

A Guide to the T. Turner Foster Papers, 1740-1978 (bulk 1920-1972)

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There are no restrictions.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

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Gift of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Palmer, Purcellville.

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Biographical Information

Thomas Turner Foster was born on 1 August 1900. He was the son of James Robert Foster (1849-1919) and Mary deButts Carter (1871-1938). Turner Foster was a banker with the Fauquier National Bank of Warrenton, and also owned and operated a farm in The Plains, Virginia called "Glenville." Foster died in an automobile accident in Henrico County, Virginia on 28 November 1978.

Scope and Content

Papers, 1740-1978, of T. Turner Foster (1900-1978) of The Plains, Fauquier County, Virginia. Includes correspondence, financial records, subject files, records of his service on the Scott County Road Board, and materials relating to his establishment of a branch of the Millard Institute of Normal Speech in Warrenton. The bulk of the collection covers the years 1920 to 1972.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into the following series:

- I. Correspondence.
- II. Financial Records.
- III. Subject Files.
- IV. Scott District Road Board Records.
- V. Millard Institute of Normal Speech Records.

Contents List

Series I. Correspondence, 1774-1978.

Boxes 1-13 (box)

Extent

Extent: 13 boxes.

Scope and Content

There are two groups of correspondence. The first group covers the period 1774 to 1978 and is arranged chronologically. The earliest letters are written by James W. Foster (1807-1866) to his wife while he was serving in the Virginia General Assembly in Richmond. There are also letters written by John S. Knox, Sr. (1827-1906) in Alexandria to his wife. There are Civil War letters written by David Holmes Conrad (1800-1877) of Martinsburg, (West) Virginia to James W. Foster (concerning the deaths of his sons Holmes Addison Conrad (1837-1861) and Henry Tucker Conrad (1839-1861), while they were serving with the 2nd Virginia Infantry at Manassas. There are also letters from Dr. Arthur Moray Randolph (1815-1867) of Tallahassee, Florida regarding the death of his son Thomas Easton Randolph (1841-1862) of the 1st Florida Infantry. The other Civil War letters are written by Thomas Hunton Foster (1835-1864) to his father while he was a prisoner of war at Point Lookout, Maryland. There is a 1902 letter from Eppa Hunton (1822-1908) containing comments on his son's law practice and attendance at the Constitutional Convention in Richmond. There is a good deal of correspondence to and from Turner Foster and his brother E. Carter Foster (1895-1973) while they were attending Episcopal High School in Alexandria, and while Turner Foster was attending Bogue Institute in Indianapolis, and Hatfield Institute in Chicago. Finally, this group contains letters written while Turner Foster was employed in thrashing and harvesting jobs out West in Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, New Mexico, and Oklahoma. There are also postcards written by him during this period

in the Subject Files.

The second group of correspondence covers the years 1930 to 1972 and is arranged by year (with some gaps), and thereunder alphabetically by surname or topic. This group concerns mainly to the operation of Glenville Farm. It contains correspondence, as well as accounts and receipts, pertaining to seed, fertilizer, feed, coal, gas, and oil, livestock and equipment purchases, sales, and repairs, warranty information, hiring of farm hands, stock purchases and dividends, vestry and financial information relating to Grace Church, insurance and taxes, and other matters. There is a good deal of correspondence from the Department of Agriculture, the Virginia Aberdeen-Angus Association, the Fauquier National Bank of Warrenton, and information on various speech classes and institutes. Finally, there are many letters between Foster and his siblings concerning the settlement of their mother's estate and the sale of Glenville.

1774 .

Box 1

Folder 1

1835 .

Box 1

Folder 2

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Box 1

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Box 1

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1916 (March-December) .

Box 1

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1917 (January-February) .

Box 2

Folder 1

1917 (March-April) .

Box 2

Folder 2

1917 (May-December) .

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Folder 3

1918 (January-October) .

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Folder 4

1918 (November-December) .

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Folder 6

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1925 .

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1938 .

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Folder 20

1945 .

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Folder 21

1954 .

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Folder 22

1967 .

Box 2

Folder 23

1969 .

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Folder 24

1978 .

Box 2

Folder 25

n.d. .

Box 2

Folder 26

1930-1932 (A-Z) .

Box 3

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1935-1938 (A-B) .

Box 3

Folder 16-18

1935-1938 (C-Z) .

Box 4

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1938-1941 (A-G) .

Box 4

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1938-1941 (H-Z) .

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1942-1945 (A-F) .

Box 5

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1942-1945 (G-Z) .

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1945-1949 (A-J) .

Box 6

Folder 11-17

1945-1949 (K-Z) .

Box 7

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1949-1953 (A-M) .

Box 7

Folder 9-18

1949-1953 (N-Z) .**Box** 8**Folder** 1-6**1953-1960 (A-Q) .****Box** 8**Folder** 7-18**1953-1960 (R-Z) .****Box** 9**Folder** 1-4**1957-1959 (A-Q) .****Box** 9**Folder** 5-17**1957-1959 (R-Z) .****Box** 10**Folder** 1-4**1960-1962 (A-Z) .****Box** 10**Folder** 5-19**1962-1964 (A-Z) .****Box** 11**Folder** 1-16**1969-1970 (A-B) .****Box** 11**Folder** 17-18**1969-1970 (C-Z) .****Box** 12**Folder** 1-13**1971-1972 (A-Z) .****Box** 13**Folder** 1-15**Series II. Financial Records, 1859-1972.****Boxes** 14-29, 43-44 (box)**Extent**

Extent: 18 boxes.

Scope and Content

The majority of the financial records are bills and receipts that are arranged by year, and thereunder alphabetically by company name or type of product purchased. Included are records for livestock purchases and registrations, hardware and building materials, clothing and general merchandise, feed, seed, and fertilizer, vehicles and equipment repairs, insurance premiums, veterinary services, telephone and electric bills, periodical subscriptions and membership dues, and payments for work by farm hands. This series also contains numerous account books, check stub books, farm and personal account books, ledgers, day books, tax tickets and receipts, as well as personal accounts and receipts (1919-1923) of Mrs. James R. Foster. There are also financial statements and annual reports of various corporations in which Foster owned stock, including AT&T, Coca-Cola, Eastman Kodak, General Motors, General Electric, Procter

and Gamble, RCA, Standard Oil, and U.S. Steel. They date from the mid-1920's to mid-1930's. Also included in this series are annual statements of Glenville Farm (1925-1952 and 1966), which detail receipts and disbursements, and yearly expenses, including livestock bought and sold, crops sold, fertilizer and seed purchases, gas and kerosene purchases, repairs and improvements, wages paid, money borrowed, equipment purchases, taxes, veterinary services, and other expenses relating to the maintenance of Glenville Farm.

Account Book, 1891-1927.

Box 43

Account Books, 1918-1919.

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Folder 1

Account Book, 1922-1924.

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Folder 2

Account Book, 1924-1925.

Box 14

Folder 3

Accounts and Receipts, 1880-1914.

Box 14

Folder 4

Bills, 1951-1954 (A-V).

Box 14

Folder 5-21

Bills, 1951-1954 (W-Z).

Box 15

Folder 1

Bills, 1954-1957 (A-Z).

Box 15

Folder 2-20

Bills, 1957-1960 (A-Z).

Box 16

Folder 1-16

Bills, 1961-1963 (B-Z).

Box 17

Folder 1-17

Bills, 1967-1968 (A-Z).

Box 18

Folder 1-16

Bills, 1969-1970 (A-G).

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Folder 17-22

Bills, 1969-1970 (H-Z).

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Folder 1-9

Bills, 1971-1972 (A-S).

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Folder 10-23

Bills, 1971-1972 (T-Z).

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Folder 1-3

Check Stub Books, 1886-1965.

Box 44

Day Book, 28 September 1859 - December 1863.

Box 43

Diary and Ledger, 1880-1918.

Box 43

Farm Account Book, 1921-1923.

Box 20

Folder 4

Farm and Personal Account Book, 1921-1923.

Box 20

Folder 5

Index to Farm and Personal Account Book .

Box 20

Folder 6

Farm Diary and Account Book, 1916-1921.

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Folder 7

Farm Income and Expense Records, 1953-1954.

Box 20

Folder 8

Fauquier National Bank - Statements of Condition, 1945-1965.

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Folder 9

Financial Condition of T. Turner Foster, 1922-1925.

Box 20

Folder 10

Financial Statements (A-F) .

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Financial Statements (G-S) .

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Folder 1-10

Ledger, 1900-1907.

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Receipts, 1918-1919.

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Receipts, 1920-1930 (A-C).

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Folder 12-14

Receipts, 1920-1930 (C-Z).

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Folder 1-17

Receipts, 1930-1936 (A-Z).

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Folder 1-19

Receipts, 1945-1949 (A-S).

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Folder 1-17

Receipts, 1945-1949 (T-Z).

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Folder 1-3

Receipts, 1949-1951 (A-Z).

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Folder 4-21

Receipts - Mrs. James R. Foster, 1919-1923.

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Folder 1-6

Statements of Glenville Farm, 1925-1927.

Box 26

Folder 7-9

Statements of Glenville Farm, 1928-1939.

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Folder 1-13

Statements of Glenville Farm, 1940-1949.

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Folder 1-10

Statements of Glenville Farm, 1950, 1952, 1966.

Box 29

Folder 1-3

Tax Tickets and Receipts, 1894-1938.

Box 29

Folder 4

Taxes Paid, 1892-1919.

Box 29

Folder 5

Series III. Subject Files, 1740-1978.

Boxes 30-36, 39, 45-47 (box)

Extent

Extent: 11 boxes.

Scope and Content

The subject files include Bible records, books, certificates, clippings, deeds, and diaries, including reminiscences, written by Foster in 1968, of his time employed as a harvest hand out West in 1919. The subject files also contain Episcopal High School memorabilia, estate papers, a framed pencil drawing of Lucelia Hunton Foster (1811-1888), historical notes on the Civil War and Glenville, genealogical notes on the Carter, Foster, and Turner families, guardians' accounts, insurance papers, invitations, memorandum books, photographs and photograph albums, obituaries, copies of "The Parish Leaflet" for Piedmont and Whittle Parishes, plats and surveys, postcards, scrapbooks, and other items.

Abstract of Title .

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Adams vs. Cochran .

Box 30

Folder 2

Address Book .

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Folder 3

Agreements .

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Folder 4

Alderman Library - UVA .

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Folder 5

Alexandria Gazette, 20 December 1865.

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Anderson, Wesley .

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Folder 6

Appointment - Officers' Reserve Corps, 1917.

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Armenian Relief Fund .

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Folder 7

Baby Book - Elizabeth Horner Robins .

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Folder 8

Gov. James Barbour Letter .

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Folder 9

"Beautiful and Historic Piedmont Virginia" - Issued by the Warrenton and Fairfax Turnpike Company .

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Folder 10

Bible Records .

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Folder 11

Billfold - Myers and Houseman (Baltimore) .

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Folder 12

Blotters .

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Folder 13

Bogue Institute for Stammerers .

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Folder 14

Boy Scouts .

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Folder 15

Broadsides and Circulars .

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Folder 16

Brooks, Jack H. .

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Folder 17

Bryn Mawr School Banquets, 1922-1923.

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Folder 18

"The Carter Tree" - Compiled by Robert Randolph Carter of Shirley, 1951.

Box 45

Certificate - Farmers' National Congress Delegate, 1910.

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Certificates .

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Folder 19

Chatham Episcopal Institute - "The Chathamite," May 1909.

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Folder 20

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Folder 21

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Code Book .

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Folder 1

"College Topics" - University of Virginia, 21 September 1910.

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Colonial Dames of America .

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Folder 2

Confederate Stamp .

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Folder 3

Copper Plate .

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Deeds, 1819-1905.

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Folder 5

Deeds, 1906-1974.

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Folder 6

Diary, 1919.

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Folder 7

Diary, 1920-1921.

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Folder 8

Diary, 1921.

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Diary, 1922-1927.

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Folder 11

Diary, n.d..

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Folder 12

"Diary of a Roving Harvest Hand in 1919" by T. Turner Foster, 1968.

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Folder 13-14

**"Diddie, Dumps, and Tot or Plantation Child-Life" by Louise-Clarke
Pyrnelle, 1882.**

Box 45

Document Box .

Box 42

**"Elements of Geometry and Trigonometry From the Works of A.M.
Legrende" by Charles Davies, 1866.**

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Episcopal High School .

Box 31

Folder 15-16

Estate of James R. Foster .

Box 32

Folder 1

Estate of Mary B. Hunton Foster .

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Folder 2

Estate of Mary Carter Foster .

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Folder 3

Estate of Mary E. Foster .

Box 32

Folder 4

Estate of Thomas R. Foster .

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Folder 5

Estate of T. Turner Foster .

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Folder 6

Estate of James Samuel Hall .

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Folder 7-10

Estate of Jane C. Hunton .

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Folder 11

Estate of Jane Carter Foster Palmer (Funeral Program) .

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Folder 12

"Faber's Hymns" by Frederick W. Faber, D.D., 1875.

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"Faithfully Yours, Charles Green" by Martha L. Summerell .

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Family Bibles .

Box 45-46

Fauquier County Map and Historical Notes, 1914.

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Folder 14

Fauquier County - Historical Notes .

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Fauquier Historical Society .

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Fire - The Plains, 21 February 1967.

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Foster, James William .

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Folder 1

Foster, Lucelia Hunton - Pencil Drawing on Canvas .

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Foster Memorial Window - Grace Church .

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Folder 2

Genealogical Notes .

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Genealogical Notes - Carter/Turner .

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Folder 4

Genealogical Notes - Foster .

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Folder 6

Glenville - History .

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Folder 7

Glenville - Sales Brochure .

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Folder 9

Greeting Cards .

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Folder 10

Guardian's Accounts - Jane Turner Foster .

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Folder 11

Guardian's Accounts - Margaret M. Foster .

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Folder 12

Guardian's Accounts - Edward S. Turner .

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Guardian's Accounts - Margaret F. Turner .

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Folder 14

Guardian's Accounts - Mary B. Turner .

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Folder 15

Guardian's Accounts - Margaret F., Edward S., and Mary B. Turner .

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Folder 16

Handwriting Exercise Book .

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Folder 1

Hunton, Laura .

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Folder 2

Immigration Visa Application .

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Folder 3

Insurance .

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Folder 4

Invitations .

Box 34

Folder 5

B. F. Keith's Theatre, Washington, DC, 1914.

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Folder 6

Land Grants .

Box 47

Robert E. Lee Photograph - Documentation .

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Folder 7

"A List of 'Lost' Alumni of the University of Virginia," 1912.

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Folder 8

Livestock Contracts, 1892-1894.

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Livestock Purchases, 1913-1917.

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"Luke the Angus Steer" - Story by E. Carter Foster .

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Mailing List .

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Manassas Gap Railroad Company .

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Folder 13

Marriage Certificate - Foster/Robins, 1929.

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Folder 14

Memorandum Book, 1881-1919.

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Memorandum Book, 1914.

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Memorandum Book, 1919-1920.

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Folder 17

Memorandum Book, 1920.

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Folder 18

Memorandum Book, 1920-1922.

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Folder 19

Memorandum Book, 1921-1923.

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Memorandum Book, 1922.

Box 34

Folder 21

Memorandum Book, 1922-1923.

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Folder 22

Memorandum Book, 1923.

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"Memorial of the Unveiling of Lee's Statue," 29 May 1890.

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Folder 1

Mosher Book List, 1913.

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Folder 2

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Folder 3

"The New Latin Tutor" by Frederic P. Leverett, 1845.

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"The New Peace Palace" by James W. Foster .

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Folder 4

Obituaries .

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Folder 5

"Old Farmer's Almanac," 1863.

Box 35

Folder 6

"The Parish Leaflet" - Piedmont and Whittle Parishes, 1915-1918.

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Patent - Improvement in Manufacturing Malt Liquors, 1879.

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Photographs .

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Plats and Surveys .

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Poetry 1915.**Box** 35**Folder** 16**Postcards .****Box** 39**Power of Attorney, 1959.****Box** 35**Folder** 17**"Pure Drinking Water for Country Homes," 1930.****Box** 35**Folder** 18**Religious Pamphlets and Publications .****Box** 35**Folder** 19**Report Cards .****Box** 35**Folder** 20**Ribbons 1915.****Box** 35**Folder** 21**School Compositions .****Box** 35**Folder** 22**School Notes .****Box** 35**Folder** 23**Scrapbook - Elizabeth W. Knox .****Box** 36**Folder** 1**Scrapbook - Elizabeth Robins (World War I) .****Box** 36**Folder** 2-3**"Sesame and Lilies and the King of the Golden River" by John Ruskin, 1921.****Box** 45**Slaughter, Philip - Relief .****Box** 36**Folder** 4**The Southern Churchman, 7 June 1866.****Box** 47

Stamp Act Protest, 1765 (copy) .

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Folder 5

Stock Certificate - Fauquier County Agricultural Society .

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Switzerland Trip .

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Folder 7

Thomas R. Foster and Company .

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Folder 8

Thomas Turner Association .

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Folder 9

"Titanic" Picture Section - The New York Times, 28 April 1912.

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Tractor Manuals .

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Folder 10

Turner Reunion .

Box 36

Folder 11

University of Virginia Programs, 1913.

Box 36

Folder 12

Virginia Folk-Lore Society, 1913.

Box 36

Folder 13

Warrenton Fire, 1909.

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Warrenton Hunt Club Race Program, 1914.

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White House Invitation, 1940.

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Whitewood .

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Folder 16

Whitewood - Cemetery Work .

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Whitewood - Sale .

Box 36

Folder 18

Will of Josephine Knox Robins .

Box 36

Folder 19

World Map .

Box 36

Folder 20

World War Memorial Hall and Miles Stadium Dedication, 23 October 1926.

Box 36

Folder 21

"The Years of Anguish, Fauquier County, Virginia, 1861-1865" by the Fauquier County Civil War Centennial Committee, 1965.

Box 45

Series IV. Scott District Road Board Records, 1923-1927.

Box 37

Extent

Extent: 1 box.

Scope and Content

Turner Foster served as a member of the Scott District Road Board. The records cover the period from 1923 to 1927, and include budgets, correspondence (a good deal of it is with the Board's chairman Thomas B. Glascock), minutes, petitions, road workers' accounts, pay rolls, and expense accounts, relating to condition, maintenance, improvements, and construction of roads in Fauquier County.

A .

Box 37

Folder 1

B .

Box 37

Folder 2

Budgets .

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Folder 3

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Folder 4

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Box 37

Folder 5

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Folder 6

G .

Box 37

Folder 7-8

H-I-J .

Box 37

Folder 9

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Folder 10

M .

Box 37

Folder 11

Miscellaneous .

Box 37

Folder 12

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Folder 13

P-Q .

Box 37

Folder 14

Pay Rolls and Expense Accounts .

Box 37

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R .

Box 37

Folder 16

S .

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Folder 17

Scott District Road System .

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Folder 18

T-U-V .

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Folder 19

Turner, R. R. .**Box** 37**Folder** 20**W-X-Y-Z .****Box** 37**Folder** 21**Series V. Millard Institute of Normal Speech Records, 1926.****Boxes** 38-39 (box)**Extent**

Extent: 2 boxes.

Scope and Content

The Millard Institute of Normal Speech records detail Foster's establishment and operation of a branch of the Institute in the basement of the Fauquier County courthouse. Foster had attended the Institute, located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and was impressed by its teaching methods and the treatment he received. The files contain class exercise notebooks, contracts, correspondence, financial records, a card file of prospective students, and a copy of "The Millard Instructor - A Key to Perfect Speech" by Lee Wells Millard.

Card File of Prospective Students .**Box** 39**Class Exercise Notebooks .****Box** 38**Folder** 1**Contracts .****Box** 38**Folder** 2**Correspondence .****Box** 38**Folder** 3-4**Financial Records .****Box** 38**Folder** 5**"The Millard Instructor" .****Box** 38**Folder** 6**Students .****Box** 38**Folder** 7