

# A Guide to the Johnston-Wright Ledgers and Papers

Johnston-Wright Ledgers and Papers 1858-1900  
1858-1900

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A Collection in the Special Collections Department 38-8  
Special Collections Department, University of Virginia Library  
1997

## History

**Processed by:** Special Collections Department Staff  
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**Encoded by:** Elizabeth Slomba

## Title Statement

A Guide to the Johnston-Wright Ledgers and Papers

**Subtitle:** Johnston-Wright Ledgers.

**Collection:** 38-8

**Author:** Processed by Special Collections Dept. staff; machine-readable finding aid created by Elizabeth Slomba

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## Profile Description

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## Descriptive Summary

**Collection Number**

38-8

**Language**

English

**Collector**

Frank E. Johnston

**Extent**

ca. 625 items

**Repository**

University of Virginia. Library. Special Collections Dept.

Alderman Library  
University of Virginia  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903  
USA

## Administrative Information

**Access Restrictions**

Collection is open to research.

**Use Restrictions**

See the [University of Virginia Library's use policy](#).

**Acquisition Information**

These papers and ledgers were lent to the Library in 1931, and title donated on September 26, 1974, by Frank E. Johnston of North Garden, Virginia.

**Funding Note**

Funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

**Preferred Citation**

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## Scope and Content

This collection of account books and business papers, containing about 625 items, 1858-1900, originated in Albemarle County, Virginia. Most of these papers concern Robert G. Wright of North Garden and James Johnston of Hardware.

Johnston was postmaster of Hardware ca. 1885-1890, a general merchant dealing in general merchandise, and a miller who operated the Green Mountain Mill. One receipt (April 17, 1875) indicates that he also rented a place called Coles Mill for his milling business. His business papers, 1868-1899, reflect his mercantile activities and his post office business.

James Johnston apparently ran the store at Hardware, Virginia, for his brother-in-law, Bob Wright, secretary of the Waynesboro Company. Much of the business correspondence for 1890-1891 contains Wright's pleas for Johnston to accept only cash payments for goods, to collect on bad debts, and to furnish him with inventories and orders for goods so that he could meet his own obligations.

The few pieces of personal correspondence, 1873-1892, are chiefly from Johnston's sisters Mollie [?] and Sallie (Johnston) Wright, concerning family matters but they also include a letter from Thomas E. Locke, a minister, about his services and salary (July 14, 1891) and a letter from William Garland to Joshua Martin (October 31, 1885) concerning the arrival of a "carpetbagger," termed a "Yanke Mahone Emmissary," in the black community.

The miscellaneous papers contain undated poems and an invitation to the graduation exercises of Valley Seminary (1888) at Waynesboro, Virginia. Printed material consists of the by-laws of the Scottsville [Masonic] Lodge (1872) and a catalog of farm machinery (1900).

The account books include: ca. fifty small personal account and memorandum books, chiefly of James Johnston, 1873-1897; ledgers, a journal, and a daybook of Johnston's for the Green Mountain Mill in Albemarle County; other ledgers, a journal and a daybook concerning the general store at Hardware; and an account book for "Eldon Plantation" of expenses kept by W. E. Sims.

## Container List

## **Business and Legal Papers**

**Unit Date** 1868-1887

**Container** Box 1

## **Business and Legal Papers**

**Unit Date** 1888-1889

**Container** Box 1

## **Business and Legal Papers**

**Unit Date** 1890

**Container** Box 1

## **Business and Legal Papers**

**Unit Date** 1891-1899

**Container** Box 1

## **Business and Legal Paper**

**Unit Date** n.d.

**Container** Box 1

## **Correspondence**

**Unit Date** 1873-1892

**Container** Box 1

## **Miscellaneous**

**Unit Date** 1888 & n.d.

**Container** Box 1

## **Printed**

**Unit Date** 1872 & 1900

**Container** Box 1

## **Loose Material Removed from the Bound Volumes**

**Unit Date** 1877-1886

**Container** Box 1

## **Account Book for "Eldon Plantation" expenses kept by W. E. Sims**

**Unit Date** 1868-1871

**Container** Box 2

## **Ledger of James Johnston for Green Mountain Mills, Albemarle County**

**Unit Date** n.d

**Container** Box 2

## **Ledgers of James Johnston**

**Unit Date** 1874-1875, & 1890-1897

**Container** Box 2

**Extent** (4 vols.)

## **Account and Memorandum Books, chiefly of James Johnston**

**Unit Date** 1873-1897

**Container** Box 2

**Extent** (50 vols.)

## **Daybook for Green Mountain Mill of James Johnston of "Ground Wheat Records"**

**Unit Date** 1870-1879

**Container** Oversize (Box)

## **Ledger of [James Johnston]**

**Unit Date** 1858-1868

**Container** Oversize (Box)

## **Ledger of [James Johnston]**

**Unit Date** 1862-1870

**Container** Oversize (Box)

## **Ledger of R.G. Wright at Hardware**

**Unit Date** 1880

**Container** Oversize (Box)

## **Ledger**

**Unit Date** 1890

**Container** Oversize (Box)

## **Journal with Record of Corn Ground at the [Green Mountain Mill ?]**

**Unit Date** 1881 & 1885-1888

**Container** Oversize (Box)

## **Daybook of R.G. Wright at Hardware, with an inventory of stock**

**Unit Date** 1877-1878

**Container** Oversize (Box)

## **Ledger of James Johnston (indexed)**

**Unit Date** 1881-1883

**Container** Oversize (Box)

## **Ledger of James Johnston**

**Unit Date** 1878-1880

**Container** Oversize (Box)

## **Ledger of James Johnston for the Green Mountain Mill (wheat books)**

**Unit Date** 1874-1876

**Container** Oversize (Box)

## **Ledger of James Johnston**

**Unit Date** 1877-1878

**Container** Oversize (Box)

## **Ledger of James Johnston**

**Unit Date** 1877-1878

**Container** Oversize (Box)

## **Ledger of James Johnston (indexed)**

**Unit Date** 1872-1874

**Container** Oversize (Box)

## **Journal of James Johnston with inventory of stock at the Hardware store**

**Unit Date** 1878-1880

**Container** Oversize (Box)

## **Ledger of [James Johnston]**

**Unit Date** 1879-1886

**Container** Oversize (Box)