

TABLE 4. Dave Poems and Inscriptions

6-12-1834	Concatination
7-12-1834	Put every bit all between surely this jar will hold 14
3-29-1836	Horse, mules and hogs – all our cows is in the bogs – there they shall ever stay till the buzzards take them away
4-12-1836	Catination
11-9-1836	A better thing I never saw When I shot off the lions jaw
1-29-1840	Ladys & gentlemens Shoes sell all you can: & nothing you'll loose
2-10-1840	whats better than wishing while we both are at fishing
6-27-1840	Give me silver or; either gold Though they are dangerous; to our soul
7-31-1840	Dave belongs to Mr. Miles wher the oven bakes & the pot biles
8-25-1840	Edgefield District
8-26-1840	Another trick is worst than this Dearest Miss, spare me a kiss
5-16-1843	Not Counted
10-17-1850	Just a mammoth jar . . . for I not . . .
5-17-1852	Cash wanted
6-28-1854	Lm says this handle will crack
7-6-1857	for Mr. John Monday
8-16-1857	I wonder where is all my relations Friendship to all – and every nation
8-22-1857	I made this jar for cash – though its called – lucre trash
8-24-1857	A pretty little girl on a virge volca[n]ic mountain, how they burge
1-30-1858	Making this jar: I had all thoughts Lads & gentlemen: never out walks
2-20-1858	A noble jar For lard or tar
3-31-1858	I made this for our Sott It will never – never – rott
4-8-1858	This noble jar will hold 20 fill it with silver then you 'll have plenty
4-12-1858	A very large jar which has four handles pack it full of fresh meat – then light candles
4-21-1858	When you fill this jar with pork or beef Scot will be there to get a peace, – This jar is to Mr Segler who keeps the bar in orange burg For Mr Edwards a Gentleman – who formly kept Mr thos bacons horses
7-29-1858	The sun, moon, and – stars in the west are plenty of – bears

11-3-1858	I saw a leppard & a lions face then I felt the need of – grace
12-6-1858	Nineteen days before Christmas Eve Lots of people after its over How they will grieve
3-10-1859	Mark and Dave
3-25-1859	I made this out 2 number & cross If you do not listen at the bible you’ll be lost –
4-14-1859	Over noble Dr. Landrum’s head May guardian angels visit his bed
4-18-1859	Hive is eighteen; hundred + fifty nine unto you all I fill in— —cline
5-3-1859	Good for lard or holding fresh meat blest we were, when peter saw the folded sheets
5-13-1859	Made at Stoney Bluff for making lard enuff Dave Baddler
5-13-1859	Great & Noble jar hold sheep goat and bear Dave & Baddler
7-4-1859	The forth of July is surely come to blow the fife = and beat the drum
7-19-1859	Rev. W. A. Lawton
8-7-1860	I saw a leopard & a lions face then I felt, the need of grace
11-9-1860	A noble jar for pork or beef then carry it a round to the Indian chief
5-3-1862	I – made this Jar all of cross If you don’t repent, you will be lost

express himself during one of the most oppressive and dangerous periods in American history.

When admiring a Dave pot today, the impulse arises to communicate with it. For many it awakens an intangible spiritual feeling. We want the tactile pleasure of holding it, to grasp it with both hands, to feel its girth and weight, and to rub our hands gently across the vessel, appreciating its texture while admiring its many colors and hues. When the burned and underfired areas, touch marks, and glaze interactions are observed, we reflect on the potting process and the firing, with images of fire and smoke billowing from the kiln chimney. This also brings to mind the historical background and culture of the period. And from this we understand why Dave’s utilitarian pots—made for the everyday needs of the households and plantations of rural South Carolina—have been transformed into objects of beauty and art.

#### A C K N O W L E D G M E N T S

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