

William Gilmore Simms letter

Descriptive Summary

Repository:	Georgia Historical Society
Creator:	Simms, William Gilmore, 1806-1870.
Title:	William Gilmore Simms letter
Dates:	1850
Extent:	0.05 cubic feet (1 folder)
Identification:	MS 0730

Biographical/Historical Note

William Gilmore Simms (1806-1870) was born on April 17 in Charleston, South Carolina. His father, William Gilmore Simms was from Ireland, and his mother, Harried Ann Augusta Singleton Simms, was from South Carolina. Between 1806 and 1807, his mother died and his father's business failed, leading his father to leave Charleston. William Gilmore Simms remained in Charleston, where he was raised by his grandmother. Simms married Anna Malcolm Giles on October 19, 1826. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1867. Simms wrote and published poems and prose, and was a journalist, working as editor of the *City Gazette* in Charleston. When his wife died, leaving him to care for his infant daughter, Simms moved to New York; he wrote a crime novel, *Martin Faber*, in 1833 while in New Haven, Connecticut. He returned to Charleston and married Chevilette Roach in 1836. Aside from his first novel, Simms primarily wrote romance novels which achieved with varying levels of success. He died in Charleston on June 11, 1870.

Scope and Content Note

This collection consists of a letter from William Gilmore Simms to William Alfred Jones, 1850. In the letter, Simms states that he has received Jones' paper on Dr. Francis and is preparing a poem to read at the opening of a public cemetery in Charleston, South Carolina. He also gives a criticism of Jones' style and foresees a dissolution of the Union. An envelope addressed to Jones but not in Simms' handwriting is with this letter.

Index Terms

Jones, William Alfred, 1817-1900.
Letters (correspondence)
Literature--History and criticism.
Simms, William Gilmore, 1806-1870.
United States--History--1815-1861.

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Unknown.

Preferred Citation

[item identification], William Gilmore Simms letter, MS 730, Georgia Historical Society, Savannah, Georgia.

Acquisition Information

Gift of Robert Falligant, 1889.

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

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Sponsorship

Encoding funded by a 2012 Documenting Democracy grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

Container List

Item 1: William Gilmore Simms to William Alfred Jones. Woodlands, S.C., 1850 November
12

Has received Jones' paper on Dr. Francis; is preparing a poem to read at the opening of a public cemetery in Charleston; criticism of Jones' style; foresees a dissolution of the Union.