



Collection Name: John King Biographical Papers
Collection #: MSS 941
Size: 1 folder, .125 cf.
Dates: circa 1900-1963
Processed: November 2006, SDH
Restrictions: None

Biographical Note:

John King was born in Norwich, England on December 13, 1774. He studied medicine in England and later moved to Paris for several years. He emigrated to South Carolina in 1803 to join his brother James on Edisto Island. He married Mary Burden and had two sons, one of whom, Samuel Favel King, attended the Medical College of South Carolina from 1837 to 1838. Mary Burden's father Kinsey Burden was thought to be the first planter of sea-island cotton in the United States. Mary Burden King died when their children were young. A short time later, Dr. King remarried Mrs. Ann Elizabeth Tilden of Philadelphia, under unpleasant circumstances. She had sued him for financial support after he was alleged to have "trifled with her affections." This unhappy marriage lasted until she died of pneumonia in South Carolina. King was both a physician and a planter, owning Wando Plantation on Edisto and Too-Goo-Doo in St. Paul's Parish. In 1816 he performed an operation on a pregnant woman in which he incised the vaginal wall, exerted abdominal pressure from above and removed the fetus with forceps. Both mother and child survived. This procedure was documented in his 1818, *An analysis of the subject of extra-uterine foetation, and of the retroversion of the gravid uterus*. He died September 12, 1840 and was buried either at Rose Hill Plantation, near Adams Run or at Christ Church, Wilton at Wiltown Bluff.

Scope and Content Note:

The John King Biographical Papers, c. 1900-1963, document the genealogy and personal history of Dr. John King of Edisto Island. The papers include several typescripts including an address delivered by John King on July 4, 1832 at Wando Plantation, Edisto, "from the original manuscript in the hands of and transcribed by his great grandson, R. H. King;" a radio broadcast delivered on Nov. 22, 1935 on WCSC giving a history of the International Red Cross Society, by an unknown author; and a brief address "given over radio" on appendicitis, delivered October 23, 1933 by [the same] unknown author. Also included are manuscript items detailing the birth, education, career, and personal history.

Citation: John King Biographical Papers, MSS 941, Waring Historical Library, MUSC.

Subject Headings:

John King (1774-1840)

Marriage—19th century.

Medicine—19th century.

International Red Cross Society—history.

Appendicitis.

Delivery, Obstetric.

Edisto Island (S.C.).

Inventory:

Folder 1: Biographical papers, c. 1900-1963.