

**JAMES G. TALIAFERRO PAPERS**

Mss. 5094

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

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**SUMMARY**

<b>Size.</b>	0.2 linear ft.
<b>Geographic locations.</b>	New Orleans, Louisiana; Catahoula Parish, Louisiana; Harrisonburg, Louisiana
<b>Inclusive dates.</b>	1845-1877
<b>Language.</b>	English, Latin
<b>Summary.</b>	Planter of Catahoula Parish, Louisiana, Judge, delegate to the Louisiana secession convention, associate justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court, and newspaper publisher. Papers consist of personal correspondence to and from James G. Taliaferro, business correspondence, and accounts during the Civil War and Reconstruction period in Louisiana.
<b>Arrangement.</b>	Papers are arranged chronologically.
<b>Restrictions on access.</b>	No restrictions on access.
<b>Related collections.</b>	James G. Taliaferro and Family Papers, Mss. 1001, 1047, 1565 Zachariah and James G. Taliaferro Papers, Mss. 237 James G. Taliaferro Papers, Mss. 3327 James G. Taliaferro Letters, Mss. 1562
<b>Copyright.</b>	For those materials not in the public domain, copyright is retained by the descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. Copyright law.
<b>Citation.</b>	James G. Taliaferro, Mss. 5094, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
<b>Stack locations.</b>	18:4; OS:T

### **BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE**

James Govan Taliaferro was born in Amherst, Virginia on September 28, 1798, to Zachariah Taliaferro and Sally Warwick. The family moved to Claiborne County, Mississippi in 1806, and to Catahoula Parish, Louisiana in 1815, where Zachariah operated a sawmill with Charles Patteson.

James Taliaferro graduated from Transylvania College in Lexington, Kentucky, and married Elizabeth M.B. Williamson of Lexington in 1819. Taliaferro practiced law in Harrisonburg, Louisiana, served as a judge in Catahoula Parish, and was a member of the Catahoula Parish Police Jury (1859-1860). He owned and operated the Harrisonburg *Independent* (circa 1856-1861) and represented Catahoula Parish in the constitutional convention of 1852 and the secession convention of 1861. Taliaferro was a strong opponent of secession and refused to sign the ordinance; two of his sons served in the Union Army during the Civil War. He later served as an associate justice on the Louisiana Supreme Court (1866-1876) and a delegate to the constitutional convention of 1868. James G. Taliaferro died in Harrisonburg, Louisiana on October 13, 1876.

### **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

Personal papers consist mostly of correspondence to and from James G. Taliaferro during the Civil War and Reconstruction era. Other documents include a ballot from the Louisiana Constitutional Convention and two account statements complete with dates and prices.

**INDEX TERMS**

**Materials relating to these people, places, and things can be found throughout the entire collection.**

Accounts.

Ballots.

Catahoula Parish (La.)--History--19th century.

Harrisonburg (La.)--History--19th century.

Letters (correspondence)

Louisiana--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Marksville (La.)--History--19th century.

New Orleans (La.)--History--19th century.

Plantations--Louisiana--Catahoula Parish.

Reconstruction (U.S. history, 1865-1877)--Louisiana.

Taliaferro, James Govan, 1798-1876.

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack</u>			
<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folders</u>	<u>Contents with dates</u>
18:4	1	1-4	Correspondence, 1845-1877, undated
OS:T	--	1	Letter fragments and accounts, 1861- 1862, undated