

**Augusta County Historical Society**  
**Acc #139**  
**James K. Young Collection**  
**1773-1966**

**Size:** 5 folders

**Scope & Content**

The collection consists of five items: (1) Extracts from the Illinois State Journal, Springfield, Illinois relative to history of the city of Springfield and Sangamon County. The five articles describe the people and events that made the first 150 years of the county and city so memorable; (2) Transcription of "The Phenix" Vol. VI, No. 26, published November 25, 1801. This was a weekly newspaper published in Staunton, Virginia from 1798-1803 by John Wise; (3) Excerpt from the Augusta County Historical Society Bulletin, Vol. 3, No. 1 describing John Wise, printer of the "Phenix" an early Staunton weekly; (4) Brochure of the Old State Capitol, printed in 1970 by the Department of Conservation. The brochure presents a history of the Illinois State Capitol building from 1839-1876. Photos of the interior as well as a floor plan are included; (5) A letter from the Mary Baldwin Alumnae Association in Staunton, Virginia to James Kimble Young Sr. thanking him for the account of Dr. Mary Watters death. Included with the copy of the letter is an obituary for Mary Watters Ph.D. Dr. Watters was a research professor of history at Mary Baldwin College and The History of Mary Baldwin College published in 1942. She also taught Spanish and served as assistant dean for two years.

**Historical/Biographical Note**

John Wise was born in Frederick, Maryland in 1773 and came to Staunton, Virginia in 1795. He worked for "The Virginia Gazette and Staunton Weekly". He took over the newspaper in 1798 and renamed it, "The Phenix". It changed hands again in 1803. John Wise later became a mail carrier and initiated the first stage line between Staunton Virginia and Greenbrier, Virginia. He died in Staunton on July 28. 1844.

**Organization/Arrangement**

Chronological

**Miscellaneous**