

A Guide to the Tazewell Family Papers, 1664-1842.

Papers, 1664-1842.

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Microfilm copy (M-1552) available.

Biographical/Historical Information

Henry Tazewell (1753-1799) was a judge, Virginia delegate, and U. S. senator, and his son, Littleton Waller Tazewell (1774-1860), was a Virginia delegate, governor, and U. S. senator.

Scope and Content Information

The Tazewell Family Papers consist mainly of letters, primarily 1771-1794, mostly personal, to Henry Tazewell (1753-1799), judge, Virginia delegate, and U. S. senator, and to his son, Littleton Waller Tazewell (1774-1860), Virginia delegate and governor, and U. S. senator, from Lucy Ludwell Paradise, D. Ragsdale, Edmund Randolph, Harrison Randolph, Edward Rice, and John M. St. George. Letters concern a wide variety of subjects. Also included are a few legal documents of John Tazewell (1734-1780), Henry's uncle, a lawyer and clerk of courts in Richmond, Va., and a miscellaneous autograph collection of deeds, land grants, and letters. Prominent signatures include those of Gov. Robert Dinwiddie, Lord Dunmore, Gov. William Gooch, Patrick Henry, Gov. Herbert Jeffreys, Richard Henry Lee, John Randolph, and George Wythe. The names of John Blair, Thomas Buckner, James Cocke, Thomas Dimmer, Thomas Fondfont, G. Harmanson, John E. Holt, Anthony Irby, W[ilson] C[ary] Nicholas, Christopher Norfleet, John Savage, James Southall, and Francis Willis also appear in the papers.

Index Terms

Persons:

Blair, John, 1732-1800.

Dinwiddie, Robert, 1693-1770.

Dunmore, John Murray, Earl of, 1732-1809.

Everard, Thomas, 1719-1781.

Fairfax, Thomas, Lord, 1692-1782.

Gooch, William, Sir, 1681-1751.

Henry, Patrick, 1736-1799.

Jefferson, Thomas, 1743-1826.

Jeffreys, Herbert, Sir, d. 1678.

Lee, Richard Henry, 1732-1794.

Nelson, Thomas, b. 1764.
Paradise, Lucy Ludwell, 1751-1814.
Pendleton, Edmund, 1721-1803.
Randolph, John, 1727 or 1728-1784.
Randolph, Peyton, 1721-1775.
Southall, James Barrett, 1726-1800.
Tazewell, John, 1745-1782.
Tazewell, Littleton Waller, 1774-1860.
Waller, Benjamin, 1716-1786.
Wythe, George, 1726-1806.

Subjects:

Virginia. Superior Court --History --19th Century.
Estates (Law) --Virginia --History.
Lawyers --Biography.

Geographical Names:

Caroline County (Va.) --History.
James City County (Va.) - -History.
Lower Norfolk County (Va.) --History.
Nansemond County (Va.) --History.
Northampton County (Va.) --History.
Stafford County (Va.) --History.
Westmoreland County (Va.) -- History.
York County (Va.) --History.

Genre and Form Terms:

Deeds -- Virginia --History.
Land titles --Virginia --History.

Arrangement

Items are arranged chronologically; oversized items are listed at end and housed separately.

Contents List

King's assent to [Virginia] Acts of 1732, Chapter 28, concerning the vestment of certain entailed properties of Gertrude Harmonson of Northampton County. 1 November 1733.

Extent 3p.

Deposition of Anthony Irby to George Wythe discussing the buying of 400 acres of land on the Banester [sic] [Banister] River from Clement and Thomas Read. The Reads never owned the land they were attempting to sell. Irby is preparing to bring the Reads to court, charging them with fraud. ca. 1771.

Extent 4p.

Letter. Anthony Irby to George Wythe concerning Irby's law suit against Clement and Thomas Read. 8 April 1771.

Extent 2p.

Letter. Richard Henry Lee, Chantilly [Virginia], to Edmund Pendleton, Caroline [County, Virginia]. Discusses the settlement of the estate of [Gawin] Corbin of Westmoreland County, deceased. 2 September 1772.

Extent 4p.

A legal notice written by George Wythe [to Patrick Henry] in the case of Roger Gregory vs. the estate of Edward Athawes, deceased, Mary Athawes, administratrix. 20 September 1773.

Extent 1p.

Edmund Pendleton's signed memo regarding Charles Harding's charge of trespassing against John Combs for cutting down his trees. 5 April 1774.

Extent 2p.

Letter. George Wythe to John Randolph. Inquires as to wherabouts of several bills in the cases of the Attorney General against Twitty and others. 13 October 1774

Extent 2p.

Land grant. Thomas, Lord Fairfax, proprietor of the northern neck of Virginia, to Joseph Combs. Note on back by John Lagarde, Clerk of Court for Stafford County, states no records of this grant could be found. Additional note from Edmund Pendleton to his client, Mr. Harding, advising him that the grant appears fraudulent. 15 October 1778

Extent 2p.

Receipt signed by Thomas Jefferson for L296.33 recovered by Henry Tazewell from the estate of John Randolph on behalf of the Ferrell and Jones. 19 December 1778.

Extent 1p.

Loan office receipt signed by Patrick Henry recording the collection of \$794.33 from Benjamin Waller owed to William Johnston of the kingdom of Great Britain and sequestered according to the Act of Assembly for that purpose made. PFWMI. 2 March 1779.

Extent 1p.

Letter. Patrick Henry to [?] Leatherwood concerning a property claim in Pittsylvania County. 21 October 1780

Extent 4p.

Letter. Richard Henry Lee, Chantilly, Virginia, to John Bailey and John Brennon informing them that a jury has been summoned to try the two on a charge of forceable entry. 16 February 1780.

Extent 1p.

Loan office receipt signed by Thomas Jefferson for a loan of \$7,437.70 borrowed by Benjamin Waller from Thomas Knox & Co. PFWMI. 17 March 1780.

Extent 1p.

Edmund Randolph's legal opinion of the division of the estate of Mr. [?] Thomas. 11 June 1783.

Extent 2p.

Letter. John Tabb, Amelia County, to Henry Tazewell, Williamsburg, concerning the sale of a tract of land at the Capahosick [sic] [Cappahosic] Ferry, Gloucester County, Virginia. 27 February 1785.

Extent 2p.

Letter. Edmund Randolph to Henry Tazewell, Williamsburg, expressing gratitude for the loan of a horse to Mrs. Nicholas. 11 June 1785.

Extent 2p.

Letter. Edmund Randolph to Henry Tazewell, Williamsburg, asking him if he could borrow a horse. 11 June 1785.

Extent 2p.

Land grant, Patrick Henry, Governor of Virginia to John Kearns, M. [?] Butt, Solomon Creekmore and William Northern. PFWMI. 28 June 1785.

Letter. D. Ragsdale, King William [County, Virginia] to Henry Tazewell, Williamsburg, concerning the case of Walk vs. Powell, explaining Thomas Matthews' debt. 26 August 1785.

Extent 2p.

Letter. Harrison Randolph, Dinwiddie [County, Virginia] to Henry Tazewell, Williamsburg. Writes to Tazewell, who was recently appointed judge of the district court, requesting his recommendation to a district court clerkship. 1 February 1788.

Extent 2p.

Letter. Edward Rice, Williamsburg, to Henry Tazewell concerning the purchase of corn at a rate of twelve shillings a barrel. 27 January 1789.

Extent 2p.

Letter. Edmund Randolph, Williamsburg, to Henry Tazewell, Petersburg, concerning the settlement of Peyton Randolph's debt by selling parts of his property. 23 April 1790

Extent 2p.

Letter. Edmund Randolph, Philadelphia, to Henry Tazewell concerning Randolph's debt to Tazewell and to [?] Carter. 17 October 1790.

Extent 2p.

Letter. Edmund Randolph, Philadelphia, to Henry Tazewell, Williamsburg, will send Tazewell a deed as agreed. 1 September 1791.

Extent 2p.

Further details concerning purchase of land referred to in the letter of 2 September 1791. 4 September 1791.

Extent 2p.

Henry Tazewell's account with Charles Hunt. Items purchased include medicines, food, household items, clothing, and alcohol. The sum total is L34.19s.11p. 2 January 1793.

Extent 2p.

Letter. Edmund Randolph, Philadelphia, to Henry Tazewell, Williamsburg, mentions Tazewell's purchase of land from Randolph and difficulty in sending the deed. 9 October 1793.

Extent 2p.

Letter. James Southall, Williamsburg, to John Holt, Norfolk. Southall requests Holt's immediate payment of a bond. If not paid, Southall must pay off the bond himself. 22 January 1794.

Extent 2p.

Letter. James Southall, Williamsburg, to John Holt, Norfolk. Concerns Holt's failure to pay a debt in Southall's name. If Holt does not pay off the debt soon, Southall will have to sell his crops to pay the debt himself. 9 April 1794.

Extent 3p.

Letter. James Southall, Williamsburg, to John Holt, Norfolk. Presses Holt to pay his debt so that Southall's property need not be sold. With enclosure. 14 April 1794.

Extent 2p.

[Enclosure] to above. James Southall, Williamsburg to John Holt, Norfolk, instructing Holt to pay the balance due to Southall to David Miller. 14 April 1794.

Extent 2p.

Letter. Edmund Pendleton, Richmond, to Henry Tazewell, Williamsburg, expressing his wish that Tazewell's health improve so that he may return to the court: cases are backlogged for lack of a quorum. 20 October 1794.

Extent 2p.

Letter. Edmund Randolph, Richmond, to Littleton [Waller] Tazewell, Suffolk. Concerns debt of Henry Tazewell, deceased, owed to Randolph. Also mentions a recent court case decided in Randolph's favor. 12 May 1804.

Extent 2p.

Letter. John St. George, Williamsburg, to Littleton Waller Tazewell, asks him to forward a mortgage from Holt to Spratly so that he may make use of it in a business transaction. 5 July 1804.

Extent 2p.

Letter. Lucy Ludwell Paradise, London, to Littleton Waller Tazewell, Norfolk, desires to return to Williamsburg from England and is waiting for the arrival of her profits from the sale of some corn and wheat so that she can pay off her debts and return to Virginia. 24 February 1805.

Extent 2p.

Commonwealth of Virginia Superior Court Docket. October Term 1842. Lists plaintiffs and defendants. October 1842.

Extent 4p.

Deed. Captain John Savage to Thomas Dimmer, granting one thousand acres of land on Savages Creek in Northampton County. 31 October 1664.

Extent 2p.

Physical Location Oversize.

Land patent. Lieutenant Governor Herbert Jeffreys to Thomas Fondfont for 797 acres in Lower Norfolk County [now Chesapeake]. 10 October 1678.

Extent 2p.

Physical Location Oversize.

Deed. Lieutenant Governor William Gooch to Thomas and Mary Buckner of Caroline County, for 925 acres in Bruton Parish in York County. 9 December 1742.

Extent 2p.

Physical Location Oversize.

Deed. Lieutenant Governor William Gooch and wife Rebecca to Francis Willis of Gloucester County for 925 acres in Bruton Parish in York County. Also transfers slaves, livestock and farm implements. Witnessed by Thomas Nelson and Thomas Everard. 23 April 1748.

Extent 3p.

Physical Location Oversize.

Land grant. Governor Robert Dinwiddie to Christopher Norfleet, 220 acres in Nansemond County, on the southern branch of the Nansemond River. Parchment. PFWMI. 16 June 1756.

Extent 1p.

Physical Location Oversize.

Land grant from Governor John Murray, Earl of Dunmore to John Tazewell of York County. The land in question consists of three town lots in Williamsburg and was owned by the late William Livingston. 1 August 1772.

Extent Parchment. 2p.

Physical Location Oversize.

Deed. John Randolph, and wife, Ariana, of Williamsburg, to Peyton Randolph, James Blair and James Cocke, also of Williamsburg. Gives John Randolph's house and adjoining lands [approximately 100 acres] lying in Williamsburg and James City County in consideration of Randolph's debts. Includes inventory of household goods. 25 August 1775.

Extent 3p.

Physical Location Oversized.

Deed, John Blair and James Cocke, surviving trustees of John Randolph, dec'd, to John Tazewell. Land from the late Peyton Randolph sold to pay debts to John Syme, Burwell Bassett and William Fitzhugh of Marmion. 15 October 1778.

Extent 2p.

Physical Location Oversize.