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Letter from aboard the Confederate Steamer Arkansas, 1862

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**Letter from aboard the
Confederate Steamer Arkansas
SMC.055.038**

Finding aid prepared by the Arkansas State Archives

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Arkansas State Archives
One Capitol Mall
Little Rock, Arkansas, 72201
501-682-6900
state.archives@arkansas.gov

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Summary Information

Repository	Arkansas State Archives
Title	Letter from aboard the Confederate Steamer Arkansas
Date	1862
Extent	0.2 Cubic feet 1 folder
Language	English
Language of Materials	Materials entirely in English.

Preferred Citation

Letter from aboard the Confederate Steamer Arkansas, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Biographical/Historical Note

Dabney Minor Scales was born on June 1, 1841, near Holly Springs, Mississippi. He attended the United States Naval Academy but withdrew once hostilities began during the Civil War and joined the Confederate States Navy. He served aboard the Confederate Steamer Arkansas in 1862 at Vicksburg and Baton Rouge. Nearing Baton Rouge on August 6, 1862, engine failure caused its collapse. Scales helped set fire to the ship and it sank. He went on to serve aboard the Shenandoah, which sailed as a cruiser in Atlantic and Pacific waters during the last year of the war. After some time in Mexico, he settled in Memphis, Tennessee where he began to practice law in 1869. He married Susan B. Winchester Powell, the daughter of George W. Winchester. Scales would serve in the Tennessee legislature and also served as a lieutenant in the United States Navy during the Spanish American War. He died May 26, 1920.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains a letter written by Dabney Scales, serving aboard the CSS Arkansas, near Vicksburg, Mississippi on July 31, 1862 to his father.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Arkansas State Archives 02/02/2012

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research use. The ASA possesses the material listed in this finding aid in the original format, but due to preservation concerns this collection is accessible to the public through microfilm format.

Conditions Governing Use

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Unknown.

Collection Inventory

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1862 July 31: Dabney Scales, Confederate Steamer Arkansas, Off Vicksburg, Mississippi
to "Dear Father"

MG00232