

A0470

Fant Family Papers, 1848-1910

1 folder

Processed by Dennis Northcott, July 2012

REPOSITORY

Missouri History Museum Archives

P.O. Box 11940

St. Louis, MO 63112-0040

314-746-4510

archives@mohistory.org

DONOR INFORMATION

Accession information is not available.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Hamilton G. Fant was a banker who resided in Washington, D.C. Other Fant family relations resided in St. Charles County, Missouri.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection contains personal letters of the Fant family; tax receipts; and a title abstract for land in the city of St. Charles.

Folder 1

- 1848 Jan 21 Letter signed Leroy, Wheatland, [Clarke County, Virginia?], to his cousin William S.[?] Fant, Femme Osage, St. Charles County, Missouri. ö . . . You have been a fortunate fellow to get a better half with so little trouble. Not many so lucky. . . . The fates I think have ordered that I shall ever live alone. . . . I am determined never to marry, unless it be altogether to my taste. These mercenary marriages can never I am sure prove to be happy ones. I am at this time very pleasantly located at Mrs. Masons Clark County teaching school. . . .
ö Discusses friends and family.
- 1850 May 17 Letter signed Hamilton [Fant], St. Louis, to William. Sends him some wine and other gifts. ö . . . I arrived in this bustling city at 3 o'clock yesterday, leaving my Cousin Charlie at the agreeable hour of 2 o'clock in the morning, roughly arousing me from my sweet morning slumber, & what made the matter worse I was compelled to lodge with -half goneøTom Naylor. . . . I hope you will get consent to go on to Va. with me. I think you & Cousin Mary both ought to go on & spent [spend] the summer with your relations. . . .
ö
- 1850 June 24 Fragment of unsigned letter, Irving House, New York, to his cousin Mary. Encourages her to accompany William to Virginia and Baltimore to visit relatives. Mentions flirting with a Miss Hammond during his travels. Mentions that the boat he was traveling on in the Great Lakes came upon the steamer *Griffith* soon after the latter boat burned, resulting in the death of nearly 300 passengers. Briefly recounts his travel route from Niagara Falls to Albany by train, then down the Hudson River by steamboat to New York.
- 1850 July 21 Letter signed H.G. Fant, St. Louis, to Charley. ö . . . The case of Harmony vs. United States which called me to New York was put off, & at a moments warning I have been summoned here to examine Col. Doniphan on the part of the United States. . . .ö Regrets that William decided not to travel to the East Coast. ö . . . I shall in 6 mos. be actually ready to marry. . . .ö
- 1850 Sept 14 Letter signed Hamilton [Fant], Irving House, to William. States that a verdict was rendered in favor of his client, Mr. Harmony, in the case of Mr. Harmony vs. the United States. Mr. Harmony is nephew of Peter Harmony, one of the wealthiest men in New York. Includes lengthy description of a Jenny Lind concert he attended. Mentions Mrs. Plump, Ned Fant [or Edward Fant], Wm. McQuinn [William McQuinn], Gid Emery, Mr. Ficklin (deceased), John P. Phillips, Phil Ficklin, and George Fackler.
- 1851 Jan 25 Receipt of the collector of St. Charles County, Missouri, to William S. Fant for taxes for the year 1850.
- 1855 Oct 23 Letter signed Hamilton G. Fant, Washington, D.C., to Charles T. Fant,

Femme Osage P.O., Mo. Gives a parcel of land as a gift to his namesake, William Hamilton Fant. ð. . . I trust by the time the recipient is of age it will be worth \$100 per acre. . . .ö

- 186- Oct 24 Receipt of the collector at St. Charles, Missouri, to the William Fant heirs for taxes paid for the year 1863.
- 1862 Nov 12 Receipt of the collector at St. Charles, Missouri, to the William Fant heirs for taxes paid for the year 1862.
- 1862 Nov 12 Receipt of the collector at St. Charles County, Missouri, to Mary Fant for taxes for the year 1862.
- 1865 Aug 10 Receipt of the collector at St. Charles, Missouri, to Mary Ann Fant for taxes assessed to the William Fant heirs for the years 1858 and 1860.
- 1866 Nov 30 Receipt of the collector at St. Charles, Missouri, to the William Fant heirs for taxes for the year 1866.
- 1867 Dec 17 Receipt of the collector at St. Charles, Missouri, to the William Fant heirs for taxes for the year 1867.
- 1869 Nov 30 Receipt signed George H. Werries, Trenton, Illinois, to Mrs. M.N. Fant.

Folder 2

- 1906 April 10 Typescript title abstract of a lot comprising the south half of square no. 70 in the city of St. Charles, Missouri, known as the Robert F. Pourie homestead.

Folder 3

- 1910 July 18 Unsigned letter, Indianapolis, Indiana, to Mrs. Johnson. Offers sympathy on the death of Dr. Johnson.
- [no year] Sept 10 Letter signed Lucy E. Dill Fant[?], Warrenton, to William. **(See transcript of this letter at the bottom of this finding aid.)**
- no date Two pages of typescript notes regarding individuals mentioned in the Fant Family Papers.

Transcript of letter signed Lucy E. Dill Fant[?], Warrenton, to William S. Fant, Femme Osage, St. Charles County, Missouri, no year September 10

A length of time has elapsed since we herd one word directly from any of you yours Uncle by Phillips is the last line we have had from any of you and it would of been answerd long since had your Uncle not been told at March Court that your Mother Ann and your self we expected every day one of the Mr. Detheriges[?] told him so as we have not herd of your arrival I have concluded to write to hear from you I think it very strange that none of you have written you know how it is with us Mr. Fant scarcely ever writs in fact dose not write to any one but your family except on business and I write so seldom that I have almost forgotten how I have not written to my sisters for two years my eye sight is so bad I cannot bear to write but I feel very anxious to hear from all of you and how you are all getting along and whether your Mother dose intend in to live as to Lovels[?] Family your may think it strange but it is so we have not had a line for years not even after Tom went out Mr. F wrote by him and requested them to let us know if he got out safe Phillips told us that [name unclear] and Tom had both run off is it a fact and have they ever herd from them how is Hamilton like to do I wonder if he has ever paid him yet for all his Dets[?] bills if he has not I really think it is time but if he continues to be extravagant as he was I doubt whether he ever dose pay him it is a very needy time with him now I can assure you William his [word unclear] have been grant[?] then thousand by Sutton Edward all ways when I would caution him with persons seemd to depend on their honour I told him he loand Lovel[?] the money he would never get it and when Ham was [word unclear] so extravagantly oh it was his own he would pay it poor fellow he now finds it hard to keep up the waste and extravagance of his family you know how things workd they have been ten fold since and Edward was out a great deal for hamilton and that of money the last time I askd he had not paid a cent I think if he dose not soon pay a Debt of that kind I shall consider it a piece of meanness I would live on Molasses and bread to pay a debt of sutch kindness poor fellow he has been taking out of his own pockett to do acts of kindness to others he brought Tom here sent him back we clothed and borded him and sent him to school from 2 Months after he came untill he left he was as lazy and sutch a dunce he never learnt any thing scarcely low in in his time was only a source of trouble and mortification and [word unclear] I was provoked when he told me he was coming on I no we get no thanks from any of them but [word unclear] abuse from Toms tails he was guilty of many things I never knew untill he left I never thought any good would come of him he was too fond of low company and negro houses when we thought he was in bed he was in sutch places how did that suit terminate with [few words unclear] it from a disadvantage to the Girls has Martha Married that Gent in St. Louis do write me all about them good or bad that I may know how they are doing notwithstanding all things I feel anxious they should go well and let me know about all your relations your Aunt Betsy is she living and where is she tell me on a large sheet of paper just as though I was asking you questions and you answering them you are the only one that ever dose write to me this has been a trying[?] year to me Edwards family were here and little Ed was taken in March with the inflamitory Rheumatism and was never even off his back for 4 months the greatest suffer I ever saw [several words unclear] disease he is now on his crutches I fear will always be lame I had to have the charge of all those bad spoilt children added to poor little Johnny for he could not bear them to walk across [across] the floor his affliction was brought on by being permitted to run at large all the winter in all weather but not by my consent what a pittty the Father and Mother do not pull together in [word unclear] children as well as everything else had his Father been here[?] all the time it

would not of been so the rest of us have enjoyed our usual health though there has been more sickness in this place and its vicinity this summer than I ever have known owing to the very wet spring and summer and more Deaths particularly with Children I have been out very little to Church owing to the [word unclear] had we have a very find brick Church nearly done the workmen taken the old one in part [word unclear] I recon you will say you are glad we are getting out of that dirty Bottom of stables and small houses religion is rather at a low ebb at this time there has been so mutch division and contention with the north and south but just at the time they seem to of quieted down some we are hily [highly?] favored with [few words unclear] this year he is a very good man fine [word unclear] I do wish you would come and see us I feel very anxious to see all of you you must give a good[?] deal of love to all your relations for me I think Ann will[?] write to me I visit nowhere except call on my neighbors occasionally I have not eat but one meal in any persons house here for 2 years. I have not visited my sisters for 3 years Johnny is so large and helpless to take about although his head[?] is mutch better that is he is not sutch a suffer but is not set alone [few words unclear] is a Dear sweet interesting child very intelligent I must now come to a close give my love to all relations and friends you and Mary come before you have two [too?] large a family accept a portion for you and yours.

Your affectionate Aunt
Lucy E. Dill Fant[?]