

Oscar F. Johnston Collection, 1846 - 1896

Donor: Unknown

Johnston, born in Virginia, was appointed to the U.S. Naval Academy in 1846, from Tennessee. He served as an officer in the USN until the South seceded in 1861. He then resigned his U.S. commission and joined the CSN, and served in the Charleston/Savannah area until 1865. After the War, he became a partner in Johnston and Deleon Cotton and Commission Merchants in Savannah, Ga. (He and P.M. Deleon apparently met in South America before the War when Johnston was a member of the La Plata River Basin Expedition of the USN). The partnership was dissolved in 1875. Johnston activities after that are uncertain. He received correspondence addressed to Ringgold and Savannah after that date, so he remained a Georgia citizen.

The collection consists of Johnston's personal, business, and Naval correspondence, orders, receipts, and miscellaneous documents. Also included are drawings of a ship's hold space (perhaps the CSS Firefly, which he commanded while he was in the Confederate Navy.) and the Minutes of a called meeting of the Board of Directors of the Savannah Improved Gas Light Company, September 28, 1868.

Folder 1 - Naval Orders, 1846 - 1848

Folder 2 - Naval Orders and Correspondence, 1850 - 1858

Folder 3 - Naval Orders and Correspondence, 1860 - 1865

Folder 4 - Correspondence, 1866 - 1869

Folder 5 - Correspondence, 1869 - 1875

Folder 6 - Commissions, receipts, etc, 1846 - 1896

Folder 7 - Miscellaneous papers and documents; Contains 3 sketches of ship's hold space, and minutes of Savannah Improved Gas Light Company, Sept 28, 1868