

**KNAPP (JAMES S.) FAMILY PAPERS**  
(Mss. 880)  
Inventory

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

Reformatted 2003  
Revised 2010

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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**

<b>Size.</b>	3 linear feet
<b>Geographic locations.</b>	New Orleans, La.; Jackson, Miss.
<b>Inclusive dates.</b>	1849-1909
<b>Bulk dates.</b>	1865-1895
<b>Language.</b>	English
<b>Summary.</b>	Personal and business papers of a New Orleans dentist and members of his family.
<b>Organization.</b>	Arranged chronologically.
<b>Restrictions on access.</b>	If microfilm is available, photocopies must be made from microfilm.
<b>Related collections.</b>	N/A
<b>Copyright.</b>	Copyright of the original materials is retained by descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. copyright law.
<b>Citation.</b>	James S. Knapp Family Papers, Mss. 880, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
<b>Stack location(s).</b>	U:182; OS:K

## **BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE**

James S. Knapp was a dentist in New Orleans, La., and Jackson, Miss.; dean of the New Orleans Dental College, chartered in 1861; and president of the Louisiana State Dental Society (1878-1881). He married Emily A. Scott (d. 1871) in 1849 and Frances A. Nickerson in 1873, but divorced in 1885. He was the nephew of Frederick H. Knapp, a dentist of Baltimore, Natchez, Memphis, and New Orleans, who was president of the Louisiana State Dental Society (1881-1882). James Knapp's son, J. Rollo Knapp, also was president of the Louisiana State Dental Society (1887-1888).

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The papers of James S. Knapp concern his dental practices in New Orleans, La., and Jackson, Miss., the Louisiana Dental Association that preceded the Louisiana State Dental Society, and the establishment and activities of the New Orleans Dental College (1867-1877). Also included are his personal papers including marriage contracts, letters from his sons at school, tuition bills and diplomas for his children, and invitations and letters from dental societies. The papers of J. Rollo Knapp, consisting chiefly of bills for merchandise and correspondence with dental organizations, deal with his dental practice. The papers of Frederick H. Knapp include certificates from the University of Havana and the Board of Medical Censors of Adams County, Miss., permitting Knapp to practice as a surgeon-dentist (1843-1844), as well as letters of recommendation.

**COLLECTION DESCRIPTION**

Early papers include the marriage license of James S. Knapp and Emily A. Scott (1849), a letter to Knapp from a manufacturer of dental supplies concerning the cost of silver fillings (1850), and bills for dental operations (1859). Also included is a true copy of the charter of the New Orleans Dental College (1861) and the constitutions and by-laws of the Louisiana Dental Association (1861). A conscription notice for Knapp to report to Camp Moore (1862) as well as army passes and permits (1862-1864) are included, and personal letters from various family members refer to war conditions and family news (1862-1864).

Also found in the collection are a prospectus of the third series of the American Journal of Dental Science (1867), an introductory lecture delivered before the New Orleans Dental College at the opening of its first session (1867), the order of lectures of the Dental College (1867-68), and a number of letters from prospective students and inquiries concerning dental work. Other items pertaining to dental education and practice include receipts for lecture courses and fees (1870-1874), lecture notes (1870-1879), lists of honorary degrees, a commencement program of the New Orleans College of Dental Surgery (1872), an honorary diploma awarded to Frederick S. Knapp by the Wisconsin Dental College (1881), James Knapp's letter of resignation to the Louisiana State Dental Society (1882), and his announcement of the opening of his dental office in Jackson, Miss. (1883).

Also included is the marriage contract between Knapp and his second wife, Frances A. Nickerson (1873), a record of a visit to a spiritualist (1878), and personal letters from sons, Wilmot and Sayre, from school (1875-1879). Some financial papers and correspondence also deal with the practice of J. Rollo Knapp, and some correspondence concerns Frances Nickerson's divorce suit (1885). A letter from a young man in Chicago mentioning unemployment conditions in the city (1885), and various family and business letters are also included (1885-1909, undated).

The papers of Frederick H. Knapp include certificates from the University of Havana (1843) and the Board of Medical Censors of Adams County, Miss., permitting Knapp to practice as a surgeon-dentist (1843-1844), as well as letters of recommendation (1836-1842).

Printed materials include advertisements, pamphlets (see below), medical notices, and newspaper clippings pertaining to the medical field or members of the Knapp family (1869-1910, undated). Some full issues of newspapers are found in the collection (see container list for titles). Two manuscript volumes are also included, one listing personal expenses (1881-1885), another a check register (1895).

Printed pamphlets include:

Third annual announcement of the New Orleans Dental College, 1869; fifth, 1871; sixth, 1872;  
Constitution and By-Laws of the Louisiana State Dental Society, 1878;  
Law of the State of Louisiana regulating the practice of Dentistry, 1880;  
seventh annual announcement of the American College of Dental Surgery, 1892;  
Tenth annual announcement of the American College of Dental Surgery, 1892;  
Annual Announcement of the Louisville College of dentistry, Session of 1893;  
Constitution and By-laws of the International Order of the King's Daughters and Sons, New Orleans, 1898;  
Souvenir Announcement and Catalog of the Atlanta Dental College, 1906;  
"Maxillary Sinus Disease in the Light of Recent Clinical and Surgical Advances," by Homer Dupuy, read before the Louisiana State Dental Society Meeting, 1907  
Annual Catalogue of the Baltimore Dental Surgery, 1910-11;  
Official Program, Chicago Dental Society Sixty-First Annual Meeting and Clinic, 1925;

**INDEX TERMS**

Adams County (Miss.). Board of Medical Censors.  
Advertisements.  
Circulars (fliers)  
Dental care--Louisiana.  
Dental care--Mississippi.  
Dental schools--Louisiana--New Orleans.  
Dentistry--Louisiana.  
Dentistry--Mississippi  
Dentists--Education--Louisiana--New Orleans.  
Dentists--Louisiana.  
Dentists--Mississippi.  
Diplomas.  
Invitations.  
Invoices.  
Knapp, Frederick H.  
Knapp, James S.  
Letters (correspondence)  
Louisiana State Dental Society.  
New Orleans Dental College.  
Newsletters.  
Pamphlets.  
Programs.  
Receipts (financial records)  
Universidad de La Habana.

**CONTAINER LIST**

**Stack**

<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Box</u></b>	<b><u>Folder(s)</u></b>	<b><u>Contents (with dates)</u></b>
U:182	1a	1-13	Papers (1849-1870)
	1b	14-19	Printed pamphlets (1869-1911), Frederick Knapp addenda (1836-1891)
	2	1-15	Papers (1871-1879)
U:183	3	11-14	Papers (1880-1891)
	4	15-20	Papers (1892-1897)
U:184	5	21-24	Papers (1898-1911)
	6a-6b	25-28	Papers (undated)
U:185	7a	29-32	Papers (undated)
	7b	--	2 manuscript volumes (1881-1895)
OS:K	1	1	Frederick S. Knapp Diploma (1881)
	1	2	Newspapers: <i>The Daily States</i> , Dec. 29, 1882 (Vol.3, No. 329) <i>El Arco Iris</i> , April 20, 1848 (Vol.1, No.14) <i>Capital and Labor</i> , Feb. 4, 1882 (Vol.1, No.14) <i>The Guilford Mail</i> , March 1892 (Vol.5, No.1); May 1892 (Vol.5, No. 3); July 1892 (Vol.5, No.5); Feb. 1901 (Vol.13, No.12); April 1901 (Vol.14, No.2); Dec. 1907 (Vol.20, No.10) Clipping from <i>South Illustrated</i> (March 1887) "James Rollo Knapp, A.B., M.A., D.D.S." <i>The South Illustrated</i> (March 1887) Clipping from <i>The New Orleans Delta</i> (April 16, 1893) "Crookes' Test" article from <i>The Daily Picayune</i> (May 23, 1897) about testing psychic powers and spirit phenomena
	1	3	Certificate giving Dr. Knapp the title "Duke of Dentistry" by the King of Carnival, New Orleans (1836-1891) List of honorary degrees (1867-68) "Inadequate Dentilation" Essay (1887) List of graduates of the New Orleans Dental College from commencement to date (March 1870) Letter (November 24, 1897) "Explanatory Chart of the Amick Theory of Pulmonary Consumption" (undated) "To the Pupils of St. Joseph's Academy, Baton Rouge, La., upon its thirty-eighth opening," by Laura S. Webb (1906)