

Skinker, Thomas letter

Thomas Skinker letter

1839 January 16

Title Statement

Skinker, Thomas letterGuide to Thomas Skinker letter SC 01826

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

SC 01826

Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/9648

Unit Date

1839 January 16

Language

English

Extent

0.1 Linear Feet 1 legal size folder

Repository

Special Collections Research Center

Administrative Information

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Preferred Citation

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Biographical / Historical

Thomas K. Skinker (1805-1887) was born in Fauquier County, Virginia. He moved to St. Louis, Missouri in 1838 where he purchased property he named Ellenwood. Skinner also owned a plantation in Brandon, Rankin County, Mississippi, in which he held enslaved people. The letter is addressed to Dr. Nathaniel Vanderwall Clopton (1786-1855) who was from Morgansburg, Virginia and worked as a physician in Fauquier County, Virginia. Clopton was also a veteran of the War of 1812. During the American Civil War (1861-1865) Skinker was required to sign an oath of loyalty to the Union Army as a person who owned enslaved people.

The letter contains accounts of Skinker hiring enslaved people owned by Clopton and subsequent prices and details including a reference to the Mississippi dollar. Skinker also comments on two separate enslaved peoples' physical and mental conditions in regards to their labor value. Skinker mentions several enslaved people by name throughout the letter. At the end of the letter, Skinker briefly mentions his family.

Content Description

A single four page letter written by Thomas Skinker to associate Dr. Nathaniel Vanderwall Clopton of Virginia from whom he describes renting enslaved people. The letter concerns topics relating to slavery including the annual hiring of named enslaved people and details about an injured enslaved person.

Keywords

Slavery--Virginia--History--19th century

Slavery--Mississippi--History

Missouri--History--19th century

Saint Louis (Mo.)--History--19th century

Fauquier County (Va.)--History

Arrangement

The Thomas Skinker letter is arranged by item.

Description of Subordinate Components

Letter from Thomas K. Skinker to Dr. Nathaniel Vanderwall Clopton

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/593684

Unit Date 1839 January 16

Mixed Materials Small Collections Box 127

Container 1 (Folder)