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JOHN H. HILL LETTERS
Collection 46-1

Prepared & Revised by:
Greta S. Wilson
June 1980

Scope Note

This collection contains two letters written in 1882 by John H. Hill, an ex-slave and lawyer from Virginia. One of the letters gives a personal account of his life which appears to be the only readily available biographic information on Hill.

Biographical Data

(The biographical information provided below is taken from a letter written by Hill (June 2, 1882) to Mrs. N. C. Brackett, one of the founders of Storer College, Harper's Ferry, West Virginia. This letter may be found in the collection.)

1855 Born July 4, in Charlestown, Virginia, a slave of the William Alexander family
Mr. Alexander was later charged as being Hill's natural father.

1865 Ran away from home at the age of ten.

1866 Was captured by Union Soldiers and taken in by Captain Whitmore and later by his
father. Samuel Whitmore sent Hill to School in N.Y.

1866?-1877? Went to Maine and studied Latin. Attended Litchfield Academy and taught school to
help pay for expenses.

1877-1879 Worked in law office of Talliman and Larrabee while studying law.

1882 Admitted to the Bar in Virginia.

1936 Died.

Series Description

Series A
Box 46-1

Correspondence

Two letters written by Hill in June of 1882; one giving a personal account of his life.

Container List

Series A	Correspondence
Box	Folder
46-1	1 Letter, 1882 June 2, to Mrs. Brackett
	2 Letter, 1882 June 3, to N. C. Brackett