

Thomas Mead Letter, 14 January 1836

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Title Statement

Thomas Mead Letter, 14 January 1836Guide to the Thomas Mead Letter, 14 January 1836 SC 01683

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SC 01683

Unit ID

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Unit Date

14 January 1836

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English

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Biographical / Historical

Thomas Mead (1795-1847) was a county surveyor in Bedford County, Virginia. He was married to Martha (nee Carper) Mead and his son, Henry, owned the Warrenton Journal of Fauquier County. Frederick Carper (1799-1846) was a farmer, magistrate, and road commisioner in Fairfax County, Virginia.

Scope and Contents

Thomas Mead, of Lynchburg, Virginia, writes to his brother-in-law Frederick Carper, of Fairfax City, Virginia. The letter mentions their political differences and discusses laborers from Pennsylvania coming to work on the James River Canal (which was never completed). Mead describes these white laborers as a "motley crew" and mentions "Lynches law" as a method to deal with them. Enslaved "hands" were hired from \$100 to \$150 per year to work on the project. Mead mentions prices for enslaved persons, a decrease in land cost, western migration, market prices for wheat, and shares personal news.

Keywords

Slave labor

Slave bills of sale

Canals--Virginia

Merchants--Virginia--Lynchburg

Lynching--United States--History

Extrajudicial executions

Description of Subordinate Components

Letter

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