

ARCHIVES
LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY IN SHREVEPORT

DESCRIPTIVE CATALOG SHEET

1. Main Entry: Henry G. Hall Diary. 1870-1873.		2. Titles:	
3. Donor:		4. Date:	
5. Restrictions:			
PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION		11. Historical periods: 1850-1859; 1870-1879.	
6. Record types: letters, will, diary.			
7. Quantity: $\frac{1}{2}$ reel leaves; linear feet			
8. Kinds of copy: microfilm 35mm (negative)			
SUBJECT DESCRIPTION			
9. Outline of career: Hall was a Shreveport attorney, educated at Princeton in the 1850's, and the Caddo Parish judge in the 1870's.			
10. Scope and contents of collection: The diary, January 1, 1870 - October 6, 1873, kept by Henry G. Hall, a Shreveport lawyer, of his activities in and around Shreveport, is particularly important for its account of the Yellow Fever Epidemic, August - October, 1873. Also included are some letters written while he was a student at Princeton and his original will. <i>mm. Box 17 SEE RECORD FILE, Hall, HENRY G. for transcript of DIARY</i>			
12. Cataloger:		13. Date Catalogued:	

Henry Gerard Hall

Henry Gerard Hall was born on January 7, 1833, in South Carolina, to William and Nancy Cannon Hall. He was one of eleven children (three boys, eight girls). By the late 1830's, several of his uncles migrated westward, settling in the then no-man's-land of east Texas, in the Shelbyville area. In 1840, the uncles became embroiled in the Regular-Moderator Wars, which lasted until 1845. That involvement cost two uncles their lives. His family reached the area in 1841, with his father becoming an influential figure in Shelbyville.¹

Earning a degree in law at Princeton, Henry was admitted to the Texas bar in 1854, and five years later married Eugenia F. Cooke. They would have five children, with only Halley, Henry Jr., and Ruby reaching adulthood.

Henry attained the rank of Lt. Colonel in the Civil War, fighting in the Battles of Mansfield and Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, and Jenkin's Ferry, Ark., with the 28th Texas Calvary.²

After the war, he moved to Shreveport as a practicing lawyer. As a result of the 1872 State elections, Henry was appointed Caddo Parish Judge by Governor William Pitt Kellogg.

On January 1, 1870, he began a personal journal,³ recording happenings in the city and in his private life until the yellow fever epidemic of 1873, in which he and his wife died. Their children were raised by family members.

Both Henry and Eugenia are buried in the Dr. Austin Lamar Cooke plot, Oakland Cemetery.

Stephen R. Smith

4-12-13

¹ personal correspondence with Eugenia Laster Zanone, great great granddaughter of Henry G. Hall, 2009.

(I will make these available to the Archives once my book is published, or my book could then be footnoted instead).

² various online sources.

³ The journal of Henry Gerard Hall, Collection 016, LSU-Shreveport Archives, Noel Memorial Library.