The DAR Library welcomes donations from members and the public to the Manuscript Collections. We are primarily interested in collecting materials of family and local history which document relationships and describe lives. Generally, we prefer older material that is not readily available and should be preserved for future researchers and provides genealogical information or local and family history. Copies of records with analysis of their relevance are welcome. There is no requirement of any connection to the Revolutionary War, however we are particularly interested in material that documents activities and people of that time. We presently cannot accept any multimedia or digital components of collections.

Examples include:
- Collections of compiled family research
- Family history documents (marriage records, deeds, wills, etc.)
- Family Bibles (See further explanation below)
- Diaries
- Letters
- Old, labeled, photos with contextual information
- Business Ledgers

Examples of what is **NOT** collected:
- Internet printouts (family trees, findagrave, rootswed, or otherwise)
- Family vacation pictures or other modern family photos
- Material not of genealogical or historical interest
- Compact Discs, Floppy Discs, Flash drives, or Hard drives.

**Family Bibles**
We accept Bibles that contain family record information. The Bible Records Collection includes originals, photocopies and transcripts of Bible record pages. Full Bibles or copies are preferable, but a typewritten transcript is a helpful addition. If at all possible, the Bible title page and publication information should be included along with a short summary of the Bible’s past ownership. (Even the fact that it was purchased at a flea market in a location can be helpful to researchers.)

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**Prior to any manuscript donation, please contact the library for approval. Donors are also asked to sign a Deed of Gift upon donation.** After a donation is approved, when submitting a manuscript collection, please include some background information on the origin of the collection, such as who did the research, when the material was gathered, or prior ownership of items. Manuscript collections and Bibles will be processed and cataloged to be made available for research in the Library or through the Library Search Service.

Questions may be addressed to the library at 202-879-3229 or library@dar.org and ask for the manuscripts collections cataloger.

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