

# South Caroliniana Library Report of Acquisitions

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Volume 2022

Article 25

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2022

## Account Book, 1840-1855, of William Wright

South Caroliniana Library

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### Recommended Citation

Library, South Caroliniana (2022) "Account Book, 1840-1855, of William Wright," *South Caroliniana Library Report of Acquisitions*: Vol. 2022, Article 25.

Available at: <https://scholarcommons.sc.edu/uscsar/vol2022/iss1/25>

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**Account book**, 1840–1855, kept by William Wright (1799–1857) in Yorkville, contains and twenty-three-page name index and 324 pages of accounts recording money due, notes, interest due, investments, stock dividends, and bonds. Wright often noted the occupations and locations of individuals with whom he kept accounts. Typical is an entry on page twenty-seven: “Massey (Butcher, Crowders Creek, N.C.).” Other occupations include “Carrage Maker & Tavern Keeper,” teacher, tailor, stone cutter, silversmith, surveyor, iron master, “waggon maker,” clock maker, cabinet maker, carpenter, brick mason, clerk of court, “vendue cryer,” wheelwright, tinner, blacksmith, butcher, constable, shoemaker, tanner, school master, hatter, stage driver, postmaster, dentist, printer, and painter. Locations represented include Yorkville, Turkey Creek, Allison Creek, Fishing Creek, “Buffalow Creek,” Kings Creek, Lincoln County, North Carolina, Clarks Fork, Buck Horn Creek, Indian Land, “Bulocks Creek,” Crowders Creek, Blairsville, Union District, Broad River, “on Charlotte Road,” Bethel, Kings Mountain, Pinckneyville, Waxhaw, and Fairfield District.

Many of the larger notes were secured by mortgages upon enslaved persons, and in at least one instance Wright notes his purchase of an enslaved individual—Julia at an estate sale. According to the volume, Wright owned shares in the Commercial Bank in Columbia, the Bank of the State of North Carolina, the Bank of Charleston, the Bank of Camden, the Bank of Hamburg, the Graniteville Manufacturing Company, Southwestern Bank, the Louisville, Cincinnati, & the Charleston Railroad. In addition to his personal business, Wright also owned Wright’s Ferry across the Catawba River with his brother James, and the accounts of the ferry business are also kept in the volume. Wright served as Treasurer of the “Commissioners of Publick Buildings” of York District, and his accounts in that capacity are recorded.

William Wright was born in Yorkville, the eldest son of Samuel (1767–1844) and Margaret Wright (1774–1838) and the husband of Mary Irwin (1795–1862), all natives of Ireland. He is buried along with his parents and wife at Bethany Associated Reform Presbyterian Church. **Acquired for the Library by the University South Caroliniana Society.**