

DeKalb History Center

The Countryman

Scope and content: *The Countryman* was published during the Civil War, 1862-1866 and the New Georgia Encyclopedia reports that circulation reached 2000 at one point. It was published by J.A. Turner from his Turnwold Plantation near Eatonton, Georgia and for a time, Joel Chandler Harris was a typesetter there. Issues include 1862 through 1866. There are articles on making vinegar, reports on happenings at the capital in Richmond, and Civil War leaders. There is also a series of biographical articles Turner wrote about his father, William Turner.

Provenance: Unknown, temporary Accession # FITS.415

Access: Single photocopies may be made for research purposes. Permission to publish materials from this collection must be requested from the archivist, DeKalb History Center. Citation should be as follows:

Description of specific item; *The Countryman*, DeKalb History Center Archives.

Processed by Jill Sweetapple, Archivist, 2011.

Size: 1 document box

Biographical Sketch of Joseph Addison Turner (1826-1868): Turner was the publisher of *The Countryman* and lived on the Turnwold Plantation, nine miles east of Eatonton, Georgia. According to the New Georgia Encyclopedia, despite previous publishing failures, *The Countryman* generated a wide southern readership during its four-year existence. Turner was born in Putnam County and at age seven, suffered a bone infection that left him crippled for life. Joel Chandler Harris quit school early to help alleviate the financial burden on his mother, and in March 1862, Turner hired Harris to work as a printer's devil, or typesetter. Harris worked for clothing, room, and board. The newspaper reached subscribers throughout the Confederacy during the American Civil War and became one of the larger newspapers in the South with a circulation of about 2,000. Harris learned to set type for the paper, and Turner allowed him to publish his own poems, book reviews, and humorous paragraphs.

Information above courtesy:

<http://www.gradesaver.com/free-joe-and-other-georgian-sketches/wikipedia/life/>
<http://www.georgiaencyclopedia.net/nge/Article.jsp?id=h-2457&pid=s-53>

Description: This collection contains the original newspapers published during the Civil War near Eatonton, Georgia. We have the most issues from 1864.

Subject Headings: Where possible, Library of Congress Subject Headings have been used.

Main Entry: Turner, Joseph Addison (1826-1868)

Subject/Added Entries: Harris, Joel Chandler (1845-1908)

Box	Folder	Contents	Date(s)
1	1	<i>Georgia Historical Quarterly</i> article	Fall 1992
	2	<i>The Countryman</i> Oct 6 Nov 10 Nov 17 Dec 15	1862
	3	<i>The Countryman</i> Aug 18 Sept 15 Sept 29 Oct 6 Oct 13 Oct 20 Nov 10 Dec 8 Dec 15 Dec 22	1863
	4	<i>The Countryman</i> Feb 2 Feb 9 Mar 8 Mar 15 Mar 22 Apr 26 May 3 May 10 May 24	Feb 1964-May 24 1864
	5	<i>The Countryman</i> May 31 Jun 7 Jul 5 Jul 26 Aug 2 Aug 9 Aug 16 Aug 23 Aug 30 Sep 6 Sep 13 Oct 11 Dec 1	May 31 1864-Dec 1 1864
	6	<i>The Countryman</i>	Jan 1865-June 1865

Box	Folder	Contents	Date(s)
1	6	Feb 14 Mar 7 Mar 21 Mar 28 Apr 4 Apr 11 Apr 18 May 2 Jun 27	1865
	7	<i>The Countryman</i>	Feb 13, 1866