



# Guide to the Thomas Lee Settle Papers, 1795-1949

---

This collection guide was produced in .  
This PDF version was created on **April 3, 2026**.

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

103 Perkins Library, Duke University

Durham 27708-0185

919-660-5822

[askRL@duke.edu](mailto:askRL@duke.edu)

URL: <http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

---

## Table of Contents

---

<a href="#">Summary</a> .....	3
<a href="#">Background</a> .....	4
<a href="#">Administrative Information</a> .....	5
<a href="#">Names and Subjects</a> .....	6
<a href="#">Collection Inventory</a> .....	6
<a href="#">Thomas Lee Settle Papers, 1795-1949</a> .....	6

## Summary

---

**Collection Title:**

Thomas Lee Settle papers, 1795-1949

**Creator:**

Settle, Thomas Lee, 1836-1920

**Abstract:**

Physician and Confederate surgeon, of Paris (Fauquier Co.), Va. Alleged to have pronounced the death of abolitionist John Brown. Correspondence, travel journal, bills, prescriptions, deeds, receipts, records of land sales, and other papers (chiefly 1820-1900), concerning Settle's medical career, his interests in stock raising and farming, Civil War, events in Virginia (1861-1862), the Confederate medical service, activities of military units, and other matters. Includes letters from Robert H. Simpson, an officer of the 17th Virginia Infantry.

**Extent:**

10 Linear Feet  
5,641 Items

**Physical Location:**

For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

**Language:**

English

**Language:**

Material in English

**Collection ID:**

RL.01168

**Permalink:**

<http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/findingaids/settlethomaslee/>

**Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], Thomas Lee Settle Papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Background

---

### Scope and Content

Papers of Thomas Lee Settle (1836-1920), physician, and surgeon of the 11th Virginia Cavalry, C.S.A., include orders for the Virginia militia, 1797 and 1800; family letters to Texas, Missouri, and Tennessee; and correspondence concerning the education of the Settle children and friends at various schools and academies in Virginia, and at Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, Virginia. Civil War correspondence, including letters of Captain Robert H. Simpson and other Confederate soldiers, describes the battles of first Manassas, Chickahominy Swamp, and Fredericksburg, the Peninsular Campaign, crops and conditions in northern Virginia during the war, and directions for making salt. There are also records of land sales, deeds, and rent receipts; medical correspondence, prescriptions, and bills; bills and receipts for land transactions, household expenses, and apple brandy making; horse-dealing records during the Civil War; two Confederate Loan Bonds; business papers of A. H. Settle & Co., merchants of Paris, Virginia, medical diary, 1855-1858, 1861, and 1865-1866, of Thomas Lee Settle; and a diary, 1863-1864, of Thomas Lee Settle describing his activities as surgeon to the 11th Virginia Cavalry. A journal, 1863, of John S. Timberlake entitled "Trip to Florida and Salt Works, Oct. 20, 1863. With descriptions of the country and other particulars intervening on the way," contains detailed descriptions of various salt works in Georgia; "Descriptions of Florida and Health and Other Particulars (useful) as they Happen" discussing health and agricultural conditions, sugar making, and the economic conditions of Florida and Georgia plantations; and a synopsis of Adiel Sherwood's 1860 Gazetteer of Georgia. Postwar materials include Sunday school record book, 1884; letters from soldiers in the Spanish-American War discussing camp life in Florida, the Rough Riders, courts-martial, and desertion; letter, 1909, from T. C. Evans, dean of the Medical Department, University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky discussing his department; letters from Edgar Ackley Moore (d. 1924), physician, to his wife Pauline (Settled Moore, daughter of Thomas Lee Settle, while serving in the U.S. Army Medical Reserve Corps during World War I, describing camp life and his experiences in America and France, the work of the Young Men's Christian Association and the American National Red Cross in France, casualties, prisoners, hospitals, and physicians; papers relating to Moore's Masonic affiliation; ledger, 1905-1907, and accounts, 1906-1912, of Edgar Ackley Moore; literary reviews; medical pamphlets; and scrapbooks and exercise books. Volumes consist of medical visiting and account books, 1855-1914, commonplace books, 1852-1867, daybook, 1901-1905, expense book, 1870-1880, ledgers, 1867-1913, and record book, 1856-1857, of Thomas Lee Settle; account book for the John Horn estate; pamphlets, including one on the San Francisco earthquake of 1906 and another on a silver mining scheme in Canada, entitled Julian Hawthorne and Company (1909); a stallion service

book; and photographs. Other papers include genealogical information, original poetry, and legal documents and wills.

### **Biographical/Historical**

Physician and Confederate surgeon, of Paris (Fauquier Co.), Va. Alleged to have pronounced the death of abolitionist John Brown.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## **Administrative Information**

---

### **Publication Statement**

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

103 Perkins Library, Duke University  
Durham 27708-0185  
919-660-5822

[askRL@duke.edu](mailto:askRL@duke.edu)

URL: <http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

### **Access Restrictions**

Collection is open for research.

Researchers must register and agree to copyright and privacy laws before using this collection.

All or portions of this collection may be housed off-site in Duke University's Library Service Center. The library may require up to 48 hours to retrieve these materials for research use.

Please contact Research Services staff before visiting the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library to use this collection.

### **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.

## Acquisition Information

The Thomas Lee Settle Papers were acquired by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library in 1955.

## Processing Information

Processed by Rubenstein Library Staff

Encoded by Abraham Lee, February 2010

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Names and Subjects

---

- United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives, Confederate
- Virginia -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
- Physicians -- Virginia -- Fauquier County
- Real property -- Virginia
- Agriculture -- Virginia
- Livestock -- Breeding
- Confederate States of America -- Army -- Surgeons
- Confederate States of America -- Army -- Virginia Infantry Regiment, 17th
- Confederate States of America -- Army -- Sanitary affairs
- Simpson, Robert H., d. 1864
- Settle, Thomas Lee, 1836-1920

---

## Collection Inventory

---

### Thomas Lee Settle Papers, 1795-1949

**Physical Description:** 18 boxes

Papers, 1794-1876	Box 1
Papers, 1877-1888	Box 2
Papers, 1889-1893	Box 3
Papers, 1894-1904	Box 4

Guide to the Thomas Lee Settle Papers, 1795-1949

Papers, 1905-1911	Box 5
Papers, 1912-1919	Box 6
Papers, 1920-1929	Box 7
Papers, 1930-1955 and undated.	Box 8
Papers, undated.	Box 9
Legal Papers, 1772-1951	Box 10
School Reports, 1885-1890	Box 10
Newspaper Clippings	Box 10
Printed Materials	Box 10
Medical Papers	Box 10
Miscellany	Box 10
Bills and Receipts, 1770-1869	Box 11
Bills and Receipts, 1870-1877	Box 12
Bills and Receipts, 1878-1886	Box 13
Bills and Receipts, 1887-1898	Box 14
Bills and Receipts, 1899-1944 and undated.	Box 15
Printed Materials	Box 15
Pictures	Box 15
Account Volumes, 1861-1904	Box 16
Account Volumes, 1905-1920	Box 17
Miscellaneous Volumes	Box 17
Medical Notebook and Account Book, 1855-1866	Box 18
Medical Records for the 11th Virginia Cavalry (1863-1865)	Box 18

Account Book, 1867-1870	Box 18
Sunday School Records	Box 18
Wesleyan Catechism	Box 18
Blair's Pocket Therapeutics	Box 18
Physician's Handy Memorandum Book	Box 18
The Taylor Pocket Case Book	Box 18
Miscellaneous Writings and Volumes (especially concerning medical topics)	Box 18
Volume, 1867-1873	Volume F:6478
Volume, 1871-1881	Volume F:6479
Volume, 1872-1880	Volume F:6596
Volume, 1873-1877	Volume F:6597
Volume, 1879-1886	Volume F:6599
Volume, 1882-1890	Volume F:6600
Volume, 1888-1892	Volume F:6601
Volume, 1901-1905	Volume F:6602
Volume	Volume L:6880
Volume	Volume L:6471
Volume	Volume L:6595
Volume	Volume L:6598
Volume	Volume M:6466
Volume	Volume M:6594

[Return to Table of Contents](#)