

Lucas, Daniel Bedinger, Papers

Daniel Bedinger Lucas Papers

1812-1924, n.d.



Title Statement

Lucas, Daniel Bedinger, PapersDaniel Bedinger Lucas Papers, 1812-1924, n.d. Ms.1995.012

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.1995.012

Unit Date

1812-1924, n.d.

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

The Daniel Bedinger Lucas papers consist of scrapbooks, correspondence, poems and essays, newspapers, and other materials collected and created by Lucas, including several items created by his sister, Virginia Lucas, also a poet.

Creator

Lucas, Daniel Bedinger, 1836-1909

Creator

Lucas, Virginia (Virginia Bedinger), 1838-1865

Extent

1.8 Cubic Feet 4 boxes

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open to research.

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Source of Acquisition

The Daniel Bedinger Lucas Papers were donated to Special Collections in May 1995. Additional materials were donated in September 1995. An additional letter was purchased in 2014.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Daniel Bedinger Lucas Papers, commenced and was completed in July 1995. Additional materials were processed in October 1997. The 2014 addition was processed in 2017.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Daniel Bedinger Lucas Papers, Ms1995-012, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

Daniel Bedinger Lucas, lawyer and poet, was born March 16, 1836, at "Rion Hall" in Charleston, Virginia (now West Virginia). He attended the University of Virginia, and then studied law under Judge John W. Brockenbrough of Lexington, Virginia. In 1859 he began practicing law at Charleston but moved the next year to Richmond. At the beginning of the Civil War in 1861 he joined the staff of General Henry A. Wise and took part in the Kanawha Valley campaign, but his physical disability from a childhood spine injury kept him from active service in the last years of the war. Toward the end of the war he ran the blockade to defend his friend John Yates Beall, accused of being a Confederate spy, but was unable to defend him against the charges. Beall was executed on Governors Island, New York.

In 1869, Lucas married Lena Tucker Brooke, of Richmond. Their only child, Virginia, was born in 1873. Barred from the practice of law until 1871, due to restrictions on the service of ex-Confederates, Lucas turned to literature and became co-editor of the Baltimore *Southern Metropolis*. Many of his poems were published in this magazine. He reentered the practice of law in 1871 and took a prominent role in the Democratic party politics of West Virginia, acting as Democratic elector in the elections of 1872 and 1876, to the legislature in 1884 and 1886, and as a member of the supreme court of appeals from 1889 to 1893.

Lucas's volumes of poetry include *The Wreath of Eglantine* (1869), with poems of his sister, Virginia, and *Ballads and Madrigals* (1884). He wrote three plays about the Civil War. His books include *The Memoir of John Yates Beall* (1865) and *Nicaragua, War of the Filibusters* (1896). He was known as the "poet of the Shenandoah Valley." He died at Rion Hall on June 24, 1909.

Scope and Contents

The Daniel Bedinger Lucas papers consist of scrapbooks, correspondence, poems and essays, newspapers, and other materials collected and created by Lucas, including several items created by his sister, Virginia Lucas, also a poet. Topics include Lucas's defense of John Yates Beall, the exploits of adventurer William Walker, the origin of General Robert E. Lee's horse Traveler; and West Virginia politics. There are examples of Lucas's poetry scattered throughout the papers. The 1860 scrapbook includes several interesting pressed flower designs.

Related Archival Materials

Virgina Lucas Letter, 1861 (Ms2018-021). [Finding aid](#) for this collection is available online.

Keywords

Civil War

Local/Regional History and Appalachian South

United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865

Alternate Form Available

One of the scrapbooks in this collection has been digitized and is [available online](#).

Rights Statement for Archival Description

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Arrangement

The collection is arranged chronologically. Undated materials are at located in boxes 3 and 4.

Description of Subordinate Components

Issue of the National Intelligencer of Washington City (Washington, D.C.)

Unit Date 1812

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Manuscript copy (made in 1880) of "The Cossack Celebration at Shephardstown, Jefferson County, Virginia" (now West Virginia)

Unit Date 1814

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

"A Study of the Literature of West Virginia" written by Mary Meek Atkeson, Ph.D.

Unit Date 1822-1922

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Article, "A Blister Plaster, for the Cure of Cacoethes Scribendi" by John S. Gallaher

Unit Date 1828

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

One page of The Register, of Shephardstown, West Virginia. Article written by Dr. Harry T. McDonald about the Armory and Arsenal at Harper's Ferry

Unit Date 1828

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Issue of The Hagerstown Mail of Hagerstown, Maryland

Unit Date 1829

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Appendix to the Congressional Globe, February 1844, pp. 337-352

Unit Date 1844

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Two letters to William Lucas in Charleston, Virginia, (now West Virginia)

Unit Date 1844

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Issue of Spirit of Jefferson, newspaper of Charleston, Virginia (now West Virginia)

Unit Date 1850

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Article from Charleston, Virginia (now West Virginia) newspaper, written by Lucas

Unit Date 1856

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Poem written to Lucas, author is an unidentified sibling of Lucas (probably his sister Virginia)

Unit Date 1859

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Scrapbook of poetry, newspaper clippings, and pressed flowers (likely by his sister, Virginia)

Unit Date 1860

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Manuscript copy of an article from the New York Herald about the September 1860 court martial and execution of William Walker, whose military and political expeditions in Central America gained him the reputation as the "greatest American filibuster"

Unit Date 1860

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Letter from Daniel B. Lucas, writing from the Quarter Master General's Office in Richmond, Virginia, to his brother

Unit Date 1861

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

One page from the Daily Enquirer of Richmond, Virginia

Unit Date 1862

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 15 (folder)

Photographs of General Turner Ashby and Daniel Lucas

Unit Date 1862

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 16 (folder)

Issue of American and Commercial Advertising of Baltimore, Maryland

Unit Date 1863

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 17 (folder)

Letter to "John" (John Yates Beall)

Unit Date 1864

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 52 (folder)

Scope and Contents

Letter to John [Yates Beall], dated July 30, 1864 from Richmond. Lucas talks about recent personal and military events. Lucas defended Beall when was tried as a Confederate guerrilla and spy, but Beall was executed on February 4, 1865.

Letter from Daniel B. Lucas in Canada, to his cousin Virginia. Mentions death of John Yates Beall

Unit Date 1865

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 18 (folder)

Receipt from Gibb Company, Merchants Tailors, in Montreal to Lucas

Unit Date 1865

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 19 (folder)

One page from the Winchester Times, with an article about the dedication of the Stonewall Cemetery

Unit Date 1866

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 20 (folder)

Two issues of the National Intelligencer

Unit Date 1867

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 21 (folder)

Letters from R. N. Engle at Elston Bank to Lucas about the tract of land he received

Unit Date 1869

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 22 (folder)

A statement of Daniel Lucas' account after the addition of Edward Lucas' estate

Unit Date 1868

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 23 (folder)

Scrapbook of newspaper clippings. Topics include the death of John Yates Beall, politics, the Civil War, and speaking engagements of Daniel Lucas

Unit Date 1869-1876

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 24 (folder)

Issue of The Saturday Review of Politics, Literature, Science, and Art

Unit Date 1869

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 25 (folder)

Check written by Lucas to Charles J. Faulkner for \$200.00

Unit Date 1869

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 26 (folder)

One page from the Winchester Times, in which Lucas wrote an article

Unit Date 1869

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 27 (folder)

Issue of Virginia Free Press-The Old Family Journal

Unit Date 1871

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 28 (folder)

January issue of the Westminster Review

Unit Date 1872

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 29 (folder)

Letter and statement of account from P. H. Kennedy to Daniel Lucas about Edward Lucas' estate

Unit Date 1872

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 30 (folder)

Essay (or speech) in praise of the Democratic Party

Unit Date 1876

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 31 (folder)

Scrapbook with newspaper clippings about William Lucas, Daniel Lucas, politics, and the Civil War

Unit Date 1876-1893.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 32 (folder)

Robert Lucas' Survivor's Pension from the U.S. Department of Interior for serving in the Virginia Militia

Unit Date 1878

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 33 (folder)

Issue of The Morgan Mercury, from Berkley Springs, West Virginia

Unit Date 1878

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 34 (folder)

Issue of the Weekly New Mexican

Unit Date 1880

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 35 (folder)

Letter from A.W. Kerchival to Daniel Lucas

Unit Date 1882

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 36 (folder)

"Ballads and Madrigals," a book of poems written by Daniel Lucas

Unit Date 1884

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 37 (folder)

Scrapbook of newspaper clippings of poetry, songs, witticisms, essays, etc., compiled by Virginia Lucas

Unit Date 1888

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 38 (folder)

Issue of Spirit of Jefferson, a Charleston, West Virginia, newspaper

Unit Date 1888

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 39 (folder)

Ribbon from a Memorial Day celebration and Confederate reunion in Norfolk, Virginia

Unit Date 1889

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 40 (folder)

Letter from Okey Johnson to Lucas

Unit Date 1889

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 41 (folder)

Letter from Marcus Wright, War of Records Office, War Department of Washington, to Lucas

Unit Date 1893

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 42 (folder)

Notebook of household accounts and poetry in manuscript by Lena Lucas from Rion Hall

Unit Date 1894

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 43 (folder)

"Walker in Nicaragua," a typescript essay by Daniel B. Lucas

Unit Date 1895

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 44 (folder)

Letters between Joseph M. Broun and J. Johnston about how General Robert E. Lee obtained his horse Traveler

Unit Date 1895-1899

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 45 (folder)

Issue of The Winchester Times

Unit Date 1897

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 46 (folder)

"The Last Confederate Pay-roll" by Joseph M. Broun of Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia. Manuscript essay

Unit Date 1897

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 47 (folder)

"The Last Confederate Pay-roll" by Joseph M. Broun. Typescript copy of essay

Unit Date 1897

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 48 (folder)

Letter from Marcus J. Wright to Lucas

Unit Date 1898

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 49 (folder)

Program of the Eleventh Annual Reunion of the Charlestown Society, song written by Lucas

Unit Date 1900

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 50 (folder)

"Dramatic Works of Daniel Bedinger Lucas," a book of plays by Lucas

Unit Date 1913

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 51 (folder)

"The Land Where We Were Dreaming," a book of poems by Daniel Lucas

Unit Date 1913

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Issue of The Washington Post

Unit Date 1921

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

**Pages from a scrapbook with topics about forestry and trees; includes miscellaneous poetry.
Compiled by Virginia Lucas**

Unit Date 1923-1930

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Life of John Brown, by Michael Gold

Unit Date 1924

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Newspaper account of the 1865 death of John Wilkes Booth

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

**Drawing of the Pennsylvania, Virginia, and North Carolina colonies (1745-56) with a line
showing Washington's journey in 1751**

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Notebook of manuscript poems written by Daniel B. Lucas, with an index to the poems

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

**Argument as to why Jefferson County, West Virginia, should have been considered part of the
Union under the act of July 4th, 1864. Author unknown, though probably Daniel B. Lucas**

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Account in an unidentified newspaper about the "Last Days of the War" (Confederate view)

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Miscellaneous papers

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Miscellaneous correspondence

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Miscellaneous poetry

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Notebook of miscellaneous poetry

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Miscellaneous papers about John Yates Beall

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Framed photograph of Daniel Lucas

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Notebook of manuscript notes, presumably written by Lucas

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Newspaper article about General Robert E. Lee's description of Traveller, his horse, newspaper unknown

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

"List of Relics Contributed to the World's Fair Exposition" by Daniel Lucas

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

A notebook of poems written in manuscript by an unidentified person

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 4 (folder)