

CPC (109) (13) (44)
Cabaniss, Septimus (written by) 1858-1866
to Cabaniss, Dr. Alfred B.

Huntsville Ala ^{March} ~~May~~ 19/58

Dr. A. B. Cabaniss
Jackson Miss
Dear Alfred,

My friend Gov. Chapman thinks he will have as much as four thousand dollars in the course of a few weeks, but he does not feel willing to lend it to one residing so far from him. He offers however to lend it to me, and if he is not disappointed in his expectation I will borrow it from him and lend it to you - if you can provide such security for its repayment to me that I can command it when it may be necessary for me to pay Gov. Co.

From what I said to you last summer relative to my pecuniary affairs, you must be aware that if I were to die now, the income of my estate would not be sufficient to support my family, and will not therefore complain of my requiring great securities against all risks. It is not ^{must} probable that I can resist Jackson I therefore have the services of an excellent lawyer, who will investigate the

Names:

Cabaniss, A. B., Dr.

Cabaniss, Alfred

Chapman, Governor

Places:

Huntsville, AL

Types:

correspondence

Dates:

Mar 19, 1858

CPC (109) (13) (14)
Cabaniss, Septimus (Written by) 1858-1866
to Cabaniss, Dr. Alfred B.

title of the property you propose to pledge and
take the steps necessary to make the security
perfectly safe.

Securities given by persons in embarrassed cir-
cumstances to their near relatives are generally
looked upon with suspicion; and on that
account too I wish to have the matter arrang-
ed through some gentleman of character;
for nothing would be more mortifying
to me than to be suspected of undertaking
to cover the property of relatives.

If I should succeed in making the loan
to you I hope that you will be steadfast in
your purpose to pay out of debt and
keep out; and in that event of course all
will go right. But if you don't learn
to be a better economist and collect your
debts then whenever Chapman or his
representatives require payment of me, I
will have to close down on you. And
matters must be so arranged that no creditor
can gainsay my right to do so. And moreover
I trust that neither you nor any member of
your family will think unkindly of me for so.

Names:

Chapman,

Types:

correspondence

CPC (109) (13) (44)
Cabaniss, Septimus (written by) 1858-1866
to Cabaniss, Dr. Alfred B.

I will have to require you to pay the interest
annually on all the debt, and you must not
expect to pay less than one third of the principal
at the end of each year. In the event of my
death or that of Mr. Chapman you may be
required to pay the whole of it at an earlier
date. Do I don't entertain much doubt of
getting the money from Mr. C. I wish to know
a correspondence at once with a lawyer of your
city. I wish to transact the business with
one whose relations with you are of a friendly
character and will therefore receive suggestions
from you before I write. I wish it to be done
however, whose regard for you will not
render him careless on any degree of my
perfect protection. Write to me at once,
for if Chapman should offer me the money
before our arrangements are perfectly
understood. I will be bound to pay him
interest from the time of the offer.

Yours truly
S. D. Cabaniss.

Names:

Cabaniss, S. D.

Chapman, Governor

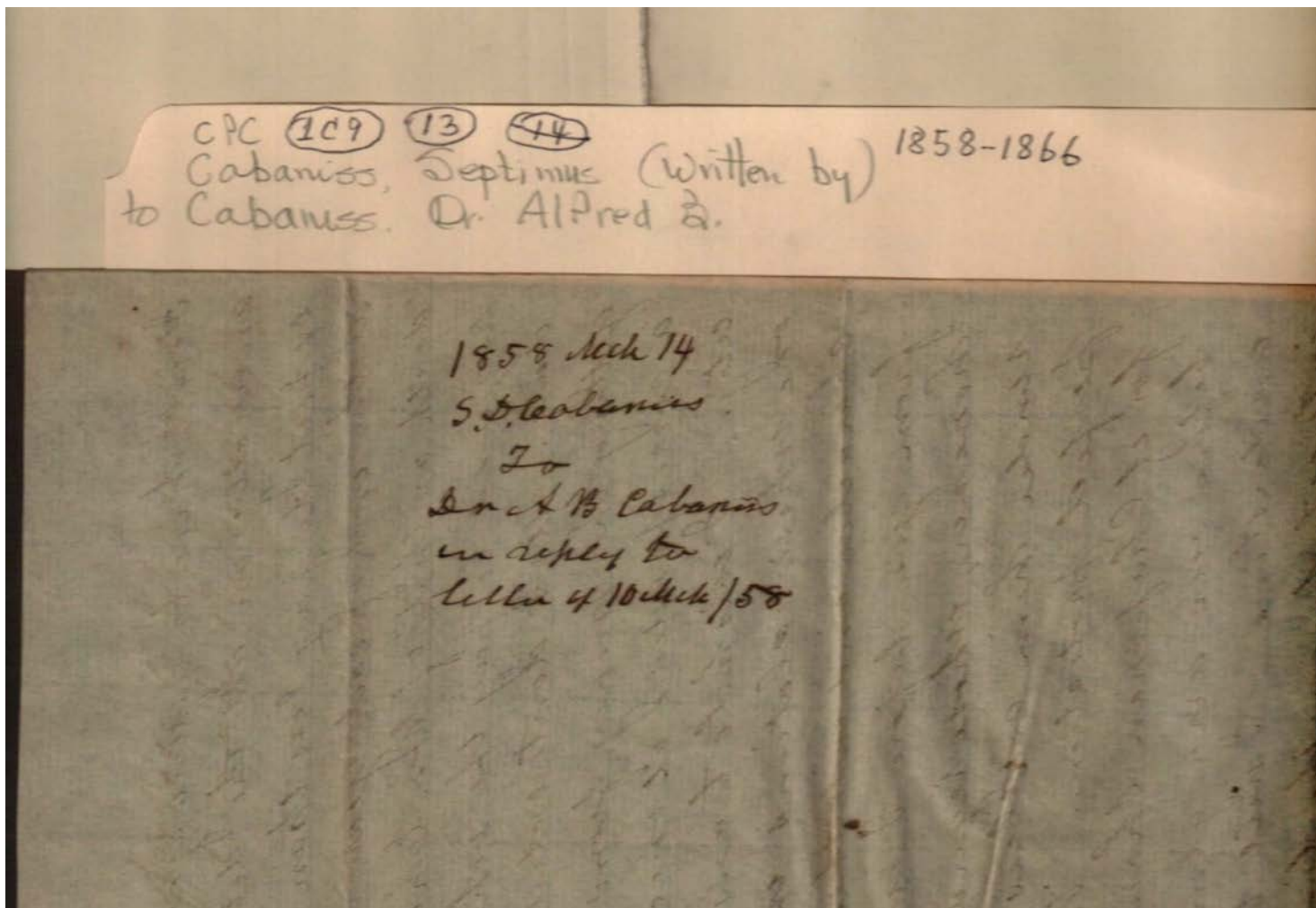
Types:

correspondence

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 1, Subseries C, Box 9, Folder 13

Cabaniss, Alfred B. to Cabaniss, Septimus Douglass, Sr., 1858 - 1866

Image 4 r01c09-13-000-0014 [Contents](#) [Index](#) [About](#)



Names:

Cabaniss, A. B., Dr.

Cabaniss, S. D.

Types:

correspondence

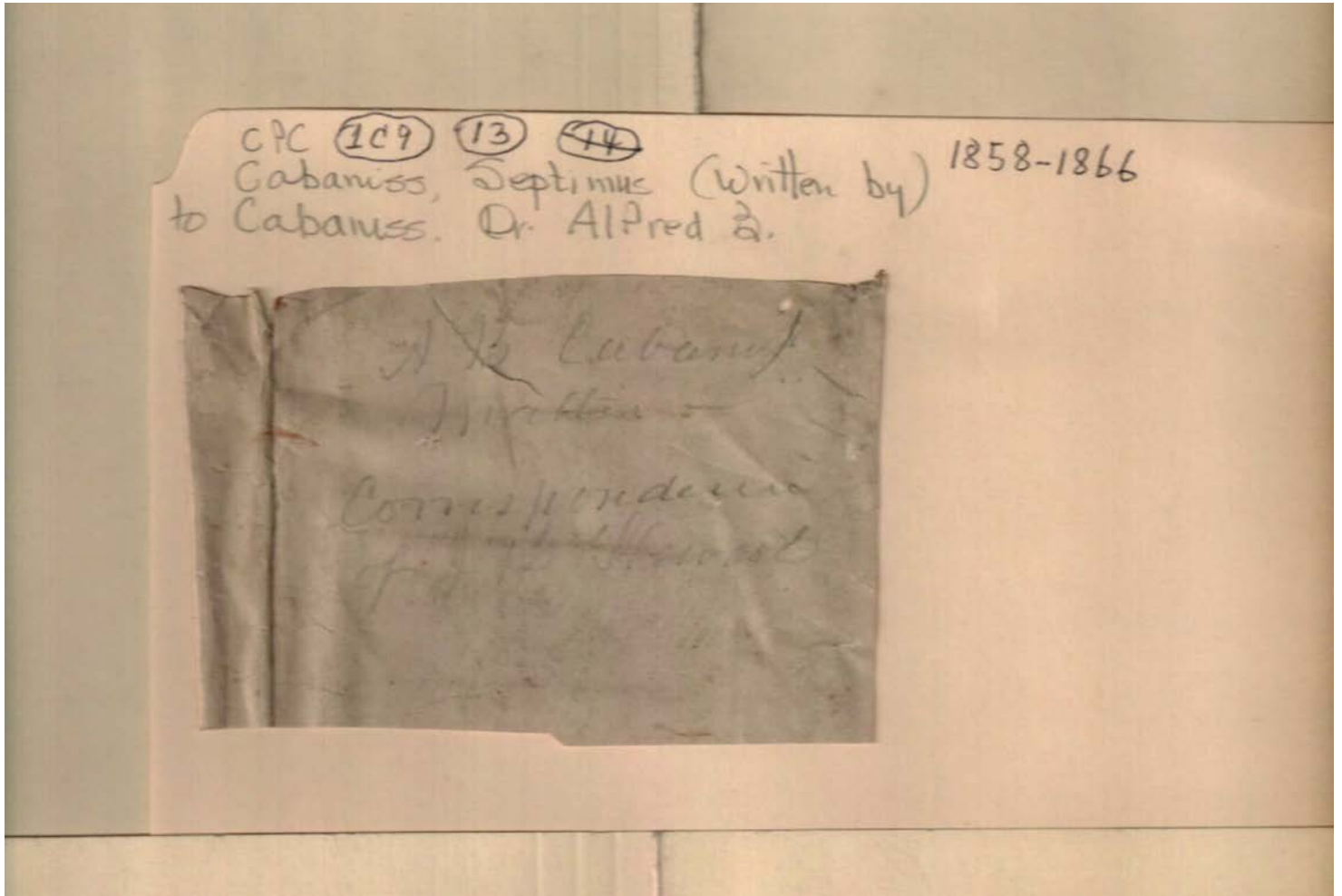
Dates:

Mar 14, 1855

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 1, Subseries C, Box 9, Folder 13

Cabaniss, Alfred B. to Cabaniss, Septimus Douglass, Sr., 1858 - 1866

Image 5 r01c09-13-000-0015 [Contents](#) [Index](#) [About](#)



Names:

Cabaniss, A. B.

Types:

scrap

CPC (109) (13) (44)
Cabaniss, Septimus (written by) 1858-1866
to Cabaniss, Dr. Alfred B.

On the 22 Jan'y 1866 the Dr wrote to me
advising me of his election as Superintendent
out of the Hospital for Insane & of his
Salary & in the course of the letter
he said,

In regard to my indebtedness
to you I hope to be able to make it good
as it is the only debt of any consequence
I owe - You may be assured that
it shall have the preference over
any other - Should you desire of the
due of trust ~~debt~~ can be closed
at any time you wish, although in
the present condition of the country
the house lot could not bring any
thing like its value - Real estate is
on the rise in Jackson, and I think
will continue to rise as the country
recovers from the ravages of the war.

He paid me nothing however, and
when on a visit to him in April
1868 or 1869, I said to you in a brief

Names:

Hospital for Insane

Types:

correspondence

CPC (109) (13) (44)
Cabaniss, Septimus (written by) 1858-1866
to Cabaniss, Dr. Alfred B.

Conversation that I wished to indulge
him as long as I could without wronging
my own family and inquired of you
if I would incur the danger of losing my
security by delay & you assured me that
I would not. His subsequent misfortunes
and death ~~prevented me~~ so far from
inclining me to take steps to foreclose
the lien under the deed made me more reluctant
to do so, and as I mentioned to you in my
recent letter having been paying considerable
sums upon the debt which I contracted
in 1859 with a view to further indulgence
to Dr. Cabaniss and which I regarded as
very nearly his debt - and also supplied
the family with considerable sums of
during the Dr's last illness & afterwards -
I never received or solicited payment of
the Dr's indebtedness even prior to the
execution of the deed of trust, nor any pay-
ments upon the debt thereby secured except
those of which you are now advised
prior to the war -

Names:

Cabaniss, Dr.

Types:

correspondence

CPC (109) (13) (74)
Cabaniss, Septimus (Written by) 1858-1866
to Cabaniss, Dr. Alfred B.

Huntsville Ala Jan'y 21. 1875

J. D. Stewart Esq.
Jackson Miss

Dear Sir -

I am much pained by a letter received to day from my nephew, Leander P. Cabaniss Jr, in which among other things he says "All of our family are very much hurt the way you write to Col Stewart. I wish you to understand we wish none of your assistance".

I wrote to you about two weeks since a very hurried letter, of which I retained no copy & to which I have no reply -

It was not my purpose to write anything that could or should give offense to Mrs Cabaniss or any of her family; nor was it written with a view to its being shown to the family; but I do not complain of your having done so. The object of the letter was to obtain information as to the condition or nature of the tax claims upon the property which Dr Cabaniss had

Names:

Cabaniss, Charles P.,
Jr.

Cabaniss, Dr.
Cabaniss, Mrs.

Stewart, Colonel
Stewart, J. D.

Places:

Huntsville, AL

Types:

correspondence

Dates:

Jan 21, 1875

CPC (109) (13) (44) 1858-1866
 Cabaniss, Septimus (written by)
 to Cabaniss, Dr Alfred B.

wife had conveyed to you as trustee to
 secure the payment of money which at
 the request of Dr B I borrowed lent to
 him in 1858. Charles having written to me
 on the 29th ult. in the words following
 "I write you to see if you can do any
 thing about these taxes. I enclose you
 the amount" (which he failed to do) I am so
 pushed this year that I can't pay them
 and I will pay you back so much
 every month. The collector says if
 not paid by the first of January, will
 be in Chancery. As I am not much
 on law, I don't undertake this but
 suppose it means that we will have to
 sue for the plea. Please give your
 attention at once if you don't get the
 letter in time to answer by mail
 or even by telegraph."

In consequence of my absence from home
 his letter was not recd until the 4th Jan.
 I replied informing him very truthfully that
 I had not the money to return the property
 even if he had offered me of the amount
 and expressed my regret that he had not

Names:

Cabiniss, Charles

Types:

correspondence

CPC (109) (13) (44) 1858-1866
 Cabaniss, Septimus (written by)
 to Cabaniss, Dr. Alfred B.

advise with you & ascertain the true con-
 dition of the matter as I could not understand
 what was meant about the property getting
 into Chassey, I perhaps assumed him that
 I would ask an explanation from you
 or get you to look into the matter. now I think I
 add that if his mother could not with the
 aid of others arrange to remove the tax in
 consequence that I must endeavor to make
 some shift to accomplish it, though much
 pressed for the want of money. It was not
 my purpose either in my reply to him or
 my letter to you to say a word to wound
 the feelings of any member of the family
 tho I was somewhat displeased that earlier
 information had not been given of the in-
 ability of the family to pay the taxes on the
 property - I beg that you will send me a
 copy of it that I may see whom I have offended.
 I not only felt a sincere affection for Charlie
 but proud of his manliness and devotion to his
 mother & sisters and though there is much ill-nature
 manifested towards me that can't be well ex-
 cused, ^{yet} in view of his youth & filial devotion
 I would not have been so much pained perhaps

Names:

Cabiniss, Charlie

Types:

correspondence

CPC (109) (13) (74)
Cabaniss, Septimus (written by) 1858-1866
to Cabaniss, Dr. Alfred B.

but for the apprehension that his feeling towards me are shared by older members of the family who were better acquainted with the previous relations of Dr Cabaniss & myself - and whom I suppose would appreciate the delicacy which I now manifested in relation to it. And allow me to add Col. that your silence leads me to apprehend that in the troublous times we have had in the last few years you may have forgotten some facts which were known to you and which if presented by you to either Dr Cabaniss may dispell any erroneous impressions they may have in relation to this matter - And I hope you will therefore pardon me for referring to them -

About the beginning of the year 1858 Dr C was assisted by you & perhaps other friends to borrow money enough to discharge his indebtedness to others & in view of his aversion to dunning his patrons you kindly offered to take charge of his books & accounts collect for him & apply so much as might be necessary to defend the borrowed money & interest. I gave them then to believe that it could be done in 18 months or two years - perhaps less time. The Dr in a letter of 10 Mch 1858 said "I regret to have to say to you that since the revolution last fall I have been in much trouble and vexation

Names:

Cabaniss, Dr.

Cabaniss, Mrs. Dr.

Types:

correspondence

CPC (109) (13) (44)
Cabaniss, Septimus (written by) 1858-1866
to Cabaniss, Dr. Alfred B.

5

in regard to my business affairs, so much so
as to disqualify me for anything
from the practice of my profession".
"I fear very much I shall be compelled to
sell the family of negroes which I value
above any price"
"It is useless for me to attempt to escape unless
I can get time to work out. I feel confi-
dent of being able to pay out of debt with
my practice last year and the present
year but unless I can pay a good cash
and get an extension mine stays me
in the face".
"If I could effect a loan of four or five
thousand dollars on one or two years I could
pay my debt I owe and could then be
able to make by my practice at least
one third more if not double. I am
unfit to practice medicine approached
as I am with care".
"I have but little hope either of being able
to get a loan without your assistance"

Types:

correspondence

CPC (109) (13) (44)
Cabaniss, Septimus (Written by) 1858-1866
to Cabaniss, Dr. Alfred B.

6

He proposes to give him one town property
Slaves & some stock -

Another letter from him, dated the 24th March
shows that I replied on the 14th to his letter of 10th
(of which I find no copy) advising him of my
inability to make the loan ~~arrangement~~ -

In this letter he mentions that ~~the~~ property was
incumbered with a debt of \$1500 which he
would discharge out of the money which
he might borrow - He thought then that
\$3000. borrowed, with the paper (notes) which he
had, might enable him to pay out - That
on getting ~~the~~ matters settled up, he could
make money by his profession and collect
bills - I closed by saying that as soon as
he could dispose of a sufficient amount
of property to meet his liabilities that his in-
debtedness to me should be among the
first attended to. ^(money, principal, accounts without equity) He seemed however much
attached to the family of Negroes. I would
prefer selling them to me with an under-
standing that he might repurchase -

I suppose I proposed to make an effort to
borrow the money for him - I find a copy
of a letter to him dated May 14 1858

Types:

correspondence

CPC (109) (13) (44)
Cabaniss, Septimus (Written by) 1858-1866
to Cabaniss, Dr. Alfred B.

7
informing him that my friend for Chap
man expected to have as much as \$4000
in a few weeks but was unwilling to
lend it to one needing so far as the Ireland
but would lend it to me, & saying that
I would borrow it if he would provide
such security for its repayment to me
that I could command it when it should
be necessary for me to pay for Co. &
adding that as an apology for being so strict
that if I should see then the income of
my estate would not be sufficient to sup
port my family; and would hint that
he must be steadfast in his purpose to pay
out of debt & to keep out & that whom
ever he or his representatives should close down
on my request payment of me I would
close down on him & add a "I am more
over I trust that neither you nor any mem
ber of your family will think unkindly
of me for it"

I enclose a copy of another letter written to him
on the 29th May ¹⁸⁵⁸ which refers to one of his
dated 22 May not before me, & after telling

Names:

Chapman, Governor

Types:

correspondence

CPC (109) (13) (74)
 Cabaniss, Septimus (written by) 1858-1866
 to Cabaniss, Dr. Alfred B.

him of my having written to you by the
 same mail and explaining ^{to him} my reasons
 for desiring the business to be transacted
 for me by a gentleman of character
 & my apprehension that I could not
 visit him I added

"But, my brother; the only unpleasant
 misgiving which I have in relation to
 this transaction is this - that if from
 any untoward event you should
 not be able to discharge the property
 from the lien created in my favor
 and I or my representatives should
 coerce a sale of the property, you
 or some of your family might regard
 it as a harsh exaction on the part
 of a brother and thus serious feelings
 be engendered between our families.
 If I had not been satisfied that you
 and Susan were far more free
 from such frailty than most persons
 I would perhaps have declined the
 risk of such unpleasant consequences
 I trust however that you ^{will prosper by the} and she
 may prosper, and that you and
 she ~~may~~ never be subjected to such
 a trial of your good nature"
 What a prophetic apprehension!!

Names:

Cabaniss, Susan

Types:

correspondence

CPC (109) (13) (44)
 Cabaniss, Septimus (written by) 1858-1866
 to Cabaniss, Dr. Alfred B.

- If I have written any thing that has caused
 your feeling, or that of any of your
 mother's family, be assured that it was not
 written with such intent, and I hope you
 will comply with my request and write
 at your earliest convenience -

I wish to add a word or two in answer
 to complaints made by you & others of your
 father's children of my not making a more
 settlement after separation of 18 months -
 Nearly all of the distributed ~~the~~ twenty
 seven or thereabouts reside out of the
 State and with one exception were
 poor - If I had made annual settle-
 ments & partial distributions under
 orders of the Court, the judgments
 have been required by law to com-
 pel me to make refunding bonds with
 resident sureties - The consignments would
 have been the payment of the money
 distributed to the Judge of Probate to
 remain in his hands until the distributees
 could find residents of Alabama
 willing to become surety worth double
 the amount distributed over and above
 the amount of property exempt by law
 from sale under legal process -
 I doubt if more than three out of the
 23 non residents could have given the
 requisite sureties - I never used or intended
 to ~~derive~~ any benefit from a cent of the money
 of any distributee, but kept all of it
 in a bank until distributed
 A final settlement could not have been
 had until August next, but for my hav-
 ing gotten on of the distributees to take care
 of the share an uncollected debt due July
 next -

Cabaniss

Types:
 correspondence

CPC (109) (13) (44)
 Cabaniss, Septimus (written by) 1858-1866
 to Cabaniss, Dr. Alfred B.

It
 Within the last two or three years I received
 several letters from you, to which I have not
 replied. Now that the ~~idea~~ ^{idea} of my brother
 Charles I have not heretofore explained -
 they, but I have ~~been~~ ^{been} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~some~~ ^{some}
 and from other ~~sources~~ ^{sources} ~~and~~ ^{and} they have
 gave me much ~~pain~~ ^{pain} ~~and~~ ^{and} because they
 indicated an apprehension on your part
 of a if not a conviction ^{on your part}
 that I was or must be a ~~disgrace~~ ^{disgrace}
 of a ~~disgrace~~ ^{disgrace} on my part to defend
 or otherwise wrong you and your brother
 and sisters, and also a seeming
 forgetfulness of the past ^{some accounts} ~~that~~ ^{which}
~~performance~~ ^{performance} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~past~~ ^{past} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~which~~ ^{which} ~~I~~ ^I ~~may~~ ^{may}
 I commenced a letter in reply to one
 of yours and but before concluding it was
 interrupted and it has a painful but not
 concluded to do not return to the ~~former~~ ^{unpleasant}
 full talk - ~~from~~ ^{from} ~~but~~ ^{but} ~~few~~ ^{few} ~~things~~ ^{things} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the}
 life have given me more pain than or
 caused me more ~~trouble~~ ^{trouble} ~~than~~ ^{than} ~~these~~ ^{these}
 resulting from my ~~preconceived~~ ^{preconceived} ~~notion~~ ^{notion}
 term with you ~~from~~ ^{from} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~year~~ ^{year}
 1857-) and I concluded that ~~it~~ ^{it} ~~was~~ ^{was} ~~perhaps~~ ^{perhaps}
 a it would be better to ~~wait~~ ^{wait} ~~until~~ ^{until} ~~some~~ ^{some} ~~reply~~ ^{reply}
 until a ~~reply~~ ^{reply} ~~until~~ ^{until} ~~I~~ ^I ~~could~~ ^{could}
 visit your mother & family ^{my} ~~brother~~ ^{brother}
~~and~~ ^{and} ~~by~~ ^{by} ~~consultation~~ ^{consultation} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~satisfy~~ ^{satisfy}
 you & ~~your~~ ^{your} ~~brother~~ ^{brother} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~brother~~ ^{brother}
 other members of your mother's family
 Christian

Names:
 Cabiness, Charles

Types:
 correspondence

CPC 109 13 44
Cabaniss, Septimus (Written by) 1858-1866
to Cabaniss, Dr. Alfred B.

of the expectation & thankfulness of your con-
stant love and sympathy, conse-
quently to my family which seems
to be threatened towards me and the
consequent wrong to afflicted mem-
bers of my family -

In as much as you ^{in one of}
your letters ^{unmistakably} ~~pleading~~ ^{the} ~~that~~ ^{does} ~~occure~~ ⁱⁿ
such a visit, I ~~think~~ ^{trust} it best to
await a final settlement of the estate
of my dear Uncle Charles Cabaniss,
and then, when your mind & that of your
brothers and sisters should be relieved
from any feeling of apprehension that of
a disposition on my part to wrong any
of you, ~~or~~ by withholding any part of
the distribution sharing of your dear
estate or, to make an appeal to
their & your sense of justice and
liberality as well as their reverence for
their father's memory -

Some of them were never informed
probably never informed by your father
or your good mother of

Some of your brothers & sisters were
young at the close of the war and
I presume feel inclined to suppose
that they ^{can} have been as fully &
correctly advised of the circumstances
attending my locusts your father
and my indulgence ~~not~~ before & during
the war not withstanding
my own wishes ~~for~~ ^{for} ~~them~~ ^{for} ~~them~~ ^{for}

Names:
Cabiniss, Charles

Types:
correspondence

CRC 109 13 94
 Cabaniss, Septimus (written by) 1858-1866
 to Cabaniss, A. Alfred B.

that you
 do not seem to have forgotten what
 you know of the matter
 and subsequent misfortune
 by reason of the war. I have however
 by a letter recently written by you
 to me at ^{your father's} request in 1870 and
 also a copy that I returned of my reply
 which I returned, and which should
 you see in had conversations with
 you in regard to the matter, which
 you have forgotten. Copies
 of which I herewith send you -
 when you write some of the letters
 referred to above -

During all my life I have abhorred
 dissensions between near relations,
 and but few occasions have given me
 more pain than the seeming misunder-
 standing between that has arisen be-
 tween the family of my brother Alfred
 & myself - It is due to them if they
 have not been fully informed as to the
 circumstances leading to it, it is due that
 they should be so. ^{your father} & their
 mother that they should be - and
 I therefore send copies of correspondence
 between them & myself which as well
 as between you & myself - And I sincerely
 hope for reconciliation of
 request that you will as soon as possible
 after the receipt of them have a family
 meeting at your mother's, and read
 to your mother & brother & sisters the
 correspondence between your father
 & myself & such letters from Col Stewart
 that I may see it -

asking my consent to a transfer of the same you by have to your mother for me personally
 in future for a favor in correspondence (any way)

Names:

Cabaniss, Alfred

Stewart, Colonel

Types:

correspondence

CPC 109 13 44
 Cabaniss, Septimus (Written by) 1858-1866
 to Cabaniss, Dr Alfred B.

I have some hope that it may perhaps lead
 to a more kindly feeling on the part of
 some of not all of your mother's family
 to me - If you doubt the cor-
 rectness of the copies, I will send the
 Originals to Jackson -

In as much as your father was
 embarrassed your mother's house by
 his debts -

You complain of my having charged
 you interest - If you are or are less
 pleasant to her than you were

You complain in one of your
 letters of my having charged interest
 on fifty dollars sent you in Feb'y
 1858 at 6% per annum & you say that
 it should be down paid - and further
 ask if I had ever paid any debts
 contracted before the war? My answer
 is that I have never been selected from
 the payment of principal or interest of
 any of my debts contracted before or during
 the war except two small accounts
 on a phrency bill of about \$1.00 each
 in which the interest was remitted in
 consideration of my paying specie back before
 the debt was contracted in Confederate
 notes -

In 1859 your father

Thompson

Types:
 correspondence

CPC (109) (13) (14)
Cabaniss, Septimus (written by) 1858-1866
to Cabaniss, Dr. Alfred B.

July 24, 1858	\$1389.56
Feb 8, 1859	69.47
	291.59
Dec. 26, 1859	101.25
	142.75
March 12, 1860	19.90
	<u>70.50</u>
Feb. 8, 1859	69.47
Dec 26, 1859	<u>128.00</u>
Feb 8, 1859	69.47
Dec. 26, 1859	128.00

Types:

accounting

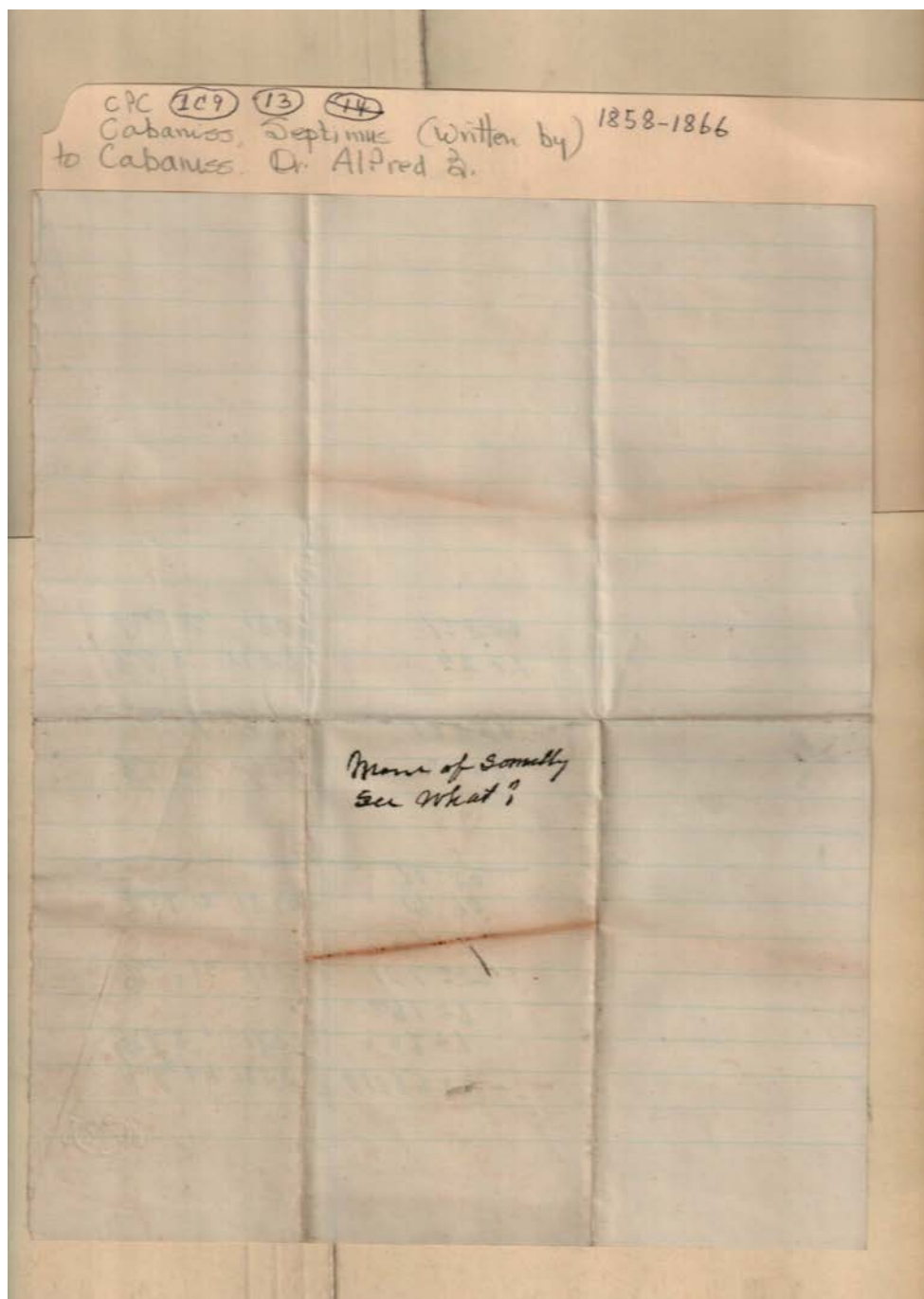
Dates:

Dec 26, 1859

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 1, Subseries C, Box 9, Folder 13

Cabaniss, Alfred B. to Cabaniss, Septimus Douglass, Sr., 1858 - 1866

Image 22 r01c09-13-000-0032 [Contents](#) [Index](#) [About](#)



Types:

scrap

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 1, Subseries C, Box 9, Folder 13
Cabaniss, Alfred B. to Cabaniss, Septimus Douglass, Sr., 1858 - 1866

[Contents](#) [Index](#) [About](#)

Table of Contents

[Image 1](#) (r01c09-13-000-0011)

[Image 2](#) (r01c09-13-000-0012)

[Image 3](#) (r01c09-13-000-0013)

[Image 4](#) (r01c09-13-000-0014)

[Image 5](#) (r01c09-13-000-0015)

[Image 6](#) (r01c09-13-000-0016)

[Image 7](#) (r01c09-13-000-0017)

[Image 8](#) (r01c09-13-000-0018)

[Image 9](#) (r01c09-13-000-0019)

[Image 10](#) (r01c09-13-000-0020)

[Image 11](#) (r01c09-13-000-0021)

[Image 12](#) (r01c09-13-000-0022)

[Image 13](#) (r01c09-13-000-0023)

[Image 14](#) (r01c09-13-000-0024)

[Image 15](#) (r01c09-13-000-0025)

[Image 16](#) (r01c09-13-000-0026)

[Image 17](#) (r01c09-13-000-0027)

[Image 18](#) (r01c09-13-000-0028)

[Image 19](#) (r01c09-13-000-0029)

[Image 20](#) (r01c09-13-000-0030)

[Image 21](#) (r01c09-13-000-0031)

[Image 22](#) (r01c09-13-000-0032)

[Table of Contents](#)

[Name & Place Index](#)

[About the Collection](#)

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 1, Subseries C, Box 9, Folder 13

Cabaniss, Alfred B. to Cabaniss, Septimus Douglass, Sr., 1858 - 1866

[Contents](#) [Index](#) [About](#)

Name & Place Index

Cabaniss, A. B., Dr. [1](#), [4](#)

Cabaniss, A. B. [5](#)

Cabaniss, Alfred [1](#), [19](#)

Cabaniss, Charles P., Jr. [8](#)

Cabaniss, Dr. [7](#), [8](#), [11](#)

Cabaniss, Mrs. Dr. [11](#)

Cabaniss, Mrs. [8](#)

Cabaniss, S. D. [3](#), [4](#)

Cabaniss, Susan [15](#)

Cabiness, Charles [9](#), [17](#), [18](#)

Cabiness, Charlie [10](#)

Chapman, Governor [1](#), [3](#), [14](#)

Chapman, [2](#)

Hospital for Insane [6](#)

Huntsville, AL [1](#), [8](#)

Stewart, Colonel [8](#), [19](#)

Stewart, J. D. [8](#)

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection

Preferred Citation: Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection, Archives and Special Collections, M. Louis Salmon Library, University of Alabama in Huntsville, Huntsville, AL.

Collection Scope and Content: The Collection of 114 Linear ft. includes a total of 156 Archival Boxes. The Frances Cabaniss Roberts collection covers the historical records of the Cabaniss Roberts family. This collection contains extensive correspondence records of the Cabaniss Roberts family circa 1830 to 1930.

Archives/Special Collections Access Restrictions: None

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Provenance: Gift of Johanna Shields on October 28, 2006.



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