## **Thomas Gallaway Letters**

Repository:	Rockingham Co. Historical Collections
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Gerald B. James Library

**Rockingham Community College** 

P. O. Box 38

Wentworth, NC 27375

Title: Thomas Gallaway Letters

Accession No.: 92-014

**Extent:** 1 folder – unboxed collections

**Provenance:** Donated in 1992 by Ellen Pepper Tilley

Inclusive Dates: 1873-1878

**Subject Headings:** Gallaway, Thomas S., 1809-1879

Mon-Vue Plantation

Pepper, John

**Piedmont Springs Hotel** 

Plantations - Rockingham County (N. C.)

**Items Separated:** 

**Related Material:** See also: *The Gallaways of Rose Hill* by Marjorie T. Walker in

The Journal of Rockingham County History and Genealogy, v.4,

n.1, June, 1979, pp.23-46.

**Preferred Citation:** Thomas Gallaway Letters. 92-014. Rockingham Co. Historical

Collections, Gerald B. James Library, Rockingham Community

College.

**Descriptive Note:** Thomas Spraggins Gallaway was born in Rockingham County,

North Carolina on February 4, 1809, the son of Robert Gallaway and Mary S. Gallaway Gallaway. His father, Robert, a native of Scotland, came to America in 1783 and married his cousin, Mary

Spraggins Gallaway, a daughter of Charles Gallaway of Rockingham County. The Gallaways were planters, owning large tracts of land and numerous slaves in Rockingham County. Thomas S. Galloway inherited nearly 1,000 acres of land on the Dan River after his father's death in 1832. He named the plantation Mon-Vue, and soon constructed a fine two-story brick house on the property. He married Lucinda Chalmers and they raised a family of six children: John Marion, Sallie C., Mary Laura, Alexander B., Thomas S., Jr., and Lucinda L. Thomas resided at Mon-Vue the remainder of his life, dying there on March 10, 1879. He was buried in the family cemetery on the estate. Mon-Vue plantation passed out of the Gallaway family after the death of Thomas' grandson, John M. "Boy" Gallaway, Jr. in the early 1920s, but the land, located on the Dan River about two miles south of Eden, has retained its identity to this day.

The six letters in this collection were written between 1873 and 1878 by Thomas S. Gallaway to his friend, Dr. John Pepper, of Danbury, North Carolina. Danbury, the county seat of Stokes County, is only a few miles from several mineral springs which enjoyed a regional popularity as resorts during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. From the letters it is clear that they often met and visited at Piedmont Mineral Springs. The letters were preserved in the Pepper family and Dr. Pepper's greatgranddaughter, Ellen Pepper Tilley of Danbury donated them in 1992.

**Contents:** 

6 handwritten letters from Thomas S. Gallaway to Dr. John Pepper discussing farm matters, politics and other general subjects

1 list of graves at Mon-Vue Plantation, the Gallaway family cemetery