

**SERENO TAYLOR PAPERS**

Mss. 617

Inventory

Compiled by  
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Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections  
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library  
Louisiana State University Libraries  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

2017  
Updated 2021

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**Use of manuscript materials.** If you wish to examine items in the manuscript group, please place a request via the Special Collections Request System. Consult the Container List for location information.

**Photocopying.** Should you wish to request photocopies, please consult a staff member. Do not remove items to be photocopied. The existing order and arrangement of unbound materials must be maintained. Reproductions must be made from surrogates (microfilm, digital scan, photocopy of original held by LSU Libraries), when available.

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Proper acknowledgement of LLMVC materials must be made in any resulting writing or publications. The correct form of citation for this manuscript group is given on the summary page. Copies of scholarly publications based on research in the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections are welcomed.

**SUMMARY**

- Size.** 11 items, 12 volumes, 1 microfilm reel, 1 compact disc
- Geographic locations.** Mississippi, Louisiana.
- Inclusive dates.** 1833-1869.
- Bulk dates.** 1849-1863.
- Language.** English
- Summary.** The collection consists of papers and personal diaries reflecting the life of a Baptist minister and educator.
- Restrictions on access.** Due to the fragility of the original diaries, volumes 2 and 12 are restricted. Patrons must use microfilm.
- Alternate format** Collection available as microfilm. Volume 12 is also available as digital scans on compact disc.
- Related collections.** Hunter-Taylor Family Papers, Mss. 3024.  
Calvin Taylor and Family Papers, Mss. 525.
- Copyright.** Physical rights are retained by the LSU Libraries. Copyright of the original materials in this collection has expired and they are therefore in the public domain.
- Citation.** Sereno Taylor Papers, Mss. 617, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
- Stack locations.** A:60, H:20, MSS.MF:T

**BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE**

Sereno Taylor was a Baptist minister and educator of Mississippi and Louisiana, and principal of the Silliman Female Collegiate Institute at Clinton, Louisiana, in the early 1850s. He married Mary Emerson Creed, and they had a daughter, Stella Bradley Taylor, born in 1834.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The collection consists of papers and personal diaries. Papers are mostly business in nature and include a lithograph and prospectus of the Female Model School of Sparta, Georgia (1833), and a prospectus of the Taylor Montgomery Cottage College and Academy of Music, Drawing and Painting, near Mississippi City, Mississippi.

Diaries of Sereno Taylor comment on weather conditions, school affairs, family matters, religious services and prayer meetings. Also included are the personal diaries of Henry Kirby (1854) and Mary Emerson Taylor (1859-1860, 1869).

**Note:** See **CONTAINER LIST** for description of diaries.

**INDEX TERMS**

**Materials relating to these people, places, and things can be found in the containers indicated, as represented by their numbers.**

Louisiana--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Personal narrative.	v. 12
Louisiana--Social life and customs--19 <sup>th</sup> century.	v. 2-12
Mississippi--Social life and customs--19 <sup>th</sup> century.	v. 2-12
Railroads--Louisiana--East Feliciana Parish.	v. 1
Women's colleges.	box 1; v. 4-11
Prayer meetings--Louisiana--Clinton.	v. 4-12

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folders</u>	<u>Contents with dates</u>
A:60		2	1-2	Prospectus and lithograph for Sparta Female Model School Sparta, Georgia, 1833.
			3	Prospectus for Taylor Montgomery Cottage College and Academy of Music, Drawing and Painting, 1840.
			4	Business and financial papers, 1851-1861.
			5	v. 1: Henry Kirby diary, January-July 1854. The diary of Henry Kirby, a crew member for the Clinton and Port Hudson Railroad of East Feliciana Parish, describes the difficulty with rail cars, an individual's opposition to the railroad, personal matters, and a trip to Texas by way of New Orleans.
			1	--
H:20		3	--	v. 3: Mary Taylor diary, January-December 1869. Entries record weather conditions, religious services, social activities, temperance lectures, and the decorated graves of Confederate soldiers.
			--	v. 4: Sereno Taylor diary, 1849. Entries record weather conditions, school affairs, religious matters and personal observations.
			--	v. 5: Sereno Taylor diary, 1852. Entries record weather conditions, school affairs, religious matters and personal observations.
			--	v. 6: Sereno Taylor diary, 1852. Entries record weather conditions, school affairs, religious matters and personal observations.

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folders</u>	<u>Contents with dates</u>
H:20	3	--	v. 7: Sereno Taylor diary, 1854. Entries record weather conditions, school affairs, religious matters and personal observations.
A:60	2	6	v. 8: Sereno Taylor diary, 1855. Entries record weather conditions, school affairs, religious matters and personal observations.
H:20	3	--	v. 9: Sereno Taylor diary, January 1856-January 1857. Entries record weather conditions, school affairs, religious matters and personal observations.
		--	v. 10: Sereno Taylor diary, January-December 1857. Entries record weather conditions, school affairs, religious matters and personal observations.
		--	v. 11: Sereno Taylor diary, January 1858-1859. Entries record weather conditions, school affairs, religious matters and personal observations.
A:60	1	--	v. 12: Sereno Taylor diary, 1862-1863. Pages are loose and not in continuous chronological order. Entries comment on weather conditions, religious services, prayer meetings, and visiting ill and wounded Confederates soldiers and neighbors. Taylor also comments on the presence of Federal troops and the burning of the "Davidson place" (scan 111) and fighting at Grand Gulf (scan 117). He also comments on the illness and death of his son, John Bunyan Taylor, and others wounded at Battle of Shiloh (scans 118, 123, 128-133) and the surrender of New Orleans to the Union army (scans 126-127). Some page fragments appear to be lists of patients in hospitals (scans 32-45). <b>Note: Due to fragility of original, access is restricted. Use microfilm, or digital scans on compact disc in box 2.</b>
		2	7
MSS.MF:T	--	--	Reel 1: Entire collection.