



# Guide to the Alexander Boteler Papers, 1707-1924

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This collection guide was produced in **June 2012**.

This PDF version was created on **April 2, 2026**.

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## Summary

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**Collection Title:**

Alexander Robinson Boteler papers, 1707-1924, 1836-1889

**Source:**

Boteler, Henry, Dr.

**Creator:**

Boteler, Alexander Robinson

**Abstract:**

Correspondence of Alexander's father, Dr. Henry Boteler, for 1776-1837; and family letters of Alexander with information on his career at Princeton College and his courtship of his future wife, Helen Macomb Stockton. Political correspondence, relating to the election of 1860, the Constitutional Union party, and Alexander's travels around the country in 1882-1884 while a member of the U.S. tariff commission. Volumes include Boteler's diary for 1845, regarding his plantation; various scrapbooks and some genealogical materials on the Pendleton, Digges, and Pope families. Among the correspondents are Lewis Cass, Samuel Cooper, John B. Floyd, S. B. French, Wade Hampton, T. J. Jackson, Andrew Johnson, R. E. Lee, John Letcher, W. P. Miles, John Page, Thomas N. Page, Rembrandt Peale, W. N. Pendleton, W. C. Rives, Alexander Robinson, W. H. Seward, J.E.B. Stuart, Jacob Thompson, J. F. Thompson, and Dabney C. Wirt.

**Extent:**

3 Linear Feet (5 boxes, 1,686 items (incl. 4 vols.))

**Language:**

Materials in English

**Collection ID:**

RL.10102

**Permalink:**

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m1v595>

**Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], in the Alexander Robinson Boteler Papers Collection, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

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## Background

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### Scope and Content

This collection consists of family letters of Alexander R. Boteler (1815-1892), Virginia political leader, congressman, and Civil War soldier, with sidelights on his career at Princeton College, Princeton, New Jersey, his courtship of Helen Macomb Stockton, whom he later married, his altercations with Charles J. Faulkner, and "Yankee" depredations at his home, "Fountain Rock," during the Civil War; political correspondence, 1855-1870, relating to the election of 1860 and the Constitutional Union Party; letters concerning Boteler's travels about the country in 1882-1884 while a member of the U.S. Tariff Commission; correspondence concerning claims of James Rumsey as inventor of the first steamboat; and legal and personal papers of Helen (Stockton) Boteler's father, Ebenezer S. Stockton, and grandfather, Robert Stockton. Volumes include Boteler's diary, 1845, relating to his plantation; a scrapbook on the election of 1848; a scrapbook containing clippings, letters, and pictures devoted principally to the activities and interests of Boteler; and a scrapbook containing clippings, letters, and pictures concerning the Pendleton, Digges, and Pope families, especially the life of Dudley Digges Pendleton who married Helen Stockton Boteler.

The collection also contains the correspondence of Alexander R. Boteler's father, Dr. Henry Boteler, for 1776-1837.

Among other correspondents are A. R. Boteler, Lewis Cass, Samuel Cooper, John B. Floyd, S. B. French, Wade Hampton, T. J. Jackson, Andrew Johnson, R. E. Lee, John Letcher, W. P. Miles, John Page, Thomas N. Page, Rembrandt Peale, W. N. Pendleton, W. C. Rives, Alexander Robinson, W. H. Seward, J. E. B. Stuart, Jacob Thompson, J. R. Thompson, Dabney C. Wirt.

### Biographical/Historical

Alexander R. Boteler (1815-1892) was Virginia political leader, U.S. congressman, and Confederate Civil War officer. He graduated from Princeton College, Princeton, New Jersey. He was a pro-slavery Virginian active in politics before the Civil War and much of his correspondence relates to the election of 1860 and the Constitutional Union Party. He served on General J.E.B. Stuart's staff. Boteler's plantation, Fountain Rock, was burned by Union troops at the end of the Civil War. He was later a member of the U.S. Tariff Commission from 1882-1884.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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### Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

### Acquisition Information

The Alexander Robinson Boteler papers were acquired by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library between 1935 and 1963.

### Processing Information

Processed by Rubenstein Library staff.

### Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

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## Names and Subjects

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- United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
- Courtship -- West Virginia
- West Virginia -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
- Farm life -- West Virginia
- Slavery
- Stuart, Jeb

- Pope family
- Lee, Robert E. (Robert Edward), 1807-1870
- Boteler, Henry, Dr.
- Cass, Lewis
- Boteler, Helen Macomb Stockton
- Princeton University
- Pendleton family
- Jackson, Stonewall
- Johnson, Andrew
- Digges family
- Hampton, Wade
- Constitutional Union Party (U.S.) -- Virginia
- Cooper, Samuel

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## Collection Inventory

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Biographical/Genealogical materials, undated	Box 1
Papers, 1707-1783	Box 1
Correspondence, 1776-1855	Box 1
Correspondence, 1856-1876 (online item available)	Box 2
<b>Digital Object:</b> <a href="#">Correspondence, 1863-1865</a>	
<b>Digital Object:</b> <a href="#">Correspondence, 1861-1862</a>	
Correspondence, 1877-1885 Sept.	Box 3
Correspondence, 1885 Oct.-1910	Box 4
Clippings, undated	Box 5
Photographs, undated	Box 5
Handwritten notes, undated (online item available)	Box 5
<b>Digital Object:</b> <a href="#">Handwritten notes, undated</a>	
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
Includes handwritten book (three parts) on James Ramsey and the steamboat.	
Biographical sketches, undated	Box 5

Scrapbook I, 1771-1824

Volume 1

**Scope and Contents**

Scrapbook of clippings, letters and pictures which cover Boteler's family and his activities.

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Scrapbook II, 1729-1887

Volume F:376

**Scope and Contents**

Scrapbook concerns the genealogy of the Pendleton, Digges, and Pope families, related by the marriage of Helen Stockton Boteler to Dudley Digges Pendleton.

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Scrapbook, 1848

Volume S:374

**Scope and Contents**

This scrapbook primarily concerns the presidential election of 1848.

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Diary, 1845

Volume S:373

**Scope and Contents**

Diary entries document Boteler's activities as a plantation owner and enslaver.