

**BATCHELOR FAMILY PAPERS**

Ms. 1293

Inventory

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

Reformatted 2003

Revised 2012

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**BATCHELOR FAMILY PAPERS**

1852-1922

**Mss. 1293**

LSU Libraries Special Collections

**SUMMARY**

<b>Size.</b>	124 items on 1 microfilm reel
<b>Geographic locations.</b>	Pointe Coupee Parish, West Feliciana Parish, Louisiana
<b>Inclusive dates.</b>	1852-1922, undated
<b>Bulk dates.</b>	N/A
<b>Language.</b>	English
<b>Summary.</b>	Papers of members of the Batchelor family and descendants.
<b>Organization.</b>	Series I, Family Papers, 1859-1922, undated Series II, Succession Papers, 1901-1912, undated Series III, Maunsel White Papers, 1852-1898 Series IV, St. Stephens Church and Cemetery Papers, 1878-1918, undated
<b>Restrictions on access.</b>	If microfilm is available, photocopies must be made from microfilm.
<b>Related collections.</b>	Albert A. Batchelor Papers, Mss. 919 Maunsel White Papers, Mss. 1293 Maunsell White Letterbook, Mss. 2888
<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>	Batchelor Family Papers, Mss. 1293, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
<b>Stack locations.</b>	Mss.MF:B

### **BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE**

Albert A. Batchelor, son of Thomas A.G. Batchelor (1813-1868) and Martha L. Batchelor (1821-1862), was a doctor and planter of Red River Landing in Pointe Coupee Parish, Louisiana. He attended the Kentucky Military Institute and fought for the Confederacy with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, Louisiana Infantry. Batchelor also managed or had interests in several plantations, including Bella Vista, Lakeside, Phoenix, Highland, and Normandy, and served a term in the Louisiana State Legislature (1888-1892). He married Cornelia Randolph Stewart, daughter of Gus Stewart; the two had no children.

Batchelor's siblings include Mollie, Iverson G. (1846-1900), Charles J. (1838-1878), James Madison, Thomas (possibly 1850-1868), and Kate. All of the brothers of age served in the Confederacy, Charles and James alongside Albert in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Louisiana and Iverson in the 1<sup>st</sup> Louisiana Cavalry. Iverson was also involved in running the family plantations and acquired additional land. Many of the Batchelor family members are buried in St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Cemetery, Innis, Pointe Coupee Parish, La.

### **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The Batchelor family papers contain records, letters, and documents pertaining to plantation operation before, during and after the Civil War. The papers are divided into four sections concerning different topics. The first section consists of family papers such as records of plantation operation, personal correspondence between Batchelor family members, and Civil War letters between soldiers and their families. The second section contains succession papers of three Batchelor family members, namely, Albert A., Iverson G., and Cornelia R. Batchelor. The third section contains papers of Maunsel White, a plantation owner who also lived in Pointe Coupee Parish. The fourth contains materials pertaining to St. Stephens Church and Cemetery, an Episcopal Church attended by the Batchelor family, and includes materials pertinent to the construction of the church, cemetery, and a Confederate war memorial.

**SERIES DESCRIPTIONS****Series I, Family Papers, 1859-1922, undated**

Early family papers include a bill of sale for six slaves in Pointe Coupee Parish (1859) and Civil War correspondence from soldiers and civilians (1862-1865). These include a letter from Bill Rodgers in Virginia expressing his regard for 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment Louisiana "cut throats who prevented Yankees from getting Yorktown" (1862); letters from Rosa Stewart expressing patriotic sentiments, admiration of Beauregard, and mentioning the fact that she cannot cross the river at Morganza because of hostile army troops and that soldiers and officers fill the house all day (1864); a letter from Albert Batchelor to his sister discussing Union troops visiting his house several times without finding him (Nov. 7, 1864); and a letter from E.R. Harmanson at Camp Randolph near Alexandria, La., complaining of military discipline and army food and discussing drunkenness and women (1865). Also included is an oath taken by Albert Batchelor "who was never disfranchised" (1868).

A number of letters, contracts and receipts concern supplies and construction work on plantations (1876-1901), and a letter from Batchelor requests legal advice regarding the proposed sale of his property to an African American Baptist Church (1900). Other items include letters and memoranda from Batchelor regarding cotton business, cotton contracts with tenants, and repairs to tenant houses (1902-1904); the lease of Bella Vista Plantation to George W. Reagan (1902); and a letter regarding the building of a Texas and Pacific Railway station on Torwood Plantation (1903). Also included are leases for the rental of land on Bella Vista and Ashley plantations (1905-1906); a newspaper clipping providing biographical information on Batchelor (1905); letters discussing legal matters concerning the sale of timber and the right for a tramroad through Ashley swamp (1906-1908).

A lease for the rental of land on Ashley Plantation (1922) is included, as well as a petition of tenants of Normandy Plantation requesting a reduction in rents because of crop failure due to flooding rains (undated).

**Series II, Succession Papers, 1901-1912, undated**

Succession papers of Iverson G. Batchelor include a lease of Lakeside and Torwood plantations in Pointe Coupee Parish (1901), legal documents pertaining to the transfer of title and possession of Lakeside Plantation (1901), letters discussing financial matters involving the plantations (1901-1902), and a letter regarding collections and disbursements for the estate of I.G. Batchelor (1903).

Succession papers of Albert A. Batchelor include rough drafts (handwritten and typewritten) of his last will and testament (1901), inventory of estate, transfers of title involving Bella Vista, Normandy, and Ashley plantations, and receipts for payment of inheritance taxes and court fees (1905-1909). Letters to Cornelia R. Batchelor provide legal and financial advice concerning her husband's estate (1905-1906), and a letter from Whitney Central National Bank New Orleans discusses the will of A.A. Batchelor (1912).

Also included is the last will and testament (handwritten and typewritten) of Cornelia R. Batchelor, New Orleans (1903).

**Series III, Maunsel White Papers, 1852-1898**

Papers pertain to the establishment of title to Ashley Plantation in Pointe Coupee Parish, including a letter from White describing in detail his plantation and slaves for sale on Bayou Latanache (1852), letters concerning the title examination and act of sale of Ashley Plantation (1897-1898), and a copy of the act of sale of land and slaves by White to John J. Pringle (1898).

**Series IV, St. Stephens Church and Cemetery Papers, 1878-1918, undated**

Papers concern the organization and church work of the Ladies' Mite Society (Ladies' Aid Society) of the St. Stephens Church in Williamsport, Pointe Coupee Parish. They include minutes of the organization (March 14, 1878, March 30, 1901), bills and receipts for church repairs and services (1878-1880), letters from Sarah E. Archer, president of the Mite Society, regarding church debts, contributions, and work (1879-1880), and a letter from Juliana Stewart to her daughter, Cornelia Batchelor, inquiring about the building of a rectory and the search for a rector (1884). Also included are letters discussing the rental of a house for the church sexton (1900), the membership and activities of the Mite Society, restoration of the cemetery, and marriages in the community, including a Jewish wedding (1901). A letter from Ralph H. Prosser, rector, describes the location of a cemetery lot purchased by Dr. Batchelor, explains the naming of walks in the cemetery, states that the Confederate Monument has been ordered, and mentions the election of delegates to the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church at San Francisco (1901). Also included are bills for an altar, altar linen, and candles (1916-1918), and a speech (handwritten and typewritten) made by A.A. Batchelor on Memorial Day at Williamsport (undated).

**INDEX TERMS**

Archer, Sarah E.  
Batchelor, Albert A. (Albert Agrippa), 1845-1905.  
Episcopal Church--Louisiana.  
Estate records.  
Inheritance and succession--Louisiana.  
Jewish marriage customs and rites--Louisiana.  
Letters (correspondence)  
Plantation owners--Louisiana--Pointe Coupee Parish.  
Plantations--Louisiana--Pointe Coupee Parish.

**CONTAINER LIST**

**Stack**  
**Location**

**Contents**

Mss.MF:B

1 microfilm reel: Batchelor Family Papers (1852-1922, undated)