

**JONES MEMORIAL LIBRARY
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BLACKFORD FAMILY COLLECTION

The collection includes correspondence between Captain Charles Minor BLACKFORD and his wife, Susan Leigh (COLSTON) BLACKFORD, written mostly during the Civil War. The collection also contains other family correspondence, including typescripts of letters from Captain BLACKFORD and typescripts of letters from James G. MINOR, a freed slave in Monrovia, Liberia, to his former mistress, Mary Berkeley (MINOR) BLACKFORD, of Virginia. Also included are Captain BLACKFORD's legal notes and account book, the account book of Thomas COLSTON, and the business docket of the law partnership of KIRKPATRICK and BLACKFORD. Much genealogical information about the family is included. The BLACKFORD-COLSTON, etc., Family History includes a typed copy of the "Registry of Negroes as of 12 December 1858," with notes about some of the people. Also included are a photo of the bill of sale of Peggy DEAN to William BLACKFORD and the diary of and poems by Dr. Charles Minor BLACKFORD.

[Detailed finding guide available with the collection]

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CHARLES MINOR BLACKFORD (1833-1903)

Charles Minor BLACKFORD, son of William Matthews BLACKFORD and Mary Berkeley MINOR, was born 17 October 1833 in Fredericksburg, Virginia. He studied at private schools in Fredericksburg and in Lynchburg and was graduated from the law school at the University of Virginia in 1855. He practiced law in Lynchburg.

Charles M. BLACKFORD married Susan Leigh COLSTON, daughter of Thomas Marshall COLSTON and Eliza Jacqueline Ambler FISHER, on 19 February 1856.

At the beginning of the Civil War, C. M. BLACKFORD was commissioned a Lieutenant in the 2nd Virginia Cavalry. He was later a Captain of Company B, In 1863, he was appointed judge advocate of the First Army Corps.

In 1866, BLACKFORD entered into law partnership with T. J. KIRKPATRICK in Lynchburg. The firm was engaged in corporate law.

Charles M. BLACKFORD also held positions in the City of Lynchburg as city attorney, member of the city council, and member of the school board. He served as president of the People's National Bank of Lynchburg and was a charter member of the Virginia State Bar Association, being elected its president in 1894. He died 10 March 1903 in Lynchburg, Virginia.

BLACKFORD was the author of several books and articles: Memoirs of the Army in Virginia; Legal History of the Virginia Midland Railway Company; Campaign and Battle of Lynchburg; Historical Sketch of the Book of Common Prayer; "Trials and Trial of Jefferson Davis."

[Allen Johnson, ed., Dictionary of American Biography, Vol. II (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1929), pp. 318-319; Lyon Gardiner Tyler, ed., Encyclopedia of Virginia Biography, Vol. 5 (New York: Lewis Historical Publ. Co., 1915), pp. 845, 850-859.]

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SUSAN LEIGH (COLSTON) BLACKFORD (1835-1916)

Susan Leigh COLSTON, daughter of Thomas Marshall COLSTON and Eliza Jacqueline FISHER, was born 9 January 1835, in Richmond, Virginia. Following the deaths of her parents, she was raised at the home of her guardian, her brother, Raleigh COLSTON, in Albemarle County. She was educated at Georgetown and was married to Charles Minor BLACKFORD on 19 February 1856 at Hill and Dale, the family home.

The BLACKFORD family moved to Lynchburg, Virginia, where Charles M. BLACKFORD practiced law. With her husband and family, Susan L. (COLSTON) BLACKFORD was a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. She worked with many charitable societies in Lynchburg.

Susan Leigh (COLSTON) BLACKFORD wrote and published Memoirs of the War Between the States, based on the wartime letters of her husband, Charles M. BLACKFORD. The book, originally a small private printing, was later edited and abridged by her grandson, C. M. BLACKFORD III, and released under the title, Letters from Lee's Army.

Susan Leigh (COLSTON) BLACKFORD died 14 January 1916 in Lynchburg, Virginia.

[Obituary, Lynchburg News, 15 January 1916, p. 5 col. 4; Blackford Family Collection, MS1793, Jones Memorial Library, Lynchburg, VA.]

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CHARLES MINOR BLACKFORD, JR. (1865-1924)

Charles Minor BLACKFORD, Jr., son of Charles Minor BLACKFORD, Sr., and Susah Leigh COLSTON, was born 5 September 1865, in Lynchburg, Virginia. A graduate of the University of Virginia and of the New York College of Physicians and Surgeons, he also studied medicine in London, Vienna, and Paris. He taught in a medical school in Atlanta, Georgia. He wrote numerous articles for medical magazines, as well as historical articles for newspapers. He also published *Annals of the Lynchburg Home Guard*, a history of a local military unit. He married Julia Winifred SEARS, daughter of William Goff SEARS and Stella BIGELOW, on 22 September 1897 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He died 6 November 1924 at his home in Staunton, Virginia.

[Obituary, Lynchburg News, 7 November 1924, p. 10 col. 1; Blackford Family Collection, MS1793, Jones Memorial Library, Lynchburg, VA.]

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CHARLES MINOR BLACKFORD III (1898-1985)

Charles Minor BLACKFORD III, son of Charles Minor BLACKFORD, Jr., and Julia Winifred SEARS, was born 4 October 1898 in Washington, D.C. He attended schools in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia. During World War I, he served "in the first division of U.S. Destroyers to go overseas." He became an officer in the Merchant Marine for twelve years. He married Louise DICKENS of Lake City, Florida. He joined the United States Coast Guard Reserve in 1941 and was called to active duty for anti-submarine patrol. He was later commander of a Landing Ship Tank (L.S.T.) in the Pacific theatre of operations. In 1951, he was recalled to active duty and served as the commander of the cutter, *Ariadne*, until he was discharged in 1953. He moved to Homosassa, Florida, where he continued to write articles for a local newspaper. His other writings include: Letters from Lee's Army; Deep Treasure; Tom Bowline, Master Shipbuilder.

Charles M. BLACKFORD III in January 1985 in Florida.

[Blackford Family Collection, MS1793, Jones Memorial Library, Lynchburg, VA. The last letter in the file of Charles M. BLACKFORD III is dated 22 March 1977; Social Security Death Index.]

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- BOX 1**
- 1-1** BLACKFORD Family Record/Family History
 - 1-2** Registry of Negroes, 1858
 - 1-3** BLACKFORD Family/Miscellaneous Notes
 - 1-4** Memorial Notice/Dr. Benjamin BLACKFORD (1905)
 - 1-5** Commission/1st Lt. Va. Militia/C.M.BLACKFORD
 - 1-6** Deed/Charles M. & Susan L. BLACKFORD to MOSBY
 - 1-7** Letter/John MINOR to Charles M. BLACKFORD on the CARTER family
 - 1-8** Letter/R.G.H. KEAN to [Charles] BLACKFORD
 - 1-9** Address/Va. State Bar Association (C.M.B.)
 - 1-10** Biographical Notes/C. M. BLACKFORD (1833-1903)
 - 1-11** Legal Notes/C. M. BLACKFORD (1833-1903)
 - 1-12** Personal narrative, events following the Civil War/C.M. BLACKFORD (1833-1903)
 - 1-13** Diary/C.M. BLACKFORD (1865-1924)
 - 1-14** Letters/C.M. BLACKFORD (1865-1924) to Maurice MOORE, Mrs. MOORE, John W. DANIEL
 - 1-15** Poems/C.M. BLACKFORD (1865-1924)
 - 1-16** "Bacteria and Disease"/C.M. BLACKFORD (1865-1924)
 - 1-17** Miscellaneous Notes/C.M. BLACKFORD III (1898-)
 - 1-18** Letters/L.M. BLACKFORD to C.M. BLACKFORD

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BLACKFORD FAMILY COLLECTION

(Continued)

- 1-19 Letters/Mary M. BLACKFORD to [Charles BLACKFORD]
[Card with U.S. Grant autograph]
- 1-20 Bond/William M. BLACKFORD as Cashier, Exchange Bank
- 1-21 Steam Engine/William M. BLACKFORD
- 1-22 Bill of Sale/Peggy DEAN sold to W.M. BLACKFORD
- 1-23 BLACKFORD, Launcelot Minor – “Sketch of my life”
- BOX 2** Correspondence (Business and Personal) (1855-1861) Charles M. BLACKFORD (1803-1833) (Originals)
- BOX 3** Correspondence (Business and Personal) (1855-1861) Charles M. BLACKFORD (1803-1833) (Photocopies)
- BOX 4** Correspondence (Business and Personal) (1861-1883) Charles M. BLACKFORD (1803-1833) (Originals)
- BOX 5** Correspondence (Business and Personal) (1861-1883) Charles M. BLACKFORD (1803-1833) (Photocopies)
- BOX 6** Correspondence (1861-1864) Susan Leigh (COLSTON) BLACKFORD (1835-1916) (Originals)
- BOX 7** Correspondence (1861-1864) Susan Leigh (COLSTON) BLACKFORD (1835-1916) (Photocopies)
- BOX 8**
- 8-1 Scrapbook/Charles M. BLACKFORD (1865-1924)
 - 8-2 Miscellaneous Writings/Charles M. BLACKFORD (1865-1924)
 - 8-3 Account Book (1829-1855)/Thomas M. COLSTON
 - 8-4 "Growing Up in Mid-Century"/Charles M. BLACKFORD (1833-1903); Includes: "Letters From a Freed Slave (1852)"
- BOX 9**
- 9-1 Scrapbook/Charles M. BLACKFORD (1833-1903)
[Includes commission from Queen VICTORIA, with William E. GLADSTONE, witness, to try "certain passengers upon the R.M.S. *Catalonia*" (1881)]
 - 9-2 Scrapbook (1894-1908)/Charles M. BLACKFORD (1865-1924)
 - 9-3 Scrapbook (1908-1913)/Charles M. BLACKFORD (1865-1924)
 - 9-4 Scrapbook (1913-1917)/Charles M. BLACKFORD (1865-1924)
 - 9-5 Scrapbook (1917-1918)/Charles M. BLACKFORD (1865-1924)
 - 9-6 Scrapbook (1923-1924)/Charles M. BLACKFORD (1865-1924)

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BLACKFORD FAMILY COLLECTION
(Continued)

- BOX 9** 9-7 Prayerbook (1892), includes notes from Charles M. BLACKFORD, Jr., to son, Charles M. BLACKFORD, III
 9-8 Scrapbook, England and Scotland
- [BOX] 10** Account Book (1865-1885)/Capt. Charles M. BLACKFORD (1833-1903)
- [BOX] 11** Business Docket/KIRKPATRICK and BLACKFORD
- BOX 12** 12-1 Lucy Landon Carter Minor Photo Album with Descriptive Index, 1865-1870
 12-2 Transcription – L. M. Blackford’s *Recipes in the Culinary Art*
 12-3 Bible of Benjamin Blackford (1798), Obituary of Charles Minor Blackford IV (1969)
- BOX 13** Notes for Bible Study, “Bible Lessons” – Mrs. Charles M. Blackford (16 booklets) (1891-1900)
- BOX 14** 14-1 Abstracts on Virginia Railroad Cases (1891)
 14-2 Court Documents – Jobbers Overall bankruptcy (1921)
 14-3 Court Documents – Jobbers Overall bankruptcy (1921-24)
 Loose papers
 14-4 Case Ledger
 14-5 Adams Bros.-Paynes Co. vs. General Construction Co. (R. C. Blackford, attorney)
 14-6 Barksdale vs. Virginia Midland Railway
- BOX 15** 15-1 Plates – Charles M. Blackford
 15-2 Blackford Newspaper Clippings
 15-3 Coroner’s license – Charles M. Blackford
 15-4 Religious Material
 15-5 Correspondence (court matters) – Colston Blackford (-1910)
 15-6 Memoirs – Charles M. Blackford (preface – p. 32)
 15-7 Memoirs – notes
 15-8 Journal (1852-1856) – Charles Blackford
 15-9 *Memoirs of Life in and out of the Army* – Susan Leigh Blackford (start page 334)
 15-10 *Memoirs of Life in and out of the Army* – Susan Leigh Blackford (start page 395)
 15-11 *Memoirs of Life in and out of the Army* – Susan Leigh Blackford (start page 439)
 15-12 *Memoirs of Life in and out of the Army* – Susan Leigh Blackford (start page 494)

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BLACKFORD FAMILY COLLECTION
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- BOX 15** **15-13** Financial ledger (Susan Leigh Blackford, Charles Blackford)
 15-14 Miscellaneous invitations, menus, advertising broadsides, programs
- BOX 16** Miscellaneous correspondence (1890-1901)
- BOX 17** Miscellaneous photographs – Blackford Family

NOTE: PDF's of the Blackford Diaries can be found in JServer2 – Company – Access
– Family History Books – Blackford – Blackford Diaries