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MOORMAN AND LYNCH GRIST MILL

The collection includes accounts and orders (1807-1817) for a grist mill operated in Lynchburg, Virginia, under several names: MOORMAN and LYNCH, James C. MOORMAN and Company, LYNCH and MOORMAN. Partners in the operation of the mill were James C. MOORMAN, John LYNCH, Sr., and Thomas WIATT. The accounts include customers' names and amount of grain milled. Also included are letters from the donor about the collection and his notes about United States currency at the time.

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JAMES CLARK MOORMAN (1779-1836)

James Clark MOORMAN, son of Andrew MOORMAN and Judith CLARK, was born 10 March 1779, probably in Bedford County, Virginia. He married 13 August 1799 Jane ROBINSON, daughter of John ROBINSON and Janet EDGAR, of Campbell County.

James C. MOORMAN entered into partnership with John LYNCH, founder of Lynchburg, Virginia, in the operation of the Lynchburg Mills ca. 1809, as the firm of James C. MOORMAN. Later, Thomas WIATT joined the partnership and the name was changed to James C. MOORMAN and Company. Still later, when WIATT left the partnership, the business operated first as MOORMAN and LYNCH, then as LYNCH and MOORMAN.

James C. MOORMAN was elected to the Council of Lynchburg on 23 December 1812. On 12 January 1813, he was elected by Council to replace John PERKINS, who had resigned as Alderman. MOORMAN was elected Alderman on 7 April 1813 and served until 1817.

Following the death of John LYNCH in 1820, a controversy arose over the articles of agreement for the several partnerships involving the Lynchburg Mills, and the case was eventually sent to arbitration. Apparently, James C. MOORMAN entered into some financial difficulty at that time. On 18 December 1823, two large tracts of land, a number of slaves, livestock, and crops belonging to MOORMAN were to be sold to pay debts secured by a deed of trust.

James C. MOORMAN died 18 August 1836 in St. Louis, Missouri, "opposite the town of St. Charles."

[Mrs. Thomas Moorman Eldridge, *History of the Moorman Family* (Atlanta: Author, 1942), pp. 13, 25; Lucy M. H. Baber and Hazel Letts Williamson, comp., *Marriages of Campbell County, Virginia 1782-1810* (Lynchburg: Compilers, 1971), p. 71. Bond dated 13 August 1799, Marriage return by Abner Early, 15 --- [August?] 1799; "Lynchburg Mills - James C. Moorman," *Lynchburg Press*, 3 June 1809, p. 3 col. 4; "Arbitration settlement, James C. Moorman vs. Edward Lynch and Anselm Lynch, executors of John Lynch, Sr., deceased, and Thomas Wiatt," Superior Court of Law and Chancery, Lynchburg (Va.) Circuit Court, Order Book No. 2 (October 1822-July 1825), pp. 110-113, 21 May 1823; Minutes [of Common Council, Lynchburg, Va., 20 February 1811-31 March 1826, Reel No. 93; "Trust Sale of Land, Negroes, &c," *Lynchburg Virginian*, 14 November 1823, p. 3 col. 5; Obituary, *Lynchburg Virginian*, 24 October 1836, p. 3 col. 3. That the James C. Moorman who died in St. Louis is the same as the James C. Moorman in the arbitration settlement is proven in the case of James C. Moorman vs. Alexander Ligat, administrator de bonis non, with the will annexed of John Lynch, deceased, Samuel Bransford, sergeant of the corporation of Lynchburg, administrator of Thomas Wiatt, deceased..."it appearing to the satisfaction of the court that the plaintiff hath departed this life..." Circuit Superior Court of Law and Chancery, Lynchburg (Va.) Circuit Court, Order Book No. 6 (January 1836-January 1845), p. 253, 1 June 1839. An

earlier case, James C. Moorman against Bolling Clarke, et als., states that the "plaintiff hath departed this life." Ibid., p. 82, 22 October 1836. This date coincides with the newspaper obituary.]