



State of Tennessee  
Department of State  
**Tennessee State Library and Archives**  
403 Seventh Avenue North  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312

**GOVERNOR ISHAM G. HARRIS**  
**1857-1862**

*Processed by:*

Elbert Watson  
Archival Technical Services

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**MICROFILMED**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This finding aid covers the gubernatorial papers of Tennessee Governor Isham G. Harris, who served from 1875-1862. It consists of five boxes and one oversize container, of materials that consist of correspondence, petitions for pardons, pardons, and miscellaneous materials.

There are no restrictions on the use of the materials and researchers may make copies of individual items for individual or scholarly use.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

### **Governor Isham G. Harris**

- 1818 Born February 10, the youngest of nine children of Isham Green and Lucy (Davidson) Harris, near Tullahoma, Franklin County, Tennessee.
- 1841 Admitted to the bar in 1841.
- 1843 Married Martha Travis, there were eight children from this marriage.
- 1848 Elected to the State Senate in 1847.
- 1849-51 Elected to Congress.
- 1861 Re-elected governor. He was forced to vacate his office and leave the state in 1862 when Tennessee was overrun by Federal troops.
- 1867 Moved to Memphis where he resumed the practice of law.
- 1877 Elected to the United States Senate.
- 1897 Died July 8. Buried in Memphis, Tennessee.

## CONTAINER LIST

### Box 1

1. Correspondence – General-Atkins-Travis 1857
2. Correspondence – General-Arnold-Gray 1858
3. Correspondence – General-Hallett-Yancey 1858
4. Correspondence – General-Andrews-Wright 1859
5. Correspondence – General-Archer-Zinnerman 1860
6. Correspondence – General-Abernathy-Cummins 1861
7. Correspondence – General-Dahlgren-Guinn 1861

### Box 2

1. Correspondence – General-Hammond-Kountz 1861
2. Correspondence – General-Lee-Newton 1861
3. Correspondence – General-Palmer-Rumbough 1861
4. Correspondence – General-Sale-Turner 1861
5. Correspondence – General-Vaughn-Zollicoffer 1861
6. Correspondence – General-Alverson-Wintersmith 1862
7. Correspondence – General-Bullen-Guy 1864

### Box 3

1. Correspondence – Governor Isham G. Harris 1858, 1859, 1863
2. War Correspondence – May 1, 1861-February 19, 1863
3. Letter Book 1861
4. Undated Correspondence – Adams-Stevenson
5. Correspondence relative to Commissioners  
of Deeds 1857-1861
6. Correspondence – Re: Medical Board, Surgeon  
General, etc. 1861
7. Messages to the Legislature 1859-1860
8. Message to the Legislature, Re: Secession  
from the Union 1860
9. Resignations 1861
10. Special Subject – Re: Monthly Reports, Nashville  
General Hospital 1861
11. Special Subjects – Re: Report on defenses of  
Tennessee and Cumberland River 1861

**Box 4**

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| 1. Index Cards A-Z   | 1857-1862      |
| 2. Miscellaneous Material<br>(Including State of Tennessee war bond, dated June, 1861) | 1858-1861      |
| 3. Requisitions – Car-Wya  | 1857-1858-1859 |
| 4. Petitions for Pardon, -Fos-Kee  | 1857           |
| 5. Petitions for Pardon, -Flo-Wes  | 1858           |

**Box 5**

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|-----------------------------------|------|
| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Ber-Tat | 1859 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Cas-Rob | 1860 |
| 3. Petitions for Pardon – Bar-Rey | 1861 |
| 4. Petitions for Pardon – Bar-Sam | 1862 |
| 5. Pardons – Cor-Woo              | 1857 |
| 6. Pardons – Bal-Wri              | 1858 |
| 7. Pardons – Bea-Wil              | 1859 |
| 8. Pardons – Bea-Woo              | 1860 |
| 9. Pardons – And-Wil              | 1861 |
| 10. Pardons – All-Ray             | 1862 |

**Oversized Material:** Governor's Papers (Oversized), Row XLV, 2<sup>nd</sup> Stack.

- (1) Bond Certificate from the State of Tennessee, dated June 1, 1861; signed by Governor Harris, relative to an act passed by the General Assembly in Extraordinary Session.

## NAME INDEX

This index contains names of persons holding influential positions during the period. In some instances, however, correspondence is included because the content is important enough to warrant attention in the index. The figures in the parentheses immediately following each name denote the total number of letters in the folder from that person. The identification of the writer and the site from where the letters were written are included whenever possible.

### **Box 1, Folder 2, 1858**

F. C. Dumington (2) Banker, Columbia, Tennessee.

S. Fowlkes (2) Memphis, Tennessee.

### **Box 1, Folder 3, 1858**

Cave Johnson (1) former United States Congressman, Nashville, Tennessee.

Gideon J Pillow (1); Merchant, Memphis, Tennessee.

Sam Tate (1) President, Memphis and Charleston Rail Road, Memphis, Tennessee.

### **Box 1, Folder 5, 1860**

Sam Tate (2) President, Memphis and Charleston Rail Road, Memphis, Tennessee.

### **Box 1, Folder 6, 1861**

William B. Bate (1) Governor of Tennessee, 1883-1887, Camp Winchester, Virginia.

H. S. Bradford (3) Fort Wright, Tennessee, (Discussed General Pillow's liabilities as a capable commander).

Neil S. Brown (3) Former Governor of Tennessee, Nashville. (Declines to serve on Committee of Safety).

W. H. Carroll (2) Brigadier General, Chattanooga, Tennessee. (Tells of political conditions in East Tennessee).

S. R. Cockrill (3) Bath County, Virginia. (Reports Tennessee troop movements and participation in battles).

### **Box 1, Folder 7, 1861**

Andrew Ewing (1) United States Congressman, Nashville, Tennessee.

J. Fowlkes (3) Memphis, Tennessee. (Writes about political conditions in East Tennessee).

**Box 2, Folder 1, 1861**

A. Heiman (5) Colonel, Commanding 10<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Regiment, Fort Henry.  
Albert Sydney Johnston (7) Commanding General, Army of the Mississippi, Bowling Green, Kentucky.  
Bushrod R. Johnson (1) General, C.S.A. Army, mouth of Sandy, Tennessee.  
James W. McHenry (3) Adjutant General, Nashville, Tennessee.

**Box 2, Folder 3, 1861**

Gideon J. Pillow (26) Major General, Headquarters Army of Tennessee.  
J G. M. Ramsey (1) Knoxville, Tennessee.

**Box 2, Folder 5, 1861**

L. P. Walker (2) Secretary of War, Confederate Government, Montgomery, Alabama.  
H. K. Walker (1) Publisher, Nashville Republican Banner, Nashville, Tennessee.  
F. K. Zollicoffer (2) Brigadier General Confederate Army, Knoxville, Tennessee.

**Box 2, Folder 6, 1862**

General G. T. Beauregard (2) Corinth, Mississippi.  
General Braxton Bragg (1) Corinth, Mississippi.  
Joseph E. Brown (1) Governor of Georgia, Milledgeville, Georgia.  
General B. R. Johnson (3) Fort Donelson.  
General Albert Sydney Johnston (4) Bowling Green, Kentucky.  
C. G. Memminger (4) Secretary of Treasury, C.S.A., Richmond, Virginia.  
General Gideon J Pillow (10) Fort Donelson, Cumberland City, Columbus, Kentucky.  
General L Polk (1) Columbus, Kentucky.  
J.G.M. Ramsey (1) Knoxville, Tennessee.  
Same Tate (1) President, Memphis and Charleston Rail Road, Memphis, Tennessee.