

A1887

Thomas Hawkes Griffith Papers, 1878-1949 (bulk 1886-1900)

4 folders

Processed by Dennis Northcott, November 2004

REPOSITORY

Missouri Historical Society Archives

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DONOR INFORMATION

Papers were donated to the Missouri Historical Society by Sallie and Marguerite B. Resor in 1949.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Thomas Hawkes Griffith was born September 18, 1816, in London, England. His family immigrated to the United States in 1827, locating briefly in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh before settling in Cincinnati. In 1834 he moved to Louisville, and two years later moved to St. Louis, where he worked as a steamboat clerk, captain, and secretary-treasurer of the Northern Line Packet Company. On January 18, 1843, he married Elizabeth Wilson. They had six children who lived to adulthood: Sarah, William, Caroline, Isabella, Robert, and Thomas. Thomas Hawkes Griffith died April 10, 1900, in St. Louis; his wife died September 14, 1900, in St. Louis.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Collection consists primarily of letters of Thomas H. Griffith of St. Louis to his niece Mrs. Belle Resor in Cincinnati, which mostly discuss family news. Collection also contains two biographical sketches and an autobiographical sketch of Griffith.

The letters are arranged chronologically; additional papers are filed at the end of the collection.

This collection was transferred from the Steamboats and River History Collection in November 2004.

- 1886 Oct 19 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle. Describes the exposition and parades in St. Louis. (4 pages)
- 1887 Sept 14 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses family news. (4 pages)
- 1887 Dec 8 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses family news. (4 pages)
- 1888 Feb 18 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. (4 pages)
- 1888 June 14 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses his attendance at the funeral of Belle's uncle Arthur in Fort Madison, Iowa. (4 pages)
- 1888 Dec 19 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses services at St. George's Church and the rector, Dr. Holland; mentions death of Angus Cameron in Brooklyn, New York; and family news. (6 pages)
- 1889 Jan 17 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses family news. (4 pages)
- 1889 Nov 19 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Mentions the deaths of John Goodin, Mr. Kempland, and Robert Betts. (4 pages)
- 1889 Dec 23 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses family Christmas gathering and family news generally. (3 pages)
- 1890 Jan 14 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses the family Christmas celebration, family news generally, and the destruction wrought by a tornado that recently hit St. Louis. (6 pages)
- 1890 May 29 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses his recent visit to his son Thomas' family in Wichita, Kansas, including a description of Wichita. (4 pages)
- 1890 July 24 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses Sallie and Ella's trip to Green Mountain Falls, [Colorado], and family news. (4 pages)
- 1891 May 6 Fragment of letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses family news. (4 pages)

- 1891 June 8 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle. Discusses conflict arising over Rev. Dr. Holland's determination to move St. George's Church to a location further west in St. Louis, and briefly describes Forest Park. (4 pages)
- 1891 July 18 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle. Describes visit to his son Thomas' family in Wichita, Kansas, and a visit to family in Sedalia, Missouri. (6 pages)
- 1891 Aug 17 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses family news and visit to Forest Park. (4 pages)
- 1892 Dec 23 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses family news. (4 pages)
- 1894 June 9 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, Wichita, Kansas, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses visit to his son Thomas' family in Wichita. (3 pages)
- 1894 Aug 14 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses the unexpected marriage of Will to Carrie Churchman and family news generally. (4 pages)
- 1895 Jan 12 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses the news he received of the death of a relation, James Robertson, at or near Peekskill. (4 pages)
- 1895 Mar 20 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses family news. (4 pages)
- 1895 Sept 3 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle. Describes Ella and Willie's trip to Cripple Creek, Colorado. (4 pages)
- 1895 Sept 25 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Invites Belle to visit St. Louis during the upcoming fair week. Encloses newspaper advertisement for the exposition in St. Louis. (4 pages)
- 1896 Jan 10 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses family news. (4 pages)
- 1896 Mar Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses family news. (4 pages)
- 1897 Apr 13 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses the flooding of the River des Peres and family news. (4 pages)

- 1897 Aug 10 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses family news. (4 pages)
- 1898 Jan 10 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses family news. (3 pages)
- 1898 Mar 30 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses the prospect of war and family news. (4 pages)
- 1898 May 24 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses family news; mentions that cousin Rob Wilson is in the 1st Regiment of Missouri Volunteers and has gone to the front. (4 pages)
- 1898 June 14 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses family news. (4 pages)
- 1898 Aug 8 Letter signed Thomas H. Griffith, St. Louis, to his niece Belle, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses family news and gives description of Forest Park. (4 pages)
- 1900 Apr 11 Letter signed Fannie, St. Louis, to cousin Belle and Mary, Cincinnati, Ohio. Discusses the illness and medical treatment of her father and mother, and the subsequent death of her father. (8 pages)
- [1900 Sept 14] Letter signed Fannie to cousin Belle. Discusses the death of her mother. (2 pages)
- 1949 May 28 Handwritten extracts of family letters dated 1897-1898, signed W.B.R. [W.B. Resor], addressed to Willard Bartlett, St. Louis. (2 pages)
- [1878] Biographical sketch of Thomas Hawkes Griffith from *The United States Biographical Dictionary and Portrait Gallery of Eminent and Self-made Men: Missouri Volume*. (3 pages)
- no date Handwritten notes regarding the family letters, compiled by [Willard Bartlett?], St. Louis. (1 page)
- no date Two typescript copies of autobiographical sketch of Thomas Hawkes Griffith. (11 pages and 12 pages)
- no date Typescript biographical sketch of Thomas Hawkes Griffith. (1 page)
- no date Notes of Griffith family names and birth dates. (2 pages)
- no date Stationery letterhead of the Sedalia Hardware Co. Verso contains small fragment of a letter.