REGISTER OF THE CARRISON PAPERS, 1876-1937

Henry George Garrison, 1851-1937

Mss 33, 42 vols., 4 cu. ft.
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INTRODUCTION

Henry George Carrison was a civic leader, businessman, and plantation owner in Camden, South Carolina. Original account books, letter press copies of correspondence, and financial transactions indicate that H. G. Carrison was the owner of large pieces of property and businesses, including the Hermitage Cotton Mills, in Camden.

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Register prepared by Berniece Holt in 1984.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

George Henry Carrison was born in 1851 of Scotch-Irish parents who settled in South Carolina and who died before Carrison was nine years of age. He and Margaret Jordan married in 1878 and had nine children. Mr. Carrison was active in the civic, commercial and professional life of Camden. He organized and served as president of the Bank of Camden in 1888; in 1892, he was elected and served as mayor of Camden for three terms. As mayor he started the storm-sewer system and a sewage treatment system, planted shade trees, began a recorder's court, and established a fire alarm system. In addition to his community and business enterprises he had extensive agricultural interests, owning several plantations and the Hermitage Cotton Mills.

Mrs. Carrison inherited a three-story mansion from her parents, Colonel and Mrs. Daniel W. Jordan. The Carrison's made many practical improvements on this historic Camden home. These included installing Camden's first bathroom, which was operated by a windmill built behind the mansion. Mrs. Carrison died in 1932 and Mr. Carrison died in 1937.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

These records include original account books (1902-1923), daybooks (1906-1922), wage account books for farm hands (1876-1933), ledgers (1897-1932), letter press books (1882-1892), and miscellaneous fragments (1902-1913). The records document a variety of financial transactions for Carrison's three plantations, The Hermitage Place, Pine Farms, and Race Track Farms, and the Hermitage Cotton Mill. They include cotton picking and ginning records, warehouse inventory, bank stubs, and receipt books. Some of the volumes are oversize and some are in poor condition.