallpox); and printed material pertaining to various religious, social, educational, and charitable organizations.

Subjects:

Adger, Andrew Moffett, 1846-1915 -- Correspondence.
Adger, Elizabeth Keith Shrewsbury, d. 1890 -- Correspondence.
Adger, James, 1845-1873 -- Correspondence.
Law, Thomas Hart, 1838-1923 -- Correspondence.
Moffett, Andrew, 1793-1849 -- Correspondence.
Moffett, Anna Reid, 1795-1868 -- Correspondence.
Moffett, George H., 1829-1875 -- Correspondence.
Adger, William, 1816-1853.
Grant, Ulysses S. (Ulysses Simpson), 1822-1885.
Lee, Robert E. (Robert Edward), 1807-1870.
Adger family.
Law family.
Manning family.
Moffett family.
Smith family.
Smyth family.
Confederate States of America. Army. South Carolina Cavalry Regiment, 4th. Company K.
Americans -- Turkey -- Correspondence.
Catholics -- Turkey.
Child rearing -- South Carolina.
Clothing and dress -- South Carolina.
Cold Harbor, Battle of, Va., 1864.
College students -- South Carolina.
Household employees -- South Carolina.
Freedmen -- South Carolina.
Households -- South Carolina.
Plantations -- South Carolina -- Pendleton District.
Presbyterians -- South Carolina.
Reconstruction (U.S. history, 1865-1877) -- South Carolina.
Soldiers -- Confederate States of America -- Correspondence.
Smallpox -- Treatment -- South Carolina.
Voyages and travels.
Women -- South Carolina.

Women missionaries -- Turkey -- Correspondence.
Hartsville (S.C.)
Charleston (S.C.) -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865.
Petersburg (Va.) -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865.
Flat Rock (N.C.) -- Description and travel.
Saratoga Springs (N.Y.) -- Description and travel.
South Carolina -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865.
South Carolina -- Social life and customs.
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 --
Destruction and pillage.
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives,
Confederate.
Virginia -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865.
Mackeys Point (S.C.)
Ephemera -- South Carolina. aat
Financial records -- South Carolina. aat
Photographs -- South Carolina. aat
Poems -- South Carolina. aat
Visiting cards -- South Carolina.
Wedding invitations -- South Carolina. aat