

**E. J. COCKFIELD AND FAMILY PAPERS**  
(Mss. 989)  
Inventory

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections  
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library  
Louisiana State University Libraries  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

Revised 2008

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**Use of manuscript materials.** If you wish to examine items in the manuscript group, please fill out a call slip specifying the materials you wish to see. Consult the Container List for location information needed on the call slip.

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Proper acknowledgement of LLMVC materials must be made in any resulting writing or publications. The correct form of citation for this manuscript group is given on the summary page. Copies of scholarly publications based on research in the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections are welcomed.

**SUMMARY**

<b>Size.</b>	1.3 linear feet and 15 manuscript volumes
<b>Geographic locations.</b>	Natchitoches and New Orleans, Louisiana; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Charleston, South Carolina
<b>Inclusive dates.</b>	1854-1930
<b>Bulk dates.</b>	1875-1890
<b>Language.</b>	English
<b>Summary.</b>	Letters and business papers of Ebenezer Joseph Cockfield, planter of Natchitoches Parish; and personal correspondence from members of the Cockfield family of Williamsburg County, South Carolina;
<b>Organization.</b>	Arranged chronologically
<b>Restrictions on access.</b>	If microfilm is available, photocopies must be made from microfilm.
<b>Related collections.</b>	N/A
<b>Copyright.</b>	Copyright of the original materials is retained by descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. copyright law.
<b>Citation.</b>	E.J. Cockfield and Family Papers, Mss. 989, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
<b>Stack location(s).</b>	A:65-66, P:19, OS:C

## **BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE**

Ebenezer Joseph Cockfield was a planter and businessman of Natchitoches Parish, La. His nephew, Anglo P. Cockfield, came to Louisiana from South Carolina in 1877 to manage one of the Cockfield plantations, Beulah. Estelle Cockfield, daughter of A. P. and Marcia Cockfield, attended Providence Academy in Alexandria, La., and Louisiana State Normal College in Natchitoches, La. She later taught in the Louisiana public schools.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

During the period from 1854 to 1876, the papers center on E. J. Cockfield as executor of the estate of his brothers, Josiah W., L. D., and W. J. Cockfield, and the papers include legal documents and related papers pertaining to the settlement of their estates. Other business papers include statements of account with C. L. Walmsley and Co., cotton brokers of New Orleans, notes, receipts, and bills for merchandise. Letters (1875-1876) written by Cockfield from Natchitoches, New Orleans, and Philadelphia concern politics in Natchitoches Parish, crop conditions, and family matters. Of note are letters from E.J. Cockfield to A.P. Cockfield, one pointing out a court case in which three African Americans were sentenced to death for murder (January 27, 1876), one mentioning the loss of six ships carrying cotton (March 13, 1876), and others mentioning the election of 1876 (November 20, December 9, 1876).

In 1877, Anglo P. Cockfield, nephew of E. J. Cockfield, came to Louisiana from South Carolina to manage Beulah plantation. During the period from 1877 to 1887, the papers consist of personal correspondence and business papers of E. J. Cockfield and A. P. Cockfield. Letters from members of the Cockfield family living in South Carolina give information concerning rural public school education, farming, temperance, religious activities of the people, and marriages and deaths of friends and relatives in that area. Other personal papers include a marriage license of A.P. Cockfield and Miss Belle McLaurin (1879). Business papers include bills for merchandise, accounts and contracts with tenant farmers on Beulah Plantation and Narciss Prudhomme Place (1879-1884), receipts for lumber, and letters and reports of G. W. Sentell and Co., cotton brokers, New Orleans. Also included is the appointment of Anglo Cockfield as Road Apportioner by the Police Jury of Natchitoches Parish (1884).

After 1912, the papers are chiefly those of Estelle Cockfield, daughter of A. P. Cockfield. Estelle Cockfield attended Providence Academy in Alexandria, Louisiana, and Louisiana State Normal College (now Northwestern State College) in Natchitoches, Louisiana, and later taught in the public schools of Louisiana. The collection also contains programs for musicals and plays at the Louisiana State Normal College, 1916-1917; letters from members of the school boards of Calcasieu, St. Martin, Allen, and De Soto Parishes relative to teaching positions (1919); letters from her brother, written from New Orleans, Charleston, South Carolina, and Pensacola, Florida, during his service in the United States Navy during World War I, as well as letters written from France, describing the customs of the people in England and France (August 26, 1918). Also included are pamphlets and printed items (see container list for details). Navy bands and a

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tintype of an unidentified home are also found in the collection (undated), as well as the abstract of the title to Beulah Plantation made for the heirs of A.P. Cockfield (1921) and an abstract from the succession records of Natchitoches Parish which includes the succession of Ebenezer Joseph Cockfield (undated).

The bound manuscript volumes include memorandum books listing personal and business expenses (1878-1898).

**INDEX TERMS**

Beulah Plantation (La.)

Cockfield, Anglo P. (Anglo Puritan), b. 1852.

Cockfield, E. J. (Ebenezer, Joseph), d. 1886.

Cockfield, Estelle.

Cockfield family.

Cotton trade--Louisiana--New Orleans.

C.L. Walmsley and Company.

G.W. Sentell and Company.

Inheritance and succession--Louisiana--Natchitoches Parish.

Natchitoches Parish (La.)--History--19<sup>th</sup> century.

Northwestern State College of Louisiana.

Plantation owners--Louisiana--Natchitoches Parish.

Sailors--Louisiana.

Williamsburg County (S.C.)--History--19<sup>th</sup> century.

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack</u>			
<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
A:65	1a	1-4b	1854-1877
	1b	4c-6b	1877-1879
	2a	7-11a	1880-1884
	2b	11b-14b	1884-1886
	3a	15-18c	1913-1930, undated
		19	Tintype (removed to Box 3c)
	3b	20	Cards
		21	Newspaper clipping <i>Democratic Review</i> (removed to OS:C)
		22	Bands from the U.S. Navy (undated)
		23a	Pamphlets of the Palmer Method Penmanship School (1926, 1927), pamphlet entitled "Letter Writing Made Easy" (undated)
		23b	Catalog of Louisiana State Normal College 1927
		23c	Brief of Cockfield v. Toures, The Louisiana Supreme Court (1872); "Muscular Writing: A Course of Study." By Minnie Graves (ca. 1920); "How to Proceed with your Studies." Women's Institute of Domestic Arts and Sciences, Inc., (ca. 1916)
		23d	Catalog of Providence Academy (ca. 1923)
		23e	Catalog of Our Lady of the Lake College (ca. 1923)
		23f	Yearbook of Our Lady of the Lake College (ca. 1923)
	3c	--	Tintype (undated)

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P:19	--	--	Volume 1: Ledger (1895-1898)
	1	--	Volume 2: Memorandum Book (1878) Volume 3: Memorandum Book (1880) Volume 4: Memorandum Book (1880) Volume 5: Memorandum Book (1882-1883) Volume 6: Memorandum Book (1883) Volume 7: Memorandum Book (1883) Volume 8: Memorandum Book (1883) Volume 9: Memorandum Book (1883) Volume 10: Memorandum Book (1883) Volume 11: Memorandum Book (1884) Volume 12: Memorandum Book (1885) Volume 13: Memorandum Book (1886) Volume 14: Memorandum Book (undated) Volume 15: Memorandum Book (undated)
OS:C	--	1	Newspaper clipping <i>Democratic Review</i> (undated)