

Capote Farm

**Names:**

, John

Donegan, James J.

Erskine, Henry

La Baum,

**Places:**

Guadalupe Co., TX

**Types:**

correspondence

**Dates:**

June 14, 1846

FIELD 1846 965 (27)  
Erskine Corr.  
Corr. Personal

My debts contracted since in Texas, & pay the \$100 for making the  
Contract - My present crop of Corn looks well & I think  
I will have 3500 or 4000 bushels to spare out of which I  
would expect to pay you the amt you be kindly offered to loan  
me - If I make the purchase I will forthwith enclose a Note paper  
tho' not a credit for some to St Orleans - If I have need I will  
then have one of the Government Estates in Texas or any other  
County - I will also be able to work with increased energy & in  
a few years have my children better provided for  
If you can loan I think I could satisfy you that with  
a few thousand dollars you could make more money at all  
same capital than at any other business - I mean the growing  
of Wool - Say you laid out \$1000 for a tract of land on the Pa-  
ducella which lays in the Mountains, it is a stream which  
empties into the Colorado through the Lead-Cape River, it  
is a beautiful Valley of Rich land in the Mountainous region with  
abundance of Mesquite grass - They bearing to 100,000 lbs per  
acre could be purchased at 50¢ - Say \$1000 in sheep of \$2000. Purchase  
400 heads of good blood then a few years you would have a flock of  
good wool sheep - They will increase 100% or 150% - Will  
grade on an average 3<sup>rd</sup> Wool. They produce an annual crop  
beside the increase, & that crop is doubling every year  
Make the Calculation for four years the what it would amount  
to, you can then decide what you please for our calculation  
I refer to the All those who have raised sheep here tell me  
that they will increase 100% or 150% when the flock is an equal  
proportion of Lewis & Huttons, If Lewis alone were purchased  
in the first blood the increase would be greater, they frequently  
have young twice a year & that generally two at a birth -

**Names:**

raising sheep

**Places:**

Guadalupe Co., TX

**Types:**

correspondence

**Dates:**

June 14, 1846

FIELD 1846 965  
Erskine Corr.  
Corr - Personal

Statement

First Capital Land (the most valuable part)	\$1000.00
2000 Ewes at 4 bits for hair	1000.00
2 horsemen with their dogs, boots &c. for 2 years	300.00
But on \$2000 on year at 8 p cent	160.00
2 Spanish horses for 2 years	40.00
Carried down	\$2500.00
1 year	2000 Ewes wool 1000.00
2 year	2000 " " 1000.00
3 year	4000 Old Sheep Wool 1200.00
" "	4000 lambs 800.00
4 year	8000 Old Sheep Wool 1200.00
" "	8000 lambs 1600.00
5 year	16000 Old Sheep Wool 1200.00
" "	16000 lambs 3200.00
5 year	32000 Old Sheep Wool 2400.00
" "	32000 lambs 6400.00
	\$45,000.00

First Cost expenses of 1 year	\$2500.00
2 year 4 hands & two horses	360.00
3 year 8 hands & 4 horses	618.00
4 " 16 hands & 8 horses	1360.00
5 " 32 hands & 16 horses	2720.00
Expenses the way 6 years	100.00
" " 2 "	200.00
" " 3 "	300.00
" " 4 "	400.00
" " 5 "	500.00
	\$10,700.00

Deduct half of the expenses from your Capital bank  
 & \$17,000 profit - the above will have to answer you for 1 year

**Names:**

Projected Profit Statement

**Places:**

Guadalupe Co., TX

**Types:**

correspondence

**Dates:**

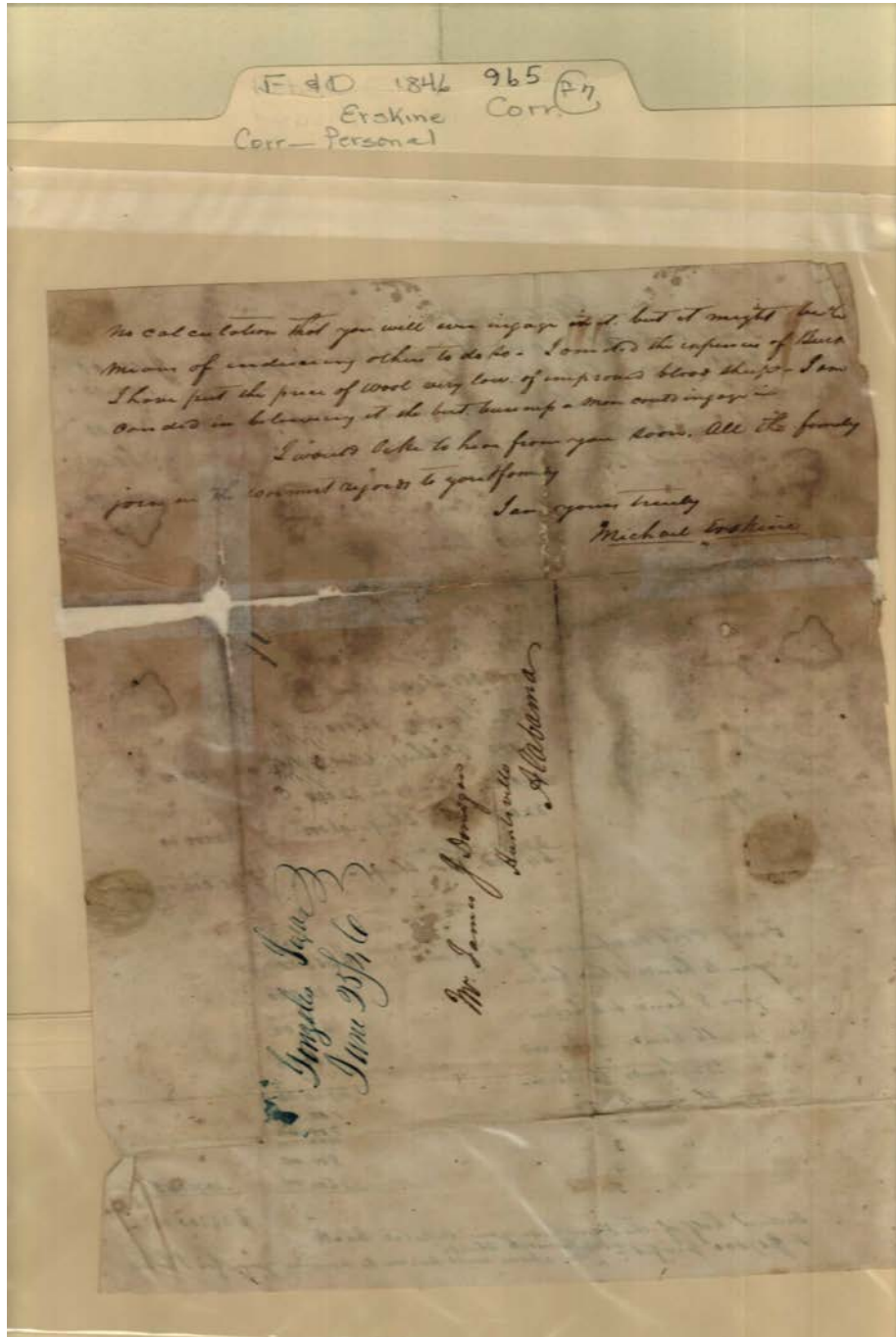
June 14, 1846



Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 9, Box 5, Folder 7

Erskine, Michael to Donegan, James J. (correspondence), 1846

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**Names:**

Donegan, James J.

Erskine, Michael

**Places:**

Gonzales, Guadalupe  
Co., TX

Huntsville, AL

**Types:**

address

correspondence

**Dates:**

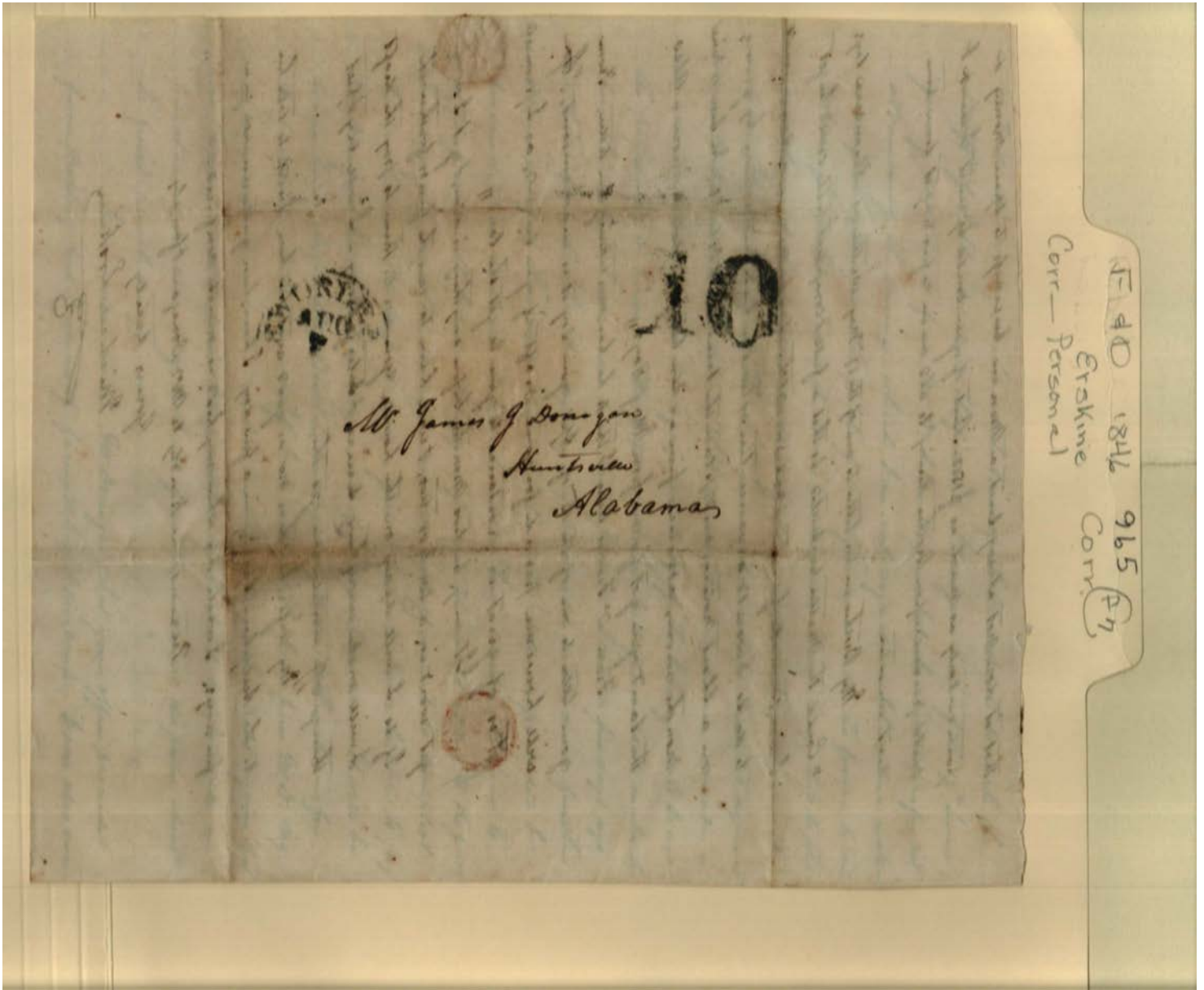
June 14, 1846

June 25, 1846

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 9, Box 5, Folder 7

Erskine, Michael to Donegan, James J. (correspondence), 1846

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**Names:**

Donegan, James J.

**Places:**

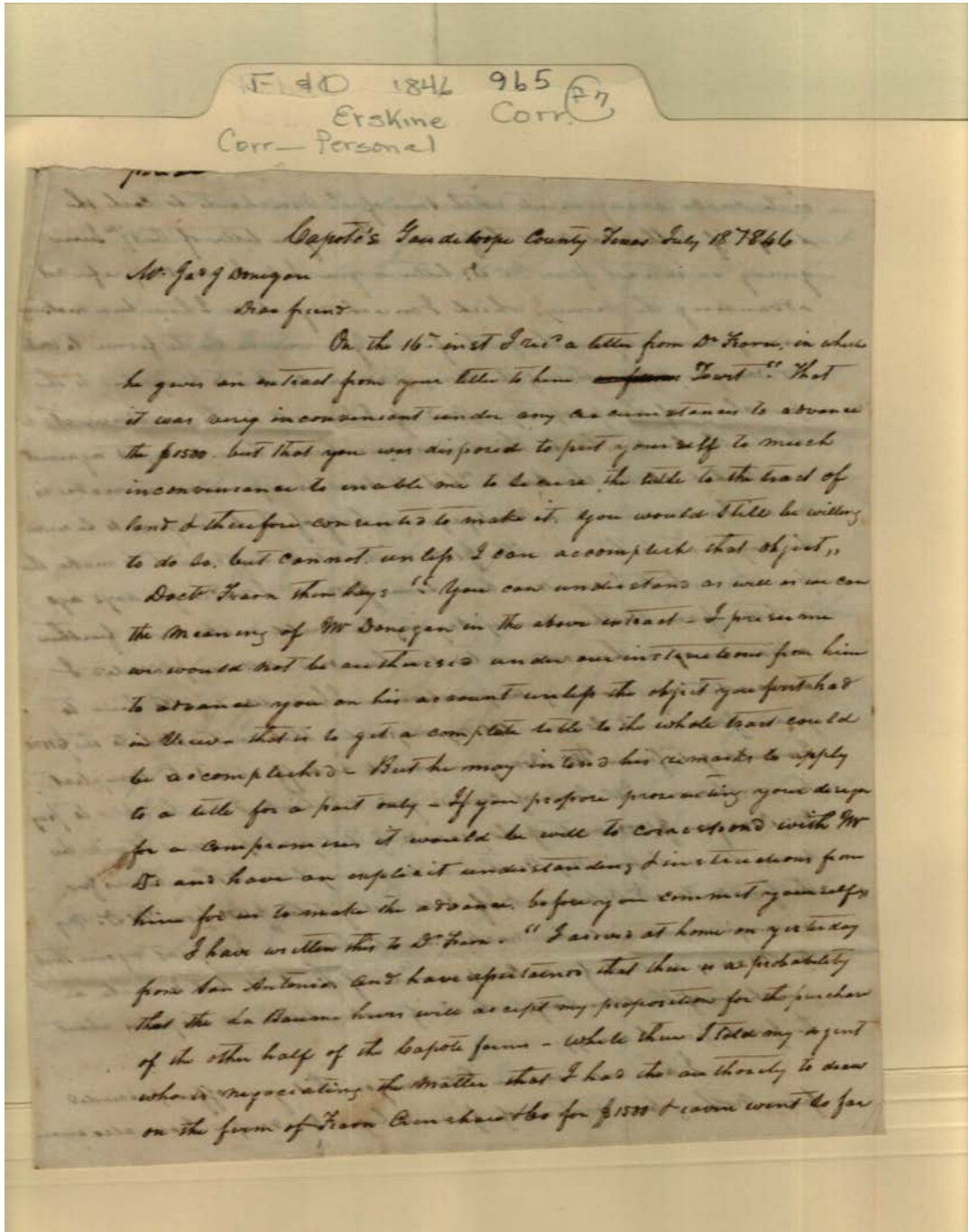
Huntsville, AL

**Types:**

address

**Dates:**

August 1846



**Names:**

Donegan, James J.

Fearn Crenshaw &  
Co.

Fearn, Dr.  
La Baum,

**Places:**

New Orleans, LA

**Types:**

correspondence

**Dates:**

July 18, 1846



Filed 1846 965  
Erskine Corr. 27  
Corr. - Personal

or to make arrangements with some of the Merchants to cash the draft if I should need the funds. From your letter of the 17<sup>th</sup> I am giving an extract from Mr D's letter to you I believe would prefer not advancing the Money, which I much regret, as I have been making arrangements upon the faith of - You will do me the favour to write Mr Donegan to say that if the Money is advanced, it is to be applied to the purchase of the property, and if I succeed in the purchase, it settles the suit which the doers have been brought against me to let aside the sale - that to soon as a purchase is made I will execute a Mortgage on half of the to secure the payment to him. The \$1500 will not be sufficient to make the purchase, but I can raise here some \$500. I rec<sup>d</sup> a few days ago a letter from Brother Henry saying he would make me a further advance of a thousand or twelve hundred dollars, provided I had done in making the purchase - I have written to him to place \$1000 in St Orleans at my disposal - that amt added to the \$1500 I would get from Mr Donegan would be sufficient to complete the purchase - Mr Crop of corn is good & I think I will be able to pay Mr Donegan \$1000 out of the proceeds of it, & perhaps all - It will be some time before my Brother will get my letter & then trans for the funds to St Orleans & if I do not get the \$1500 from Mr D. My arrangements will be made in the head - I repeat again that the Money is not for a compromise of the suit, but to make a purchase of the other half, which if made, settles all disputes about the first purchase.

I am well & assure Mr Donegan, that your offer proceeds from nothing but motives of friendship & help - I am also assure

**Names:**

Donegan,

Erskine, Henry

**Places:**

New Orleans, LA

**Types:**

correspondence

**Dates:**

July 18, 1846

E 40 1846 965  
Erskine Corr. (27)  
Corr. - Personal

that it does not always suit a Man in business to spare Money & fortune in any as much as \$1500. But if you could spare it I think I could prevail upon Brother Henry to aid me in refunding it some time next winter

My Brother in his letter to me of the 17<sup>th</sup> May written at Abbeville says "Could the matter be settled so that a full & complete title could be got I would make further advance, altho it is by no means convenient to do so I would advance ten or twelve hundred dollars by giving me a short note, and place the same in N Orleans, in ten or twelve months more, advance five or ten hundred dollars more - Also the land you got for me from Maj<sup>r</sup> Hays"

From Dr Fearn's letter I think he has mistaken your letter. From your letter to me of the 15<sup>th</sup> of April you say it is inconvenient, "I will however provide for your draft. if you believe, as I promise it is of great importance to you to get the land"

It may be two months before anything is done, yet I can get word in a week or two, I will have to raise the funds forthwith if so I will draw on the house, you write them to pay the draft I will make everything business & water factory - I will buy & put things off until you get the

My wife's health is not as good as it has been I wish to take her to the sulphur spring in a few days. I have been quite unwell for a few days. I write this when my head is much confused.

Respect me kindly to Mr. Donegan & family

Yours truly  
Michael Erskine

**Names:**

Erskine, Henry

Erskine, Michael

Fearn, Dr.

Hays, Maj.

**Places:**

New Orleans, LA

**Types:**

correspondence

**Dates:**

July 18, 1846



Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 9, Box 5, Folder 7

Erskine, Michael to Donegan, James J. (correspondence), 1846

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**Names:**

Donegan, James J.

**Places:**

Huntsville, AL

**Types:**

address

**Dates:**

Oct 18, 1846

Filed 1846 965  
Erskine Corr. 27  
Corr - Personal

Cajote farms Guadalupe County Texas Oct 15<sup>th</sup> 1846

Mr. Jas J Donegan

Dear Sir

Some time ago I wrote you that Fearn Crenshaw & Co had informed me that they did not feel authorized to accept my draft on them for \$1500. until further instructions from you on the subject. - I also informed you that I had made the La Baumers a proposition before I rec<sup>d</sup> their letter, relying on that fund to complete the purchase of the remaining half of the Cajote place. that proposition is yet before them they not having either accepted or rejected it - From the tenor of their letter I thought that they as well as you were mistaken as to the way the Money was to be appropriated. They at appeared was under the impression that it was to compromise a suit, which <sup>the La Baumers</sup> they had instituted against me. This was entirely an error which they and you had got into by some means. In making the purchase of the remaining half of the 6 leagues which would place the entire title in mine, the Law suit was compromised, or better which closed all litigation. - If the funds could be procured I think I can succeed in making the trade. I have but little doubt that I can refund the amount by Feb or March - I have on hand 3000 bu of corn which commands at San Antonio's \$1.25 per bushel - that is I will have 3000 bush for sale, after retaining enough for family use

**Names:**

Donegan, James J.

Fearn Crenshaw &  
Co.

La Baum,

**Places:**

Guadalupe Co., TX

**Types:**

correspondence

**Dates:**

Oct 15, 1846

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 9, Box 5, Folder 7

Erskine, Michael to Donegan, James J. (correspondence), 1846

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F 40 1846 965 (27)  
Erskine  
Corr - Personal

I am now engaged in Rebering & cannot spare my teams to haul - It is impossible at present to have teams, as they are all engaged in the Government service - My friends think that between this & the spring corn will be worth at San Antonio \$1.50 if not more. I feel confident that my corn will meet me at home \$1.00 per bush - as soon as I get my crop home I will start three teams to hauling - can make one trip a week

I would be glad to hear from you on receipt of this & know whether or not I can rely upon the funds - be pleased to present our kindest to your family & all friends

Yours truly  
Michael Erskine

**Names:**

Erskine, Michael

**Places:**

Guadalupe Co., TX

**Types:**

correspondence

**Dates:**

Oct 15, 1846



**Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 9, Box 5, Folder 7**

**Erskine, Michael to Donegan, James J. (correspondence), 1846**

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**Erskine, Michael to Donegan, James J. (correspondence), 1846**

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# 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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M. Louis Salmon Library**