



Archival and Manuscript Collections Finding Aid

ACCESSION No.: HRHS-149

COLLECTION TITLE: Craun Family Papers Collection

DATES: 1785 - 1929

SIZE: 26 folders

DONOR: Mr. and Mrs. Welford A. Sherman, Jr.

PROCESSED: Processed 07/14/2015 by K. Craun, B. Hopkins, J. Litten

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:

This is a collection of the papers of four generations of the Craun family in Rockingham and Augusta Counties: Frederick Craun, Sr., (?-1819); Frederick Craun, Jr., (1785-1864); John F. Craun, (1814-1893); and John S. Craun, (1845-1916).

It is thought that Frederick Craun, Sr. was born in Rockingham County as he shows in county records as early as 1784. Records indicate that he married Anna Maria Raugel, but some say his wife was Mary Sites.

Frederick Craun, Jr. was born December 10, 1785 in Rockingham County and in 1812 he married Sarah Fleshman. They had twelve children, the oldest being John who was born in 1814.

John F. Craun was born in Rockingham County in 1814 and married Lucy Roller who lived in the same Mt. Crawford area. . The date of their marriage is not known. For many years John F. Craun was a member of the Rockingham County Board of Supervisors.

John S. Craun, the eldest son on John F. Craun, was a soldier in the confederacy, serving in the 12th Virginia Cavalry. For 23 years he was President of the Board of Directors of the Rockingham Home Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He was a trustee of Massanutten Academy at Woodstock, Virginia and was active in church work and was ordained an elder.

The Craun name had many different spellings such as Crawn, Krawn, Krahn, Kraun, Kroan, Croan, Kron, Krohn, Cron, Crowne, Crown, Crone.

The donor, Welford A. Sherman Jr., is a Craun descendant.

Biographical information obtained from the book *The Craun Family in America*, 1959, by Victor S. Craun.

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

This collection contains the papers of four generations of the Craun family.

COLLECTION INVENTORY:

Papers for Frederick Craun, Sr. and Frederick Craun, Jr. between 1785-1819

Folder 1:

- Receipts, promissory notes, real estate tax receipts for Frederick Craun, Sr. and Frederick Craun, Jr. 1785 to 1819
- Contract showing 50 acres of land sold by John Baker to Frederick Craun on November 15, 1814
- Four notes from Frederick Craun to John Baker agreeing to pay him sixty-two pounds, ten shillings: Each note is dated December 19, 1814 and the notes are due on October 1815; October 1816; October 1817; and October 1818

Folder 2:

- Will of Frederick Krahn, Sr., 1819, naming Peter Link and Frederick Krahn, Jr. as executors
- Receipt for coffin for \$8 to bury Frederick Krahn, Sr., July 25, 1819
- Receipts from the executors of Frederick Krahn, Sr. will: Peter Link and Frederick Krahn, Jr.
- Bill of sale for the personal property of Frederick Krahn, Sr., August 20, 1819

Papers for Frederick Craun, Jr. between 1820-1864

Folder 3:

- Receipts, promissory notes for Frederick Craun, Jr., 1820's
- Memorandum of agreement dated January 28, 1826 between James Donaghe and Frederick Craun, selling Frederick Craun 250 acres of land in Augusta County
- Receipt for coffin for \$8 for Frederick Krahn's mother Mary, May 23, 1821
- Settlement of estate of Mary Krahn recorded in Augusta County Court in 1825

Folder 4:

- Receipts, promissory notes, real estate tax receipts, misc. documents for Frederick Craun Jr., 1830's
- Indenture dated May 1, 1834 between John Livingston, Thomas Clark and Frederick Craun, in which John Livingston sold personal property to Thomas Clark
- Indenture agreement dated August 27, 1836 between Jacob Wetzell and Mary his wife, selling a parcel of land to John Roller
- Indenture agreement dated February 24, 1830 between Samuel Denison and Frederick Krahn, in which Mr. Denison sells Mr. Krahn 257 acres of land in Augusta County on a small branch of Naked Creek
- Indenture agreement dated August 21, 1836 between Reuben Nebergall and John Roller

Folder 5:

- Receipts, promissory notes, real estate tax receipts, misc. documents for Frederick Craun Jr., 1840's

Folder 6:

- Receipts, promissory notes, real estate tax receipts for Frederick Craun Jr. 1850-1864 (died 1864)
- Summons for Frederick Craun to Augusta County Court for last will and testament of William Rice, November 25, 1852
- Summons for Frederick Kraun to Augusta County Court for debt owed to Peter S. Roller and Adam W. Plecker, April 5, 1852
- Survey of 22 acres from Frederick Craun's 257 acres, April 5, 1861
- Estate papers for Frederick Craun, Jr., 1864

Papers for John F. Craun between 1830-1893:

Folder 7:

Receipts, promissory notes, real estate tax receipts for John F. Craun, 1830's

Folder 8:

Receipts, promissory notes, real estate tax receipts for John F. Craun, 1840's
Account book belonging to John F. Craun, 1841-1843

Folder 9:

- Receipts, promissory notes, real estate tax receipts for John F. Craun, 1850's (folder 1 of 2 for 1850's)
- Receipts, promissory notes, real estate tax receipts for John F. Craun, 1850's (Folder 2 of 2 for 1850's)

Folder 10:

- Papers relating to John F. Craun as guardian of the children of Leonard Tutwiler, deceased, 1858-1859
- Contract dated April 4, 1856 between P. S. Roller and J. G. Roller and William F. Beard concerning the Mt. Crawford Mills
- Agreement dated May 1859 between members of Trinity Church in Mt. Crawford and John F. Craun to pay for carpet in the church
- Letter written by David Hamacher to "Dear Cousin", dated February 15, 1857
- Letter written by John Hamacher, dated January 6, 1859
- Document dated 1852 appointing John F. Craun as Surveyor of precinct No. 1 on the public road called the Mt. Crawford Road to Grattan's Mill Road. Duties listed on the document state that he is constantly to keep his road well drained, cleared, and smoothed of rocks and obstructions, secure from the falling of dead timber therein, etc.
- Document dated 1855 appointing John F. Craun as Surveyor of precinct No 6 on the public road from Mt. Crawford to Emanuel Rollers.
- Letter from William Carpenter to John Craun dated March 16, 1859 concerning Mr. Craun selling Mr. Carpenter's cattle to a John Brock in Baltimore

Folder 11:

- Receipts, promissory notes, real estate tax receipts for John F. Craun, 1860's
- Letter dated February 1, 1867 from Pleasant Kiser asking for the hand of Mary Jane Craun in marriage
- Agreement dated January 19, 1865 between George Huffman and Sarah Carpenter to work on the farm

Folder 12:

Bible belonging to Mary E. Hensell, 1860's. Notations are in the bible concerning the death of her son and daughter

Folder 13:

Receipts, promissory notes, real estate tax receipts for John F. Craun, 1870's (folder 1 of 2 for 1870's receipts)

Invitation to Grand Centennial Fancy Dress Ball at Rawley Springs, 1876

Folder 14:

Account book belonging to John F. Craun, 1869-1875

Account book belonging to John F. Craun, 1879-1894

Folder 15:

Receipts, promissory notes, real estate tax receipts for John F. Craun, 1870's (folder 2 of 2 for 1870's receipts)

Folder 16:

-Letters written to John F. Craun in the 1870's, from John Roller, Isaac Baker, A. H. Plecker, Nancy Humacher, Nancy Landes (sister), Sarah Edwards (sister), S. H. Craun (brother), George Grattan, Charles Grattan, P. S. Carpenter, John Hamacher

-Petition in the County Court of Rockingham from John F. Craun dated December 3, 1872 against John Evers, Administrator of the estate of Jacob Whitmore (2 copies)

-Letter from R. Connell to P. S. Roller and John G. Roller dated 1872

-Plat of land dated September 19, 1876 for J. F. Craun and S. H. Craun land, 630 acres

-Papers related to H. H. Wynant and Samuel Byers, 1877

-Article of agreement dated August 26, 1871, for Reformed Church for repairs

-Agreement dated February 26, 1877 to cut a road from between the house of Jacob and Elias Wimer to the high knob west of the top of the Alleghany

-Will of Elizabeth Phares dated August 8, 1873

Folder 17:

Receipts, promissory notes, real estate tax receipts for John F. Craun, 1880's

Folder 18:

Correspondence for John F. Craun, 1880's

-Trustee papers for Sarah and Sallie Lindon, John F. Craun, Trustee

-Deed dated August 17, 1889 between John F. Craun and William H. Monger, selling Mr. Monger 10 acres of woodland in Rockingham County

-List of surveys performed by J. R. Filler for John F. Craun, June 5, 1889

-Four surveys done for John F. Craun by E. A. Lambert, Surveyor dated September 16 & 17, 1886:

No. 1: 9.5 acres in Randolph County, West Virginia

No. 2: 17.5 acres in Randolph County, West Virginia

No. 3: 68 acres in Randolph County, West Virginia

No. 4: 2.5 acres in Randolph County, West Virginia

Folder 19:

-Receipts, promissory notes, real estate tax receipts for John F. Craun, 1890-1893 (died 1893)

-Correspondence for John F. Craun, 1890-1893

-Estate papers for John F. Craun, died 1893

Papers for John S. Craun between 1870-1916:

Folder 20:

- Receipts, promissory notes, real estate tax receipts for John S. Craun, 1870's-1880's
- Account book for John S. Craun, 1886-1889
- Memorandum of Agreement dated February 18, 1886 between Peter Roller and John S. Craun and Josiah F. Craun purchasing 630 acres of land in Randolph County, West Virginia
- Bureau of Conscription for John Craun dated December 9, 1863
- Letter from Company B, 9th Virginia Cavalry dated February 28, 1865 concerning a horse lost by Private Shaddock

Folder 21:

- Receipts, promissory notes, real estate tax receipts for John S. Craun, 1890's
- Account book for John S. Craun, 1895
- Letter and invitation to attend the first Roller family reunion from John Roller dated December 9, 1895 and miscellaneous correspondence

Folder 22:

- Receipts, promissory notes, real estate tax receipts for John S. Craun, 1900-1909
- Correspondence for John S. Craun, 1900-1909

Folder 23:

- Receipts, promissory notes, real estate tax receipts for John S. Craun, 1910-1916 (died 1916)
- Correspondence for John S. Craun, 1910-1916
- Deed dated June 1, 1916 between John S. Craun and Mary James Crawn and Anna Elizabeth Miller, in which John S. Craun is deeding land to them in Rockingham County
- Dedication to the late John S. Craun in 1916 from the Rockingham Home Mutual Fire Insurance Company
- Collector's Book for Rockingham Home Mutual Fire Insurance Co., 1909-1916

Miscellaneous Family Papers:

Folder 24:

- Papers for John and Anna Crawn Miller, 1913-1929
- Notebook belonging to Anna Crawn, Massanutten Academy, Woodstock, 1903

Folder 25:

- Photos of a trip taken across the U.S. by the Miller's

Folder 26:

- Miscellaneous genealogy of Craun family