

DeKalb History Center

George Newton Flowers Papers

Introduction: The George Newton Flowers Papers provide information on the early history of Doraville (DeKalb County), Georgia. Dr. George Newton Flowers (1837-1917) was a physician, postmaster, merchant, and farmer in Doraville.

Provenance: Papers donated in 1993 by Dean Buckley (Accession #1993.4)

Single photocopies may be made for research purposes. Permission to publish materials from this collection must be requested from the archivist, DeKalb History Center. Citation should be as follows:

Description of specific item; George N. Flowers Papers, DeKalb History Center Archives

Processed by Susan J. Illis, DHS Archivist, 1997.

Size: .15 linear feet (three folders)

Biographical Sketches of George Newton Flowers (1837-1917)

George Newton Flowers was born January 22, 1837 in the Abbeville District, South Carolina, but at a young age moved to Georgia with his parents, John Yancey Flowers (1815-1887) and Dicy Reeve Flowers (1817-1868). George N. Flowers prospected in Mississippi, but returned to Georgia at the outbreak of the Civil War, serving as a major in the Army. After the war, he attended the Medical College of Georgia at Augusta and graduated from medical college in Nashville, Tennessee. In addition to practicing medicine, Flowers was a longtime postmaster at Doraville, owned several farms, and operated a mercantile business. After the incorporation of Doraville in 1871, Flowers served on the first town council.

Flowers married Sarah Ann Tilley (1841-1917), a DeKalb County native, and they had five children. Two of his three sons became doctors. Like his father, John Ebenezer Flowers (1866-1954) practiced in Doraville and was active in civic and political activities there. Arthur Preston Flowers (1876-1946) practiced medicine in Atlanta. The third son, Lamar Flowers (1880-), was a civil engineer and resided in Decatur. His two daughters, Lula (also spelled Leila) Belle Flowers (1867-1914) and Daisy Flowers (c.1874-1966), remained single.

Flowers was described by Dr. J. Calvin Weaver as a small man who wore a long, heavy black beard. He rode horseback, used saddlebags, compounded his own prescriptions, and made his own preparations from herbs. Flowers died on November 20, 1917 and is buried at Prospect Methodist Church in Chamblee, Georgia, along with his wife Sarah and daughter Lula.

Description

The George N. Flowers Papers (1836-1919) include receipts, promissory notes, and other miscellaneous papers. Although the majority of the papers were generated by George N. Flowers, there are a few items pertaining to his son, John Ebenezer Flowers. The bulk of the papers date from 1870, with only one item dating from 1836. The promissory notes primarily document short-term loans by Flowers to others, although he also acted as an agent for John Merryman & Company (Baltimore, Md.), George W. Scott Manufacturing Company, and Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company. The miscellaneous papers include a small amount of correspondence, George N. Flower's appointment as road commissioner (1874), stock subscription, and an advertisement for the parallel Bible, published by the Jones Brothers Publishing Co., Cincinnati, Ohio. The receipts are for purchases by George N. Flowers from various mercantile and service establishments in Atlanta, purchases from Flowers, and receipts for the construction of a school house in Doraville (1876) and the construction of Flower's own home. Although few in number, these papers are an invaluable resource for documenting early DeKalb County, particularly Doraville.

Subject Headings

When possible, Library of Congress Subject Headings have been used.

Main Entry:

Flowers, George N. (1837-1917).

Subject/Added Entries:

Agriculture—Georgia—DeKalb County.
 Doraville (DeKalb County), Ga.—Social Life and Customs.
 Flowers, John Ebenezer (1866-1954).
 Lively, C.P. & Son (Norcross, Ga.).
 Munday, J.W., Dealer in General Merchandise (Doraville, Ga.).
 Physicians—Georgia—Doraville.
 School buildings—Georgia—Doraville.

Folder List

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>
1	1	General	1836-1919
	2	Financial Records	1872-1916
	3	Promissory Notes	1870-1914