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Bond, Oliver James, 1865-1933.

Selected Excerpts Quoted from the Oliver James Bond papers, 1818-1933

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Background:

Colonel in the South Carolina Militia and resident of Charleston, S.C.; student, faculty member, and administrator at The Citadel: Class of 1886; immediately after graduation, began teaching as Assistant Professor of Mathematics and later Professor of Mechanical Drawing and Astronomy; Superintendent (1908-1910) and President (1910-1931) [the title changed in 1910, although the duties remained the same]; he returned to the mathematics department for the remaining two years of his life; native of Marion, S.C.

Scope and Content Note

Letters, genealogical information, correspondence, photographs, and ephemera re Bond's interests, the Wayne family and related lines.

Bond was a founder of the S.C. Chess Association and won the state championship in 1928; includes letters documenting this aspect of Bond's life, as well as photographs of a visit to the home of chess legend Paul Morphy in New Orleans.

A significant portion of the collection reflects Bond's interest in genealogy and the Wayne family, including his distant cousin, Revolutionary War officer, General "Mad" Anthony Wayne. Includes the 1818 obituary of Bond's great-grandfather William Wayne that was published in the Georgetown Gazette, along with a

remembrance of the same individual (dated 18 Feb. 1864) recorded by another family member, Catherine Wayne Chrietzberg; also includes letter, 21 Sept. 1837, written by Francis Asbury Wayne (son of William Wayne).

Includes genealogical information on the following related families: Ballentine, Fishburne, Fullarton, Simons, Sinkler, and Snipes. A detailed family history, prepared and illustrated by Bond for his granddaughter Mary Ellen in 1923, shows the relationships between all these lines.

Other items include genealogical correspondence, six annotated photographs by Bond of his boyhood home in Marion, S.C., and a 13 Feb. 1912 letter from Bonds' son Oliver to his mother, on active duty at the Panama Canal.

Quotes and Excerpts

Letter, 21 September 1837, from Francis Asbury Wayne to "Brother Ebby".

"There is a solicitude prevalent amongst us to hear of the present welfare of yourself and family, sometime having passed since the last communication received from you."

[Unclear if "Brother Ebby" is a family member or close friend] The letter recounts the death of a beloved family matriarch [possibly the mother of F.A. Wayne], cotton crops, local weather and a potential land transaction. This letter is especially noteworthy for its joyful prose and spiritual imagery.

"If in her situation a retrospective pause be thrown o'er busy thought, connected with prospective view penetrating through a vista of the future reigns of time, what solemn emotions would fill the soul. Ah to see bone of our bone, flesh of our flesh, in lengthened line or grouped in spiral forms in congregated clusters, clothed in brilliant white and with perpetual spring, well settled with eternal mansions each provided with celestial good where degradation has no haunt, degeneracy no place.."

Excerpt, 18 February 1864, from the diary of Mrs. Catherine Wayne Chrietzberg.

A brief family history recounted to Mrs. Chrietzberg by her father Francis Asbury Wayne. He speaks of the life of his father Reverend William Wayne. William Wayne was an orphan and lived with his uncle Isaac and cousin Anthony, the future Revolutionary War General "Mad" Anthony Wayne. "I have heard him say that when General Wayne and himself were boys that they had a fight in which he whipped the General badly, who went crying for his father, who only said 'never mind Anty you'll make a warriar before you die.'" The letter also recounts

the dramatic religious conversion of William Wayne “But just then the light broke in upon his soul and he arose shouting the high praises of God.” At age 50 he began to preach, and as a result suffered ridicule and persecution. Eventually with the help of Bishop Francis Asbury he helped found the first Methodist church in Georgetown, S.C., and lived as a devout minister for the remaining thirty years of his life.

Letter, 13 February 1912, from Captain Oliver James Bond III to his mother Mary Roach Bond.

Written from Panama while serving as an aide in the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey. This letter asks for news of recent graduates and friends, and describes military life and his personal observations of Panama.

Letter, 29 April 1930, from James Henry Rice (1868-1935) to Colonel Bond.

These gentlemen were chess aficionados, Colonel Bond helped found the South Carolina Chess Club, and was state champion in 1928. This letter recounts the moves in a recent match. Rice laments the current generation of chess players who no longer revere the memory of the great American champion, Paul Morphy. “Genius is a rare plant, appreciated by those only, who possess capacity to appraise. In his heart every little man hates a big man, and becomes irritated when greatness and nobility are hailed.” Rice then recounts how General Moultrie has been similarly remembered.

Letter, 7 July 1933, from E. L. Dashiell to Colonel Bond.

This letter recounts the results of a chess match, possibly the state championship that Dashiell won in 1933. Election of officers and a tournament between the upcountry and low country are also discussed.