

Governor David Settle Reid Collection

Repository:	Rockingham Co. Historical Collections Gerald B. James Library Rockingham Community College P. O. Box 38 Wentworth, NC 27375
Title:	Governor David Settle Reid Collection
Accession No.:	81-026, 82-014, 82-015, 82-016, 90-037
Extent:	4 boxes, 5 artifacts, 1 set books
Provenance:	Donated by Lucile Reid Fagg in 1981, 1982 and 1990
Inclusive Dates:	1836-1913
Subject Headings:	Governors – North Carolina – Correspondence Reid, David Settle, 1813-1891 Reid, David Settle, 1813-1891 – Correspondence Reid, Henrietta Settle, 1824-1913
Preferred Citation:	<i>Governor David Settle Reid Collection. Rockingham Co. Historical Collections, Gerald B. James Library, Rockingham Community College.</i>
Descriptive Note:	<p>David Settle Reid (1813-1891) was the 32nd Governor of the state of North Carolina from 1851 to 1854 and a United States Senator from December 1854 to March 1859. His uncle was Congressman Thomas Settle.</p> <p>He was born in what would later be Reidsville, North Carolina, an unincorporated town named for his father, Reuben Reid. At age 16, David Reid became the first postmaster for the town. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1833. From 1835 to 1842, Reid served in the North Carolina Senate. He was a U. S. Representative from 1843 to 1847. Reid ran for governor in 1848 as a long-shot candidate and lost to Charles</p>

Manly by only 854 votes. In 1850, Reid defeated Manly by 2,853 votes, becoming the first elected Democratic governor of North Carolina.

David Settle Reid was married to Henrietta Settle Reid (1824-1913), a cousin. He died in Reidsville in 1891 and is buried in Greenview Cemetery.

Contents:

Box 1:

Correspondence:

Collection of 132 letters, mostly personal, between David Settle Reid and various family members dated 1836-1860. Many were written home while he resided in Washington, D.C. ([inventory spreadsheet](#))

Box 2:

Correspondence:

Collection of 55 letters dated 1861-1913, mostly personal correspondence, David Settle Reid and family ([inventory spreadsheet](#))

Deeds and Plats:

Thomas Settle to David S. Reid, 1852
William McCollum to David Settle, 1871
Peter McQueen to David Settle, 1869
Charles Hamlin to David Settle, 1867
John Staples to David Settle, 1872
Robert Martin to Thomas Settle, 1828
Thomas Gallaway to Peter McQueen, 1864
John R. Raine to David Settle, 1869
John Field to Peter McQueen, 1862
Alexander Moir to Robert Field, 1862
Thomas Gallaway to Thomas Settle, 1832
Hugh K. Reid to Thomas S. Reid, 1873

Miscellaneous:

1 valentine from David Settle Reid to wife, Henrietta, inscribed, "My Dear Wife: This is the only document of this kind that I ever sent to anyone." David S. Reid, Feb'y 1855

1 original copy, "In Memoriam Mrs. Henrietta Settle Reid"
Superior Court, Rockingham County, dated March 3, 1913,
signed and sealed C. O. McMichael and P. W. Glidewell

1 handwritten copy of David Settle Reid's will with seal and
note, "Copy of Will of David S. Reid. For Mrs. Henrietta S.
Reid"

1 telegram from Stephen A. Douglas

1 handwritten document, "Merit of the F & M Plank Road for
the Benefit of Gov. Reid"

3 receipts, American Hotel, Richmond, VA dated 1856

1 list, Wentworth Township Committee, James W. Reid, chair

1 list of candies and baked goods with prices for Mrs. David
Reid, Raleigh, dated 1852

1 obituary, Reuben D. Reid

1 copy Daily Standard-Extra, "Opinion of chief Justice Pearson
in the Habeas Corpus Case of A. G. Moore"

1 graduation announcement, University of North Carolina,
Reuben D. Reid, Class of 1878

1 invitation, "Mr. Dobbins requests the honor of Mr. Reid's
company to meet Comm. Perry", 1855 (enclosed is a calling
card "Lieut. J. Julius Guthrie, U. S. Navy" and a second card
"Commodore Perry, U. S. Navy)

1 invitation, Grand National Inauguration Ball for James
Buchanan, 1857

1 invitation, "The President requests the honor of Mr. and
Mrs. D. S. Reid's company at dinner on Friday, May the 28th
(1858 – James Buchanan)

1 certificate, Washington National Monument Society, for
contribution toward the erecting of the Washington
Monument

1 lengthy handwritten manuscript, "Governor Reid for the Defense," in the case of Thomas P. Bowman who was accused of murdering his wife, Teresa Bowman, with strychnine. Bowman was found guilty and sentenced to death, but was granted a second trial after appealing to the NC Supreme Court in 1878, found guilty again, and hanged

1 inventory list of household goods, listed by room

1 typewritten document, "David Settle Reid" by Robert M. Douglas

Tenant farming agreement between Hugh K. Reid and James Neal, 1879

Newspaper clipping, "Senator Reid's Funeral"

Newspaper clipping with transcript of letter written by Rhoda S. Reid to David S. Reid (her brother) in 1844 when he was a congressman

Note from W. W. Holden which had accompanied the gift of a cup and saucer

1 copy "Tribute of Respect to the Memory of the Late Judge Settle"

Petition to the Court of Pleas, Mecklenburg County, W. K. Reid, Clerk of Court. William Lee Davidson was appealing to the court as a descendent of General William Davidson to receive a pension based on William's service in the Revolutionary War where he was killed at the Catawba River in 1781

Miscellaneous receipts

1 issue *North Carolina Argus*, Wadesboro, NC dated May 12, 1870

2 receipts, The Exchange Hotel, Richmond, VA one for Thomas Settle and one for David Settle Reid

1 receipt, M. Willian's Dress and Trimmings Store, Washington DC, for dress made for Henrietta S. Reid

List of account for doctor's visits to Henrietta S. Reid by Dr. Paine for 1855

1 copy *Addresses by Robert M. Douglas of Greensboro, N. C.*

1 copy *Speech of Hon. Zebulon B. Vance, of North Carolina, in the Senate of the United States, May 19, 1879*

Bill of Sale dated 1841 for the sale of a slave. Martin Roberts sold the slave, Bob White, to Thomas Settle for the sum of \$509.00

Box 3:

1842 leather bound Bible, inscribed "David Settle Reid" inside cover

1 pocket-sized *Congressional Directory*, 15th Congress, Thomas Settle written on cover

1 copy *Angell's Union Series*, No. 5, 1841 – label on outside cover, "David S. Reid," written on inside cover, "Reuben H. Reid, Rockingham"

1 copy *The Heart of Mid-Lothian*, by W. Scott

Collection of approximately 200 calling cards and invitations, many from other senators and foreign dignitaries, from Governor Reid's time in the Senate. Includes a dinner invitation from President Franklin Pierce and a ticket to the inaugural banquet for President James Buchanan

1 small leather bound Memorandum Book for 1851, mostly blank, inscribed on cover, "Mrs. H. Settle Reid from her husband"

1 leather covered account book imprinted "Mr. Reid" on the outside and signed "David S. Reid" inside the cover with handwritten entries from 1867-1872 showing payment for work done. Much of this is illegible and it appears an attempt

was made to erase much of the information perhaps to re-use the book.

1 copy *United States Official Register*, 1843 – written inside cover “Hon. David S. Reid, House of Representatives, Washington City”

Box 4:

Folder 1 - Miscellaneous papers, 1830s-1840s

1 receipt Richard Congers to Shaw King for fabric, buttons, coffee, comb, 1834

1 receipt for books, Mr. R. Reid to J. J. James (no date)

1 receipt for coffee and wine, David S. Reid, 1832

1 letter, H. K. Reid to R. Reid, 1841

1 ledger page, Reidsville Post Office, 1835, signed David S. Reid, Postmaster

Folder 2 - Miscellaneous papers, 1850s

1 copy *The Christian Minister's Affectionate Advice to Married Couples*, American Tract Society, Publisher. Inscribed: “Presented to David S. Reid and Henrietta S. Reid by Rev. Mr. Crowder November, 1852.” Includes a marriage certificate dated December 19, 1850.

1 paper, *Conference Convention, Washington City, Feb 4, 1861* certifying that David S. Reid, delegate from North Carolina, is a member of the convention. Signed by President John Tyler.

1 news clipping, no date, “Governor David Settle Reid, the Father of the Town of Reidsville, was First Democratic Governor of North Carolina”

1 copy *Governor Reid's Inaugural Address, Delivered Before the Two Houses of the General Assembly of North Carolina the 1st Day of January, 1851*

1 pass, dated 1862 and signed by Brigadier General T. W. Sherman, granting permission for Capt. H. Hascall and friends to pass freely through the Union lines

1 note dated December 10, 1858 from D. R. McNair, Sergeant at Arms, to D. S. Reid requesting his presence in the Senate

1 receipt made out to David Settle Reid for his travel expenses and his compensation for the 3d Session of the 34th Congress from March 4, 1855 through March 3, 1857

1 receipt, D. S. Reid, for room and board at The Exchange Hotel, Richmond, Va., dated March 15, 1858

1 receipt, D. S. Reid, from First Baptist Church, Washington City, March 1, 1859 for "Rent of Pew"

3 receipts, to D. S. Reid for board at the Browns' Marble Hotel, Washington D.C., dated December 2, 1855, December 5, 1858 and January 3, 1859

1 tax receipt received of Gov. D. S. Reid, Raleigh, August 1853

1 copy "Let the South Respond," published in *The Voice of Kansas*, June 21, 1856

1 news clipping, March 25, 1852, regarding Democratic meetings in various locations

1 letter from David S. Reid mailed from Washington to wife Henrietta. "To My Dear Wife, An Irishman who used to make fires for me has sent me three handsome flowers. I have enclosed one to you, one to Annie, and one to Caroline. D. S. R., Jany 14, 1859" Included is a pressed flower wrapped in cotton.

1 handwritten poem, by Governor Holden to Governor and Mrs. Reid. Noted on the poem, "Written by Gov. Holden when shown our little son's picture December 1852"

3 copies *Congressional Directory* dated 1855, 1856 and 1859

1 copy *Message of His Excellency Governor Reid to the Legislature of North Carolina Session 1854-55*

1 copy *Biennial Message of His Excellency Governor Reid, to the Legislature of North Carolina at the Session Commencing October, 1852*

1 copy *The Report of the Comptroller of Public Accounts of the Receipt and Disbursements at the Public Treasury of the State of North Carolina During the Fiscal Year Ending October 31, 1851*

1 scrapbook, miscellaneous newspaper clippings, undated

Folder 3 - Miscellaneous papers, 1860s

1 copy of poem "The Battle of Manassas" by Mrs. Clarke, wife of Col. Clarke, 14th Regiment, North Carolina, Dedicated to Gen. Beauregard, C. S. A.

1 photocopy of a letter with seal, electing David S. Reid to a convention in Washington D. C. called by Union states for February 4, 1861

Folder 4 - Miscellaneous papers, 1870s

1 invitation to Trinity College commencement party, June 15th, 1871. Card enclosed reads "Compliments of A. J. Ellington"

1 invitation addressed to Henrietta Settle for wedding of Fannie Settle Covington and Oliver H. Dockery at First Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC on January 3, 1871

1 sheet of blank stationery, Reid & Reid, Attorneys and Counsellors at Law, Reidsville, N. C.

2 lists, Chairmen of Democratic Executive Committees for Townships for Rockingham County, undated

Handwritten table of what appears to be election results for "Convention 1875" and "Convention 1871" with candidates and results by township

1 empty envelope addressed to Hon D S Reid with elaborate images of University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill postmarked Oct 15 (no year)

1 receipt dated May 27, 1872 for tuition for Thomas Reid and Reuben Reid

Folder 5 - Miscellaneous papers, 1880s

1 invitation for the wedding of the daughter of Judge Thomas Settle, Nettie, to Dr. William P. Beall, 1883. Thomas Settle was a Congressional Representative from North Carolina from 1817 to 1821.

1 invitation for the wedding of Edward T. B. Glenn and Mary Pemberton in 1883. Edward T. B. Glenn was the son of Chalmers Glenn, the adopted son of Dr. Edward Travis Brodnax of Saura Town Plantation. Dr. Brodnax raised Edward and his brothers after Chalmers Glenn was killed in battle in 1862. One of the brothers was Robert B. Glenn, Governor of North Carolina from 1905-1909.

1 envelope, empty, addressed to Mrs. Gov. Reid, from Gov. Holden

Folder 6 – Miscellaneous papers, 1890s

12 envelopes, empty, addressed to Mrs. Reuben Reid or Miss Lucile Reid

1 original playbill, Miss Henrietta Vinton Davis, The Celebrated Dramatic Reader and Tragedienne, to perform at Bethel A. M. C. Church on April 9, 1891. Henrietta Vinton Davis (August 25, 1860 – November 23, 1941) was an African American elocutionist, dramatist and impersonator. In addition to being "the premier actor of all nineteenth-century black performers on the dramatic stage," Davis was proclaimed by Marcus Garvey to be the "greatest woman of the Negro race today." [Wikipedia]

1 wedding invitation, Elizabeth Settle to Samuel Hill Boyd, 1892

Original Letter of Testamentary, naming Henrietta S. Reid executor of the estate of David S. Reid dated 1891

Various news clippings, mostly related to the death of David S. Reid

Folder 7 – Miscellaneous papers, early 20th century

13 envelopes, empty, addressed to Mrs. Reuben Reid

2 copies Address of William P. Bynam, Jr. Presenting the Portrait of Thomas Settle to the Supreme Court, November 7, 1905

1 copy, S. B. No. 600, Introduced by Mr. Reid, "A Bill to be Entitled an Act Denouncing Conduct Within the State of North Carolina Which Interferes with Trade and Commerce," 1907

Thank you note, from North Carolina Historical Commission to Henrietta S. Reid, thanking her for her donation of letters

1 official pardon, dated 1904, signed by Governor Charles B. Aycock, in regards to a two-year sentence in county jail for Kate Saunders, convicted of running a "bawdy house."

1 letter, dated 1904, Governor Charles B. Aycock to Reuben D. Reid, explaining the conditions of the pardon of Saunders, who was required to leave the state and not return in exchange for her pardon.

1 letter, from Governor's Executive Clerk to Reuben D. Reid, confirming the pardon of Pink Purgason

Various news clippings concerning David S. Reid and the presentation of a portion of his papers to the North Carolina Historical Commission

Folder 8 – Miscellaneous papers, undated

2 envelopes, empty, addressed to David S. Reid

1 large poster, *The Synopsis; or, Self-Instructor of English Grammar*, by John A. Graham

Additional Items:

1 set, *Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies in the War of the Rebellion*, 1894

5 items of clothing belonging to the children of David Settle Reid

1 leather trunk

1 oil painting of David Settle Reid

1 oil painting of Henrietta Settle Reid

1 hand drawn and colored campaign banner, 3" x 4" (stored in secure location)

Created 1/14/2015 –mg
Revised 2/12/19 –mg