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**WEATHER MEMORANDUM BOOK, 1860-1862**

The volume contains daily observations on the weather made by William Massie at the Massie plantations, Pharsalia and Level Green, in Nelson County, Va. There are occasional comments on the political scene during the Civil War (e.g. Apr. 14, 1861: "We hear this evening of the battle at Fort Sumpter & everything is gloomy & dark & uncertain, except that war has begun.") The last pages of the memorandum book are penned by the wife of the original author. She states that he died July 29, 1862.

**WILLIAM MASSIE (1795-1862)**

William Massie was born 3 March 1795 in Nelson County, Virginia, to Thomas Massie (1747-1834) and Sarah "Sallie" Cocke Massie (1760-1838). Massie owned two plantations in Nelson County, Virginia, "Pharsalia" and "Level Green." "Pharsalia" was a gift from his father. Massie represented Nelson County in the House of Delegates during the 1839-1840 session.

William Massie married first Sarah "Sallie" Steptoe (d. 1828) of Bedford County, Virginia, 20 October 1814 and they had at least one child. He married second Martha Virginia Wiatt (1812-1832) 7 May 1829 and they had at least one child. He married third Sarah U. Clark (d. ca. 1833) 21 May 1833. Massie married fourth Maria Catharine Effinger (1814-1889) of Rockingham County, Virginia, 17 December 1834, and they had six children.

William Massie died in Nelson County 29 July 1862.