

J.B. CAIN ARCHIVES OF MISSISSIPPI METHODISM

M 1 WINANS, (William) Papers (1810-1857)

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William Winans was born on November 3, 1788 in Chestnut Ridge Pennsylvania. When he was still a child his family moved to Clermont County, Ohio. While still living in Ohio, Winans was admitted on trial to the Western Conference. His first few years in the conference were spent in KY and IN. In 1810, he was received in full connection and went to the Mississippi District. He would serve in Mississippi until his death in 1857.

During his service he was elected the first secretary for the Mississippi Conference. He was ordained an elder in 1816. He served for many years as a presiding elder as well as a pastor on local circuits. He first went to the General Conference in 1824 and would continue to go until his death. He delivered the Pastoral Address in 1832 and was part of the committee that drew up the Plan of Separation for the M.E. Church South. He was the chair of the organizational committee that was in charge of organizing the new church. In 1846 he called the first General Conference of the M.E. Church South into session.

Winans married Martha Dubose in 1814, and they had four children. He died on August 31, 1857, and was buried in the family plot in Wilkinson County, MS.

William Winans was an integral part of both the Mississippi Conference of the M.E. Church and the Mississippi Conference of the M.E. Church South. He was known around the United States as a great speaker and the champion of the Southern Church. Winans was an active member of the Conference until his death and is considered one of the pioneers of Methodism in Mississippi.

Additional info:

Home place and grave of William Winans. At one time, perhaps as recorded in the 1930's, "on the northern edge of Centreville (13 miles e. of Woodville, on 24), is the home place (large, two-story house) and grave of William Winans, an Ohio minister who moved to Mississippi and became one of the most eloquent and prominent ministers in its Conference. He played an important part in the Louisville convention in 1845, which organized the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. His works, and his voluminous papers, sermons, and letters, are in the State Historical Museum in Jackson." (The papers were later transferred to the Methodist Cain Archives at Millsaps.) "The Methodist church at Centreville is the successor to the Midway Church, which was organized about 1811 and where the Mississippi Conference met in 1817 and 1820."

In March, 2001, College Librarian Emeritus James Parks made an effort to locate the home and grave but failed. It is speculated that the above information is based on 1930 records. A school named for Winans now stands on the suspected site of the home. Mr. Parks photographed the pine forest in Centreville, MS, where William Winans is buried in an overgrown family cemetery. The forest is bordered by Macedonia Rd. on the west and railroad track on the east. It begins north of property of William Winans School. The property is owned by Paul B. Rees, of Baton Rouge, LA, (225-926-6447,) Centreville (601-645-6600.) A photograph of the pine forest and probable gravesite is in Cain Archives MCAH Box 12.

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In 2006, Ms. Sandra Mackey of Centreville contacted the Cain Archives by phone. She indicated she knows the site of the Winans family cemetery. Her contact information is (601)645-5734 and 4343 Macedonia Rd., Centreville, MS 39631.

* Note bound journal and autobiography of shelf

BOX 1

1. Correspondence-letters to Winans (except one letter in f 11), 1810-1829

BOX 2

Correspondence, 1830-1855

BOX 3

2. Journal of William Winans, Ms, (1812) May-Dec., 1814(Aug.)-1815(Sept.), 1821(Oct.) 1824(Jan.), 1832(March-Dec.), 1842(Jan.)-1844(March)

BOX 4

Journal of William Winans, Ms, 1844(Apr.)-1857(June)

BOX 5

Journal of William Winans, Ms, Typescript (incomplete), 1812-1855

BOX 6

Journal of William Winans, Ms, Typescript, 2 copies, 1820-1855

BOX 7

3. Autobiography, Ms, ms Copy and Typescript

BOX 8

3. Autobiography, Ms, ms Typescript, 2 copies-Reminiscences of the Limestone Circuit, 1857 1808 (1857) 1 item
4. Day books, 1823, 1825, 1828-1829, 1840, 1842-1845, 1849 (9 items)

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BOX 8, cont'd

- 4a. Texts preached from and Dated record, 2 books. Book 1 also contains Journals of Miss. District Conference, 1821-1823.

BOX 9

5. Sermons, essays, addresses and reports to Conference: Sermons (1821-1856, n.d.); Funeral sermons (1825-1841, n.d.); Obituaries (1819-1854); Essays and discourses (n.d., 1838-1855); Political writings (1844-1856, n.d.)

BOX 10

- Idem: Reports, resolutions, minutes General Conference and Committees, n.d.;
Proceedings General Conferences of Baltimore and Pittsburg, (1824-1828)
6. Note books: Extracts from authors and poetry by William Winans, 1810-1823

BOX 11

7. Certificates (Ordination, license for celebrating marriages, Soc. memberships), power of attorney, and wills, 1811-1861. Includes bill of sale for slave 1859, receipt of bequest of female Negro minor 1833
8. Account books (1823-1856) and labor day-book (1841-1842) (5 books)

BOX 12

9. Scrap book: newspaper clippings

BOX 13

Printed Material

BOX 14

Printed Material

BOX 15

Printed Material

BOX 16

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- f 1 Letter Book No. 1; pp 1-24, July 1, 1820-Mar. 16, 1821
BOX 16, cont'd
- f 2 Letter Book No. 2; pp 1-92, Apr. 20, 1820-Nov. 11, 1822
Business correspondence pp 1-4, Dec. 17, 1821-May 23, 1822
- f 3 Letter Book No. 3; pp 1-131, Dec. 16, 1822-Nov. 10, 1824
Business correspondence pp 1-9, Mar. 10, 1832-Aug. 7, 1824
- f 4 Letter Book No. 4; pp 1-130, Nov. 11, 1824-June 3, 1826
Business correspondence pp 1-13, Jan. 24, 1825-May 17, 1826
- f 5 Letter Book No. 5; pp 1-121, June 21,-1826-Dec. 8, 1827
Business correspondence pp 1-23, June 20, 1826-Jan. 3, 1828
- f 6 Empty - no Letter Book No. 6 is included in this collection

BOX 17

- f 7 Letter Book No. 7; pp 1-149, Feb. 6, 1830-Aug. 10, 1832
Business side pp 1-23, Mar. 5, 1830-July 9, 1832
- f 8 Letter Book No. 8; pp. 1-172, Sept. 17, 1832-Sept 17, 1835
Business side pp 1-16, . 25, 1832-Jan. 29, 1835
- f 9 Letter Book No. 9; loose pages, pp 35-96, 97-151, Dec. 26, 1835-July, 1839
Business side pp 1-13, Nov. 21, 1835-Apr. 19, 1839
- f 10 Letter Book No. 10; pp 1-164, July 17, 1839-Oct. 11, 1842
Business side pp 1-20, Feb. 8, 1840-Oct. 18, 1842
- f 11 Letter Book No. 11; pp 1-169, Oct. 18, 1842-Jan. 19, 1846
Business side pp 1-11, Nov. 24, 1842-Jan. 19, 1846
- f 12 Letter Book No. 12; pp 1-120, 125-129, Jan. 20, 1846-Nov. 18, 1850
Business side pp 1-8, Jan. 26, 1846-Jan. 10, 1851

BOX 18

- f 13 Letter Book No. 13; pp 1-17, Nov. 23, 1850-Sept., 1853
Business side pp 1-20, Jan. 13, 1851-Aug. 12, 1853

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BOX 18, cont'd

- f 14 Letter Book No. 14; pp 1-63 (incomplete), Oct. 7, 1853-July 17, 1855
Business side pp 2-11, Jan. 31, 1854-July 7, 1855
- f 15 Letter Book No. 15; pp 1-81 July 7, 1855-Apr. 30, 1857
Business side pp 1-100, July 26, 1855-May 9, 1857
- f 16 Letter Book No. 16; pp 1-12, May 12, 1857-June 12, 1857
Business side, index only, n.d.
- f 17 Manuscript copies of selected letters from Letter Book No. 8, Sept. 1832-Sept. 1835
- f 18 Manuscript copies of selected letters from Letter Book No. 9, Nov. 1835-July 1839
- f 19 Manuscript copies of selected letters from Letter Book No. 13, Nov. 1850-Sept. 1853

BOX 19

- f 20 Letter copies, manuscript, onion skin paper, May 9, 1840-Dec. 14, 1843
- f 21 Letter copies, manuscript, onion skin paper, Feb. 14, 1843-Dec. 7, 1844
- f 22 Letter copies, manuscript, onion skin paper, 1844, 1846, to Oct. 1849

BOX 20

- f 1 Record Book, cotton crop work report by individual, cotton picking, 1816-1846
- f 2 Letters to/from family members. Specific inventory included in folder, 1838- June 3, 1861
- f 3 Newspaper subscriptions and receipts
- f 4 Partial transcript of Letter Book No. 7, Feb 6 1830-Aug 10, 1832
- f 5 Partial transcript of Letter Book No. 11, May 9, 1843-July 1, 1844
- f 6 Letters to W. Winans from friends:
Maria Vandyke Aug 1, 1841-July 24, 1842

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BOX 20, cont'd

Samuel L.L. Scott	Mar 2, 1846-Dec 8, 1846
Henry B. Bascom	1838-Feb 10, 1847
Elijah Steele	Aug 7, 1839-Aug 30, 1841
Alexander Talley	Feb 12, 1835-May 27, 1835

- f 7 Letters to W. Winans from various friends Specific inventory included in folder, Aug 19, 1828-July 8, 1904
- f 8 Letters to W. Winans from colleagues. Specific inventory included in folder, Mar 7, 1827
Mar 15, 1845
- f 9 Letters to W. Winans dealing with Centenary College; Specific inventory included in folder, Nov 21, 1841-Feb 20, 1860
- f 10 Sermons, essays, Dec 10, 1837-June 1, 1857
- f 11 Note from Forbes to Rev. Dr. Watkins
List of Articles received from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Issue of The Christian Advocate and Journal 1845
Transylvania University newsletter, Feb 26, 1849
Map of Washington, D.C. area, n.d.

Printed material: see Books Printed Material

*Ms., 1820(Sept.)-1821(Sept.) missing: See Typescript (Jan. 1983, MG)

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**Specific Inventory of Winans Papers
Box 20 Folder 2**

TO	FROM	DATE
Our dear Sisters	Thomas Clinton	Aug 10, 1860
Aunt Winans	M.M. Clinton	July 6
Aunt	Niece Mary R. Bowman	July 2, 1850
Aunt M. Winans	Martha L. Gibson	Mar 11, 1844
Aunt Martha Winans	Niece Louisa	May 28, 1844
Aunt Winans	M.L. Gibson	Nov 22, 1852
Mrs. Martha Winans	W.H. Watkins	Apr 6, 1838
dear Sister	friend Ann McFarrar	n.d.
Grand Ma	Bennie D. Wall	Nov 24, 1859
brother Winans	Wm Sherry	Sep 9, 1845
Mother	Wesley	June 11, 1843
Letters from Martha Winans to William Winans		Apr 26, 1834
		Apr 29, 1834
		Apr 12, 1840
		Apr 20, 1840
		Apr 30, 1840
		Jan 13, 1843
		Feb 8, 1843
		Mar 27, 1843
		Apr 25, 1844
		July 31, 1846
		Apr 29, 1843
		May 16, 1843
		May 19, 1843
Letters from William Winans to Martha Winans		Mar 26, 1824
		Apr 18, 1846
Wesley	W. Winans	Apr 26, 1849
Father	Wesley P. Winans	July 6, 1850
Cousin Nolan (Dickson)		June 3, 1861

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Specific Inventory of Winans Papers Box 20 Folder 7

TO	FROM	DATE	
Congressman Dickson W. Winans	J.O. Carr	July 8, 1904	
	R.R. Roberts	Feb 22, 1842	
	Martha Valentine	Mar 1, 1839	
		Mar 12, 1838	
	David Gordon	Aug 19, 1828	
	Isaac R. Nicholson	June 19, 1839	
	Hemmingway and Hall	June 30, 1839	
		Sep 1, 1839	
	Capt. T.J. Stewart W. Winans	W. Winans	Apr 4, 1842
		A.F.W. Speer	July 27, 1842
R.W. Walker		Sep 12, 1842	
John Fisk		Apr 15, 1843	
Samuel D. Goodin		July 16, 1843	
Mathew Simpson		Oct 7, 1843	
		Nov 21, 1843	
		Apr 23, 1845	
Wm. S. Grayson		Sep 19, 1843	
		Nov 1843	
S.J. Foster	Jan 20, 1844		
R.R. Gill	Feb 5, 1844		
J.F. Spree	Mar 2, 1844		
Sarah R. Grayson	Mar 20, 1844		
	June 20, 1844		
Will. G. Gould	Mar 28, 1844		
Mary A. Singleton	Oct 18, 1844		
A. McHenry	Oct 25, 1844		
W.C. Shephard	Nov 26, 1844		
E.B. Harvey	Aug 13, 1845		
W. Sherry	Sep 19, 1845		
R.R. Guiley	May 18, 1838		
S.M. Richardson	July 29, 1841		

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**Specific Inventory of Winans Papers
Box 20 Folder 8**

TO	FROM	DATE
Rev. B.M. Drake	John R. Lambuth	Mar 7, 1827
		June 1, 1827
W. Winans	Ben A. Houghton	Jan 16, 1836
	R.H. Herbert	Feb 16, 1838
	Jo. Gales	Oct 12, 1838
	E.V. Levert	Sep 12, 1844
	Samuel W. Speer	Mar 15, 1845
	Phi Gamma Society	Apr 30, 1844
Phi Gamma Society	W. Winans	May 7, 1844

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**Specific Inventory of Winans Papers
Box 20 Folder 9**

TO	FROM	DATE
W. Winans	Tho. Ford	Nov 21, 1841
	Robert Perry	Dec 4, 1844
no names		Dec 11, 1844
W. Winans	John Lambuth	Dec 13, 1844