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Thomas K. Skinker Family Papers, 1839-1924

3 boxes

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REPOSITORY

Missouri History Museum Archives

P.O. Box 11940

St. Louis, MO 63112-0040

314-746-4510

archives@mohistory.org

DONOR INFORMATION

Papers were purchased by the Missouri Historical Society from Irene Thompson in August 1978.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Thomas K. Skinker was born June 9, 1845, in St. Louis County, Missouri, the son of Thomas Skinker and Jane Neilson Skinker. He graduated from Washington University and was admitted to the Missouri bar in 1867. He worked as a lawyer in St. Louis for several decades. He married Adela Bertha Rives of Virginia in 1869. Their children were Charles Rives Skinker (born December 18, 1870), Isabella Neilson Skinker (born June 23, 1873), Bertha Rives Skinker (born April 15, 1876), Alexander Rives Skinker (born October 13, 1883), and Jane Neilson Skinker (born April 9, 1885). Thomas K. Skinker died January 27, 1924, in St. Louis.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists primarily of Skinker family correspondence, the bulk of which is between Thomas K. Skinker and his wife, Bertha Rives Skinker. The collection also contains several folders of tax receipts of Thomas Skinker dated 1839-1886.

This finding aid was compiled by keying in the document descriptions on the folder covers. These document descriptions were presumably written by a Missouri Historical Society archivist soon after the collection was purchased in 1978.

Box 1**Folder 1**

1845-1847 Account book of Thomas Skinker. (41 pages)

Folder 2

- 1872 July 15 Letter signed Maggie Robertson, Eufaula, Alabama, to Thomas Skinker, Sen., St. Louis. I hope your finances are in a particularly brilliant condition as the object of this letter is to request your kind assistance in a monetary point of view. We, after a three years residence in this abominable Yankee town, propose to move to Florida this fall. . . \$200.00 is requisite, money cannot be borrowed down here at any rate of interest, it is so scarce.
- 1874 Feb 10 Letter signed P[eter] Keith Boswell, Sanford, Florida, to Uncle [Thomas Skinker]. Your favor was duly received. I am much obliged for your prompt attention to my request. . . . I expect to start out in a day or two to locate a home. I shall be able to do well after a year or two of hard times. Robertson is editing a paper at Sanford & I hope will do well with it.
- 1875 Oct 13 Invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Francis L. Smith to the marriage of their daughter Sarah Vowell Smith to Edward Lousdale Daingerfield at Alexandria, Virginia.
- 1878 Apr 3 Letter signed M[ary] I[sham] Skinker, Grass Dale, to Brother. Have not received the \$200.00 of my interest I asked you to send by the middle of March.
- 1881 May 6 Letter signed Cochran & Fulton, Louisville, to Thos. Skinker, concerning an order for whiskey.
- 1881 May 17 Letter signed Cochran & Fulton, Louisville, to Thos. Skinker, concerning an order for whiskey. Also certificate of gauger.
- 1883 July 20 Letter signed Jane L. Hoffman, 922 Elliot Ave., [St. Louis, Mo.], to Mr. Skinker. In business matters I am entirely helpless, and having no male relative, it is the greatest relief to be able to throw the responsibility on you.
- 1886 Nov 17 Letter signed Cochran & Fulton, Louisville, to Thos. Skinker, St. Louis, concerning an order of whiskey. Includes bill.
- 1887 July 19 Letter signed Thomas K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife. Owing to a misunderstanding between the City Counsellor and his clerk, nothing was done yesterday in the Laclede Ave. matter. Other law office news. Last night I went out to see Father. His is little if at all better than when we left. Tell Charlie Ed Stanard passed all but arithmetic.

- 1887 Aug 3 Letter signed Thomas K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife. I was surprised when I reached my office yesterday to find a note from Father saying that on Monday he would leave for the mountains of Virginia. He said the doctors recommended a change of climate. I have a standing invitation to take my meals with the Barnesø while in town. News of other friends in town.
- 1887 Aug 3 Letter signed Thomas K. Skinker, St. Louis, to Father. I wish you had given me notice of your intended trip. Let me have a postal from you from time to time to time. I address this letter somewhat in the dark, but I learned enough to make me suppose the Old Sweet is the place.
- Folder 3**
- 1887 Aug 6 Letter signed Thomas K. Skinker, St. Louis, to Father. If you had not always been so positive that trips were a useless expense, I should not have been so alarmed when I found you had gone in search of health. I was much relieved to hear you have decidedly improved. Trips must now rank with other conveniences which have forced themselves upon your conservative wisdom. Maggie Scott is recovering rapidly.
- 1887 Aug 28 Letter signed Thomas K. Skinker, St. Louis, to Father. Best route to take if you decide to go to Saratoga. Bertha and the children are back from Arcadia. We are progressing rapidly with the work of grading the hill on Laclede Ave. Charlie is turning out to be a ladiesø man. At Arcadia he made the acquaintance of Dr. Gratz Mosesø daughter Ella, but he still finds satisfaction in Miss Lizzie Dyerø's company.
- 1887 Sept 4 Letter signed Thomas K. Skinker to Father. Mrs. Hutchinson reached home this morning and her boys from Green Lake came at the same time, so they had a family reunion. I suppose you saw a notice of the serious injuries sustained by Dr. Gratiot in crossing the Missouri Pacific Railroad at Campbellø crossing.
- 1887 Sept 22 Letter signed Thomas K. Skinker to Father. Ida arrived here this morning and communicated to me your wish that I should take Ellenwood off your hands. If I am to have it permanently, I shall wish to make considerable changes.
- 1894 Mar 19 Letter signed Husband, Jefferson City, to Mrs. T.K. Skinker, 4067 McPherson Ave., St. Louis.
- 1900 Aug 3 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker [Mrs. Thomas K.], Wequetonsing, [Michigan], to husband. My telegram will have apprized you of my safe arrival. Socializing with Ada Eaton, Mrs. Bradley, Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Taussig, Mrs. Galt, Recca & May Reber.
- [1900] Aug 7 Letter signed B.R. Skinker, Wequetonsing, to husband. Mentions Mrs. Galt,

Mrs. Reber, the Eleners, Dr. Locke, Mrs. Streett, Dr. & Mrs. Prewitt. It is like a section of St. Louis here.

- 1900 Aug 10 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, Wequetonsing, to husband. Mentions the Galts, Mrs. Richards, Mrs. Stedman, Ethel Edgar, Mr. & Mrs. Morton, Christine Bishop & baby boy, Dr. & Mrs. Locke (and Dr. Locke's injury), Mrs. Douthitt, Mrs. Streett, Mrs. Clarke, Wymans, Frances Wendling. Did you know Mr. D.K. Ferguson is Mrs. Clarke's bro.; Mr. Streett's nephew?
- 1900 Aug 17 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, Wequetonsing, to husband. It seems queer for Bertha to have Bella's admirer on her hands, but I think Bella rejoices in her escape. I have no doubt you are kind to Joe on his Mother's and Aunt's account. Mentions Mrs. Galt, Mrs. Rebers[?], Mrs. Hardaway, Mrs. Ashley Scott, Bishops, Mrs. White, Mrs. Foote. I was truly sorry to miss seeing Llewellyn. I did not come across Mr. & Mrs. Barnes, but if I knew where they are staying I would go to see them.
- Folder 4**
- [1900] Aug 20 Letter Bertha R. Skinker, Wequetonsing, to husband. Mention of St. Louisans in Wequetonsing, including the Bishop[?], Christine, William, Mrs. Miltenberger, Mrs. Hardaway, O'Neil's, mother, Mrs. Fisher, Mrs. Maguire, Mrs. Boyle, Horace Swope.
- 1900 Aug 23 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, Wequetonsing, to husband. We were to have had an excursion on Mr. Wyman's launch this morning, but I hope it is only postponed (because of rain). Poor Ada Eaton is laid up with a severe attack of neuralgia. She took the steamer just after playing golf, with no wrap to protect her. I have discovered another St. Louisan - Mrs. Robert Aull.
- 1900 Aug 26 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, Wequetonsing, to husband. Yesterday we spent in an excursion with Mr. Frank Wyman, Mr. and Mrs. Streett, Miss Wendling, her aunt Mrs. Brooke. Mabel Wyman was sick. We met on the boat at Oden Major & Mrs. Kimball of Kirkwood. I suppose you are attending poor Mr. Thornburg's funeral today. We have just heard that one of the Kauffman sons was drowned at Magnolia. Clarence Eaton is practising to swim to the Point. I do hope her brother will forbid it. I suppose Louisa is out of danger from Janis's letter. Please tell me if Joe has fixed any time for his departure. Jane seems carried away with him.
- 1900 Aug 28 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, Wequetonsing, to husband. I had hoped to leave here Friday, but could not get a lower berth, so will have to stay until Sunday. I wish I could have known Mrs. Barnes's hotel. I could have gone to see her. Mrs. Waterworth was also getting her ticket & we agreed we were homesick for our husbands.

- 1901 Jan 3 Postcard signed T.K.S. to his wife, Mrs. T.K. Skinker, Hotel Berlin, St. Louis, Mo.
- 1901 Jan 3 Postcard signed Thomas K. Skinker, Texarkana, Texas, to wife, Mrs. T.K. Skinker, Hotel Berlin, St. Louis. Fordyce was on the train this morning, but got off above Little Rock.
- 1901 Jan 3 Postcard signed husband, Fort Worth, Texas, to wife, Mrs. T.K. Skinker, Hotel Berlin, St. Louis.
- 1901 Jan 4 Letter signed Thomas K. Skinker, Fort Worth, Texas, to wife, Hotel Berlin, St. Louis. I have been so much rushed since the fire that I have had absolutely no time to give to this case. If I had not prepared my brief last summer, I do not know where I would stand now.
- 1901 Jan 6 Letter signed Thomas K. Skinker, Shreveport, Louisiana, to wife, Hotel Berlin, St. Louis. I am journeying to Washington by the southern route. This will give me a chance to see Kinfolks. Describes conversation with an old woman to train station waiting room.
- 1901 Jan 7 Letter signed Thomas K. Skinker, approaching Atlanta, Georgia, to wife. After a nine hour stay with the Birchetts I left Vicksburg last night at 10 o'clock. I planned to stop at Atlanta and make the acquaintance of my kinsman, Rev. Wm. M. Walton, but he is not at home. I am mingling business with pleasure in such a way that I can charge nearly all to my three clients.
- Folder 5**
- 1901 Jan 7 Letter signed Thomas K. Skinker, Charlotte, North Carolina, to wife. There are a great number of immense cotton factories in this country. The curious existence of Fred Tucker, former judge of District Court at Dallas. The Birchetts are very much in earnest about the Skinker genealogy.
- 1901 Jan 8 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, The Berlin, to husband, Richmond, Virginia. The blow which deprived us of a loved home makes me feel older. The hotel life seems to be very expensive. We are getting down to a more regular kind of life. The manager at Washington University, having entire faith in the prediction for severe weather, told the workmen not to come Monday. Monday dawned fine & no workmen appeared, much to Mr. Chaplin's disgust. Joe Wheat spent most of Sunday with us. He is studying hard to fit himself to sell the cash registers. Mr. Charles Chouteau died on Saturday. Mrs. Papin is too ill to attend his funeral.
- [1901] Jan 11 Letter signed Thomas R. Skinker, Washington, D.C., to wife. I hope I may be able to take a deposition in Cincinnati Saturday and be home Sunday morning.

- 1901 Jan 12 Letter signed Thomas R. Skinker, Cumberland, Maryland, to wife. Decided to remain here til Sunday night. Cousin Anna Stubblefield and Brooke, her half brother, received me most hospitably.
- 1901 June 18 Letter signed A. Rives Hall, Montreal, to Susan. I had a letter from Bertha, full of happiness and accounts of her new duties and pleasures. She and Courtenay had been buying pots and pans for the kitchen. For me there seems no prospect of my going across to Ireland. Had to deny myself the pleasure of meeting Mr. Latimer, another American relation.
- 1901 June 20 Letter signed Bertha Skinker, Chicago, to husband. We reached here on time. Bella telephoned the Bakers and found them all out.
- 1901 June 21 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, The Chipmunk, Wequetonsing, to husband, Laclede Building, St. Louis. Alex says he is so happy at being in a little home together once more that he feels like kicking and hallowing, & indeed so do we all except Jane who does not condescend to enthuse. We all had good appetites for the Eatonsø nice dinner.
- 1901 June 23 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife. Address your letters to me at #94 Laclede Building rather than at 4380. They will get there many hours earlier. The train was speeding away to Mexico. I pulled out my bundle of papers and the brief was not there! The judge laid the case over one week. All received my oversight in the kindest spirit, and nobody even said dön it. This is my biggest forget for a long time.
- Folder 6**
- 1901 June 24 Letter signed ðEckö to ðDear Brud.ö Describes train trip through Michigan; use of a \$10.00 gift. Tom Galt, who is running the tennis court, got here yesterday. When I left home my patent leather shoes were comfortable but when I put them on up here the inside of the toes had broken down. I think I must have made a mistake and packed yours.
- 1901 June 25 Telegram of T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to Mrs. T.K. Skinker. Worldø Fair is located in Forest Park not definitely known whether Ellenwood included.
- 1901 June 25 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, The Chipmunk Cottage, to husband. Outlines expenses on trip. Bella has not been really well since she came up and has now been obliged to go to bed.
- 1901 June 25 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Jim Seddon told me yesterday that Forest Park wd. be chosen (for the LPE [Louisiana Purchase Exposition]), and also that my proposition for the use of Ellenwood would be accepted. Walsh says that by the time the fair is over, our lands will be worth from 50 to 100% more. The parties who offered Sam Gittensø mother \$50,000 for the

14 acres on the Clayton Rd. at Tamm Ave. wanted a clause that would allow their money back if the World's Fair took the land. So the trade fell through.

- 1901 June 26 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, The Chipmunk Cottage, to son [Charles Skinker], St. Louis. I hope you and Papa have unpacked and disposed your belongings & have sufficient home & closet room. Won't you watch over the state of Papa's trousers for me. It is a great comfort to me as well as to you that you are with Susie. The St. Louis people up here regret the selection of Forest Park for the World's Fair. Mrs. Galt & I have been amusing ourselves at the Glasgow cottage. Carr Lane came from Cornell expecting to find his family here but not finding them. Bella is not well. Jane is off somewhere with her inseparable Judith Hoblitzelle. What a dreadful thing the death of young Hay at New Haven was!
- 1901 June 27 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, The Chipmunk Cottage, to husband. Little did we think how many questions that fire would solve! Amongst the St. Louis people up here are the Delafields, the Wymans, Rebers, Hardaway, Miltenbergers, Glasgows, Galts, Eatons, Mrs. Ashley Scott, the Bishop's small family, and many others I do not know. We have had one letter from Bertha from Eastern Point.
- 1901 June 28 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, The Chipmunk Cottage, to her husband
- 1901 June 28 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. I learn that Ben Gray is back from Eureka. Bertha's address in Connecticut.
- 1901 June 30 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, 4380 McPherson, St. Louis, to wife. The Grays stayed in Eureka one week. They found nothing he could eat, no conveniences, a crowded hotel with music and dancing. Drought is delaying the work on the University. Last night I was one of a party of W.U. alumni who tendered Prof. [Edmund Arthur] Engler a banquet on his departure to assume the presidency of the Worcester School of Technology. Mentions Tom Rutledge, Mrs. LaMotte, Mr. Johnson.

Folder 7

- 1901 July 1 Letter signed Bertha Rives Skinker, Groton, Connecticut, to father, T.K. Skinker, St. Louis. So the World's Fair matter is settled, and a fine white elephant we've got on our hands. If you could hear the way these Eastern people talk about the Fair, you wouldn't think many of them are coming to it. Shocked to hear of Mr. Ed. Walsh's, Hamilton Stone's and Mrs. Foy's deaths, and of Mr. Yeatman's illness.
- 1901 July 2 Letter signed B.R. Skinker, Wequetonsing, to husband.
- 1901 July 6 Letter signed Bertha Rives Skinker, Eastern Point, Groton, Connecticut, to father. Auntie pines to take any number of excursions, but I begrudge the

time it takes to see such a choice assortment of summer resorts. Louis would like to get some of the architectural work to do for the Fair. I am now priveleged to call at three cottages: the Waites, Mrs. Sylvesterø where Mrs. & Miss Curtis hold forth, and on a Miss Roe, who is a cousin of Bill Chaplinø.

- 1901 July 7 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, Wequetonsing, to husband. Mentions fellow reporters: the Vallee Reyburns, Mrs. Eaton, Henry & Phil Hoblitzelle, Clem Glasgow, Eugene Miltenberger, Rob & Charley Galt, Allan Wyman, Allan Breed, Judith Hoblitzelle, Florence Streett, Mrs. Reber, Mrs. Wyman, the Bishops, Mrs. Streett, Mrs. Miltenberger, Mrs. Elener, Mrs. Glasgow, Mrs. Ridgeley. Has heard Mr. George Leighton is dead.
- 1901 July 11 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, Wequetonsing, to husband. News of Wequetonsing; Janeø and Bellaø doings. Mentions the Galts, Mrs. Thayer, Mrs. McPheeters & son Tom, Mr. Sanderson (the artist up here), Mrs. Hardaway, Mrs. White, Mrs. Freeman, Miss Breed.
- 1901 July 15 Letter signed B.R. Skinker, Wequetonsing, to son [Charles Skinker], St. Louis, Clarke Streett came up yesterday and reported not only a torrid atmosphere in St. Louis but a great lack of fresh vegetables and fruits. The way the young people court the sunø ardent glances here goes much against the grain with me. Sermons by the Boy Preacher.
- 1901 July 16 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Recommended Louis LaBeaume to Mr. Francis as architect for the fair, but Kimball and Walker patched up their former partnership and will act.
- 1901 July 18 Letter signed B.R. Skinker, Wequetonsing, to husband. Mentions Mrs. Locke & daughter Mrs. Mackenzie; Mrs. Wheat. Henry Hoblitzelle had a very narrow escape from drowning. Mrs. Bishop from Cincinnati.
- 1901 July 21 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Will Donaldson injured himself in a rather peculiar way.
- [1901] July 23 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, Wequetonsing, to husband. New of Mary Valentine. You might take one of your Sunday walks to see a house Mrs. Hoblitzelle thinks very desirable. It belongs to an old lady Mrs. Ray and is near Kingshighway and Easton.
- 1901 July 26 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Since his return from Eureka, Mr. Gray has again been a very ill man.

Folder 8

- 1901 Aug 6 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, Wequetonsing, to son [Charles Skinker]. The Pettus family have a cottage near here. The number of cases of fever at

this end of the resort led to an investigation of the plumbing and sewage. One serious defect has been found. Amongst the sick all said to be typhoid are Tom McPheeters Jr., Vallee Reyburn Jr., John Drew Jr., Florence Streett, Henry Hoblitzelle. . . . Don't you ever go to see Alice Martin? You know the Switzlers are boarding there now. Joe Wheat graduated in his course at Dayton and is back in St. Louis. Mentions Elise Peters.

- 1901 Aug 8 Letter signed A[lexander] R. Skinker, [Wequetonsing], to Brud [Charles Skinker]. The tennis court is dandy. Erastus Wells and myself played together in the doubles and got soaked. I play Thruston Wright in singles. . . . I heard you and Willie are coming up the last of the month. You will have a dandy time. Tennis and golf, walking and rowing, fussing the girls and odds and ends fill up the time pretty well.
- 1901 Aug 11 Letter signed Bertha Rives Skinker, Red Rock House, Lynn, Massachusetts, to Belle [Isabella Neilson Skinker], [Wequetonsing]. My plans are to leave here a week from tomorrow for Wequetonsing, and I hope Papa is going to write that that is all right. Aunt Cote and the Scotts are coming tomorrow, so Aunt Cote may take my place with Auntie. Friday was spent at Beverly with Mrs. Goddard and Eliza. The idea of your being really sick is horrible, and I want to go bully and shame you into a more seemly manner of life.
- [1901] Aug 13 Postcard signed T.K. Skinker to wife, written while returning to St. Louis from Wequetonsing.
- 1901 Aug 14 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife. Describes strategy in suit to prevent St. Charles from building its own waterworks. The fight to save the Water Company is one of the most interesting in which I have ever been engaged.
- [1901] Aug 14 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, Wequetonsing, to husband. Mentions Mrs. Glasgow, Miss McPheeters, Miss Perry, Miss Brook, Mrs. Hardaway. I am certain Bella will be unable to resume her usefulness until some operation restores her. I should like to see what arguments you can address to keep a city from building waterworks if it chooses.
- 1901 Aug 16 Letter signed Bertha Rives Skinker, Lynn, Massachusetts, to Mother. Instead of starting next Monday, I cannot start until the first of September. You see, I have been pulled both ways by duty and desire. My leaving would throw out all Auntie's plans. There is plenty of compensation here, of course, and I am having a bully good time. This last week has been the best yet, owing to the agreeable presence of Mr. Jackson, a young lawyer from Boston. Mrs. LaBeaume is in very bad condition mentally. Aunt Cote, Cousin Minnie and Cousin Maggie are all here.

Folder 9

- [1901] Aug 16 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, Wequetonsing, to husband. In studying the advertisements in the Sunday papers, I see very little hope of securing a furnished house. We have our parlor furniture, dining room and library, & a few odd pieces. Even the sideboard and table will be very large for the ordinary dining room. Florence Streett, Tom McPheeters and Stewart Taylor are still in bed with fever. Vallee Rayburn is dangerously ill, hovering between life and death. Eugene Miltenberger has walking typhoid. Mr. Drew's son is also ill.
- 1901 Aug 17 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. I assume you have written Bertha positively to come to Weque. Love to little Clarence.
- 1901 Aug 18 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Attributes of the Robertson house. As things look now, we are to live permanently in the city; and we are also to live on a much smaller scale than we have been accustomed to. If you can make it do at all, we had better take the Robertson house, or some such one, and settle down before the inevitable ante-World's Fair advance in rents. Inquiring about Fordyce house.
- [1901] Aug 18 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, Wequetonsing, to husband. Bella grows worse instead of better. She needs surgical treatment. Mrs. Reber says the Deaconess Hospital on Bell near her house is very nice. A great gloom is spread over the place by the numbers of sick (at Weque). Tom McPheeters is now the worst, tonight hovering between life and death. Poor Lucy Hoblitzelle was taken yesterday with such violent pains that a premature birth was expected. Mrs. Horace Dyer (nee Edgar) is also very low with typhoid. You no doubt saw that the Edgar's fine launch blew up and was totally destroyed. Mrs. Galt & Mrs. Thayer were on it only a few days before.
- 1901 Aug 19 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, Wequetonsing, to husband. I have written to Dr. McLean to know just when she can take charge of the case [Bella's].
- 1901 Aug 19 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Suggests leaving Wequetonsing for Highland Park, Illinois. Amount owed Mrs. Eaton for the cottage rent.
- 1901 Aug 20 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. New plans for returning home from Weque. I don't understand Bertha's gyrations, unless Louie is the attraction. I have twice sent her money to come on.
- 1901 Aug 20 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, Wequetonsing, to husband. Bella is a helpless invalid now and in spite of her brave efforts is much depressed. If the doctor advises, we shall certainly return next week. Suggests houses to look at. Please look into the Pressed Brick matter. I feel conscious-stricken about poor Frank. Tom McPheeters is now the most alarming case, although

Vallee Rayburn, Joe Drew, Stewart Taylor, Florence Streett, Miss Carney and Eugene Miltenberger are still by no means out of danger. We are rejoicing over Lucy Hoblitzelle's safe delivery of a little girl.

[1901] Aug 21 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker to husband. The gloom here increases. Tom McPheeters and Vallee Rayburn are in extreme danger.

[1901] Aug 21 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker to husband. The doctors ordered Bella sent home at once & all arrangements were made, but her condition grew so alarmingly worse they said the risk was too great. They also thought Alex and Jane should be removed from danger.

Folder 10

[1901] Aug 23 Letter signed B.R. Skinker, Wequetonsing, to husband. I do not regret sending Alex and Jane away. Mrs. Eaton will put Charley in a room in Hotel without extra charge. I do trust Bertha is not coming here.

[1901] Aug 23 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker to husband. The doctor says what is necessary to such a probably severe illness must be done quickly, so I telegraphed Cote in reply to her offer to come at once. Tell Jane I say to try to atone for that last piece of selfishness about the hot water she was not willing to spare to her sick suffering sister.

[1901 Aug 23] Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker to husband. Charley has been here about an hour. . . . The doctor only formally announced the typhoid last night, but I feel sure she had it when I first discovered her high temperature Wednesday night. The earliest we might hope to leave is Oct. 1. Suggests places for Alex, Jane and Bertha to stay. Cote says she will be here Sunday morning 9:30. Charley's accounts made me feel you all thought me an awful bungling fool, whilst everybody up here thinks I have been a marvel of coolness and decision.

1901 Aug 24 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Aleck & Jane arrived last night safe and well. I could get no room for Bella at the Deaconess Hospital; they will have nothing unoccupied til the end of next week. Very little work is going on at the Home Comfort Stove works, so that there is no unusual noise on the west side of the house. Cousin Anne left for Washington yesterday noon.

1901 Aug 24 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife.

1901 Aug 25 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. I am still in hope Bella's case will turn out no typhoid. I saw Mr. Eliot in reference to the Press-brick stock. He informed me that their business is in excellent condition, but they had to spend some \$40,000 in improvements which prevents them from making dividends. Aleck & I looked at house #5635 Cates Ave. This is a nice house, but on a small scale. Aleck's and Jane's friends visit: Sterling Edmunds,

Agnes Blessing, Paul Laidley. Dr. Winchester was sick 3 of 5 weeks in Madison.

1901 Aug 25 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Susie and I spent this afternoon examining houses. The people were sitting out in the front yards, so that I could see who our neighbors would be. I therefore do not stop to describe West Belle, Nos. 4161 and 4175 [4161 West Belle and 4175 West Belle]. If you leave it to me, I will take a lease on the Robertson house.

[1901] Aug 25 Letter signed B.R. Skinker to husband. Details nursing of Bella. Your reasoning about Bella's condition is not as good as that you apply to law cases.

1901 Aug 25 Telegram of Mary I. Maffitt, Paul Smith's, N.Y., to T.K. Skinker, Wequetonsing. How is Isabel let Jane come to us write.

1901 Aug 26 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Your three letters of 22d, 23d and 24th all came to hand this morning, and I now understand why Aleck and Jane were sent home. Mr. & Mrs. Labeaume say they want Bertha to come and stay with them. The messages went to Lynn, where I suppose she is. Louise Wyman; the suit of the Belgian harpies mentioned. I will try your plan of advertising for a furnished home.

Folder 11

[1901] Aug 26 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, Wequetonsing, to husband. Cote arrived this morning at 10:00. The hotel and place are rapidly thinning since Bella and Ruth Penny broke out with the fever. Mr. & Mrs. Morrill leave today. There will be no occupants in the hotel tonight but the Taylor party and Charley. Young Taylor's fever is not yet broken; the same with Tom McPheeters and Vallee Rayburn.

[1901] Aug 26 9:15 pm. Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker to husband. Describes gravity of Bella's case. I have written and telegraphed to Bertha that the house hunting will devolve upon her. I should think Bertha would feel self reproach now. Bella wrote her plainly some weeks ago how much she wanted her.

1901 Aug 27 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Your letter gives me a very clear understanding of your situation and Bella's condition. Tell her I will agree to laugh at none of Bertha's jokes till she comes home. Nothing could be fairer than this. Carroll Stribling and Will Maffitt inquired after her today. I have inspected house no. 4318 Laclede. It is dirty and nearly opposite to Mike Hanick's residence and wagon and mule yard.

1901 Aug 28 Letter signed A[lexander] R. Skinker, St. Louis, to mother. Monday I went out to the McBlair's and spent a very pleasant afternoon and evening with Will and Nathaniel Pascal. Mrs. Lehmann is sick, not seriously. I think and

Papa thinks there Mrs. Robertson's house would do capitally.

- 1901 Aug 29 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Many friends are asking after Bella, among others today Jim Seddon, John Lee, Mr. Morton and Dr. Winchester. Bertha arrived on time this morning, safe and well. We viewed no. 3738 Washington Ave. (description). A look at the outside was enough. The Orricks are out of town, as are Judge and Mrs. Valliant. These two houses are therefore not to be considered. Dr. Williamson is at the Palmer house, Chicago. Cabell Gray reports that at Mackinac he staid at the seven-dollar-a-day hotel.
- [1901?] Aug 30 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker to husband. I told Charley to send you a telegram to close with Mrs. Robertson, but not for a long lease. The street is already a crowded one and that locality will not long be desirable. Suggests two more houses. Mr. Drew's son is very ill now; Tom McPheeter and Vallee Rayburn still very ill although the latter is thought to be improving. Mrs. Horace Dyer is so low today it is thought she cannot recover. Why don't you try for a room at Mrs. Fauntleroy's on West Pine?
- 1901 Aug 30 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Description of house-hunting; arguments for a long lease to last through the World's Fair. If those who claim that the fair will not be held till 1905 are right, the lease ought to extend till after that. Encloses clipping on typhoid epidemic in Maryland. Mentions friends of Alex; Jane.
- 1901 Sept 1 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. If I can agree with Mr. Carroll about the McPherson Ave. house, it can be made ready for us by the 15th or 20th at latest. It is preferable to Mrs. Robertson's. Mentions other houses examined.
- Folder 12**
- 1901 Sept 2 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Mr. Hellendall wanted me to make him an offer for his Lindell Ave. house. Aleck has gone out to Tom Moore's with Fritz and Willie Drost.
- 1901 Sept 2 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Susie is to start east of Wed. or Thursday. Price . . . told her he took no interest in her movements, but not to come back to him. Lists persons who have asked after Bella. The McPherson & DeGiverville Ave. line of the United Railways is finished up to Forsyth. Big water pipe too is laid up DeBaliviere from Lindell to Delmar. City water will be permanently delivered within 1200 ft. of Ellenwood. Cabanne boys drained the west pond.
- 1901 Sept 2 Letter signed Scott & Farrar Realty Co., St. Louis, to T.K. Skinker regarding property at Boyle & McPherson Ave.
- 1901 Sept 3 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Details house hunting.

- 1901 Sept 3 Letter signed Alex R. Skinker to Mother. Yesterday I went out to Tom Moore's with Fritz and Horace and Billy Drosten. We cut 9 shocks of corn. Fritz and Mrs. Lehmann got home Friday. I have an invitation from Horace to play golf at the Glen Echo Club on Wednesday.
- 1901 Sept 6 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. A third president of the United States has fallen by the hand of an assassin! Such occurrences are enough to make one feel that there is something radically wrong with our boasted civilization. Friends who have asked after Bella. House hunting; Fred Lehman's library. I spent today at St. Charles preparing for my waterworks case, which comes up next Tuesday. I came back by the trolley line, which is built to the edge of the first high ground on the St. Louis Co. side. Susie has given up her trip at the last moment.
- 1901 Sept 8 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. The owner of 4263 McPherson says the repairs I ask for would cost \$600 and that he would not make them unless I would pay \$1000 a year. Long description of 3741 Washington. Neighbors east and west are Fred Judson and Ben Taussig.
- 1901 Sept 9 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Mrs. Wheat says "Mary looks splendidly and is in fine spirits." Last night Jane opened up to me the subject of private lessons. I reasoned with her about the advantages of Mary Institute, the position it gives a girl to be a graduate of that institution, etc., and wound up by telling her I could not consent.
- 1901 Sept 11 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Your return is necessary in order to get things started. It is out of the question to leave purchases to Jane & Bertha. As matters stand, it looks as if 4263 McPherson would be the choice. It is compact and can be kept with two servants. It will not compare favorably with Ellenwood, but the days of living in clover are over for the present. I saw Tom McPheeters today. He gave a good account of Bella and the other patients. The court decided the waterworks case against us.
- Folder 13**
- 1901 Sept 15 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Description of house hunting. Mentions the Wetzell house at 3741 Washington Ave. The old Barnes house at Garrison & Washington is the worst old shack I have seen in my rounds. Our last examinations have been of Dr. Prewitt's No. 4615 Westminster, Mrs. Aglar's no. 4613 Maryland, no. 4561 Washington Ave., and houses at 5268 Maple Ave. and 5241 Maple Ave. (encloses realtor's printed descriptions of the latter two homes). Frank Eaton invited us to the Delmar Gardens to see the white horse make the high dive.
- 1901 Sept 16 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. The die is cast. Our home for the next three years is to be at No. 4263 McPherson Ave. The moment I notified

Scott & Farrar they called up Hey & Stewart & found the latter had just started their wagon to the house with a full stock of papers. They were turned back by telephone. What would you have thought of living in paper of Hey & Stewart's selection? Scott & Farrar say they will have the house ready by the 20th.

- 1901 Sept 17 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife.
- 1901 Nov 11 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Mt. Vernon, Mo., to wife. On my way down I had plenty of company. Henry Scott, John D. Davis, Mr. Sproule, Mr. Guy, Mr. Hobart, young George Leighton and one or two others constituted a party, traveling in a special car to view and mourn over a zinc mine at Joplin that was to have made them all rich or richer, but has failed in its siren promises. I found Mr. Hughes, the Travelling Passenger Agt. of the R.R. Co., who is an interesting talker. Observations of Aurora, Mo. Letter is written on stationery of the Brick Hotel, Tobe Richardson, proprietor.
- 1901 Nov 13 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Mt. Vernon, Mo., to wife, St. Louis. Describes weather in Mt. Vernon, and a walk in the countryside nearby. I am still entirely at a loss about my case.
- 1901 Nov 14 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Mt. Vernon, to wife, St. Louis. We have just had our first skirmish in the Ross case, and the court has the matter under advisement. The judge is an indefatigable worker. A prisoner broke jail, on the same night the electric lights went out, leaving the town in darkness. This morning the new courthouse was opened for use (envelope includes engraved image of Lawrence County Courthouse).
- 1901 Nov 16 Postcard signed T.K. Skinker to wife.
- 1902 Jan 3 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Indianapolis, Ind., to wife, St. Louis. I arrived here on time this morning, found Mr. Vickery and Mr. Ramsey here, and at 9 o'clock went into the trial. Before supper Mr. V. & I took a long walk out Pennsylvania Street, the fashionable address street.
- 1902 Jan 28 Postcard signed T.K. Skinker, Little Rock, Ark., to wife.
- 1902 May 27 Three postcards signed T.K. Skinker, dated Little Rock, Ark., Longview, Texas, and San Antonio, Texas. Am still safe from sharks. Pos
- 1902 May 29-30 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Tarpon Club, Sport, Texas, to wife, St. Louis. Sallied forth to see San Antonio yesterday. Col. F. suddenly exclaimed: "Hold on. Here's somebody I believe I know." Then hailing a fine-looking gentleman who was passing, he said, "Is not this Col. Terrell, paymaster general of the Army of the Cumberland?" "I am," said the gentleman. "I am Fordyce, inspector general of cavalry of the same army," said the colonel;

and a handshake ensued. Colonel got free rail passes to Rockport. Description of tarpon fishing at Sport. Col. F. has made 3 visits and has 13 tarpon to his credit all-told.

Folder 14

- 1902 May 31 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Sport, Texas, to wife, St. Louis. A gentleman here from Dallas has given me some account of your old friend Chas. Fred. Tucker. According to him, Tucker has almost wholly dropped out of sight. He does not seem to think there is anything worse than laziness the matter. Col. Fordyce is the centre here. I am learning several things about him, one of which is that he is pretty deaf and does not want it known. From the papers I have learned of the indictment & arrest of Councilman Schnell & delegate Garaghty.
- 1902 June 3 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Sport, Texas, to wife. I am much pleased to hear the result with Charley. I have little doubt that he will hold the place as long as he chooses. Col. Fordyce is indefatigable, and being an expert he has landed two tarpon. Our associate, Joe Miller, goes out every day and Sunday too, twice a day. Since Friday I have not been on the water. . . . I feel guilty about this trip.
- 1902 June 4 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Sport, Texas, to wife. I am a true and accepted fisherman. I landed a tarpon this morningô my first.
- 1902 June 6 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Sport, Texas, to wife. Describes technique of fishing. I have landed my second tarpon. . . . I have decided to have him mounted and sent home.
- 1902 June 7 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Sport, Texas, to wife. I have landed another tarpon, my third.
- 1902 July 10 Letter signed Sarah A. Bauck Putnam, Brooklyn, New York, to Mrs. T.K. Skinker, St. Louis. Request for genealogical information.
- 1902 July 17 & 18 Postcards signed B[ertha] R. Skinker, en route to Boston, Massachusetts, to T.K. Skinker, St. Louis.
- 1902 July 19 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Proutø Neck, Maine. Problems in paying servants. Susie is interested, as formerly, in the vacation playgrounds. . . . I suggested Ellenwood, and if Mrs. Johnson thinks the place would do, I am to get the consent of the Worldø Fair folks. Francis today told me of his latest negotiations with the Tessons. . . . I heard Dave tell Lehman they would have to proceed with the condemnation. I mailed you this morning an account of an ordinance introduced into the council to change the name of Skinker Road to Rochambeau Ave.

[1902] July 21 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife. Yesterday I called at Wm. Donaldsonø-[William Donaldsonø] and asked him to take a walk with me through the Worldø Fair grounds. He . . . charged that the Worldø Fair had threatened and forced Washington University in granting a lease, and that they had cut 17,000 trees out of Forest Park. For the first charge he gave Hal Eliot as authority. I hope you did not fail to read in Sundayø Republic Francisø letter to the Parkview Realty Co.

1902 July 22 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Proutø Neck, Maine. Charlie dined last night with Chouteau Dyer and tonight with Joe Wear. Took a drive with Mr. Carpenter. On the return we went to the old Cabanne spring in the east end of Forest Park, where he filled a gallon bottle with spring water for use at home. He says it has medicinal qualities. . . . The newspapers continue to discuss the proposed change of name of Skinker road.

[1902] July 22 Letter signed Ida [Marshall Pollard], Madison, Connecticut, to Bubber [T.K. Skinker?]. I have just read in the paper that there has been a bill introduced to change the name of the Skinker road. Canø you do anything to prevent it?

Folder 15

1902 July 26 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife. Half of my friends are going to compete for the prize. I have a letter from Ida, which I enclose. In answer I suggested that she and her aunts ought to club together and offer a prize of \$25 for the second best poem. Who can say we may not help develop some modern Virgil singing of the beauties and sweetness of Skinker road nightø infested by the wailing whipporwill?

circa 1902 July 26 Note signed M.M. Hutchinson, Bass Rocks, Gloucester, Mass.

1902 July 29 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. The newspaper folk continue to write up Skinker Road and the Skinkers. Mr. Sturgeon wrote to the P.D. in very pleasant terms of father. The enclosed letter from Mrs. Hutchinson came yesterday. The net result of all the talk is that the name of the road is not to be changed. Hereafter it will rival Westmoreland and Vandeventer Places. *(This document was missing when this finding aid was created in July 2012.)*

1902 July 30 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Mrs. Tessonø greediness has at last prevailed. A half hour ago I was called in to a meeting of the Worldø Fair directors, and found them in the act of agreeing to take fifty acres of her land at \$333 per acre.

1902 July 31 Typescript letter signed F[rank] J. Carlisle, Vice-President, *St. Louis Chronicle*, to Thomas K. Skinker. Herewith find ten copies of to-dayø *Chronicle* containing Chronicle Biograph. We believe our readers will be

pleased to learn something of your earlier life.

- 1902 Aug 1 Letter signed Lillian Palmer, San Jose, California, to Uncle Tommy [T.K. Skinker, Esq.], St. Louis. Your nice letter with the enclosed clipping came yesterday. Oddest part is that I had already written a poem about Skinker Road. I help some interesting girls who are trying to run a fruit ranch with the odds against them.
- 1902 Aug 4 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. McBlair has taken a house in the city 4375 Washington Ave. Moses Greensfelder sent me today a box containing about 20 cantaloupe, raised on his own place. Printed poem, "When All the World Was Young, A Song of the Skinker Road." Skinker's note: "By F.M. Comstock Mechanical Engineer Topeka, Kan."
- 1902 Aug 5 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, The Checkley, Prout's Neck, Maine.
- 1902 Aug 6 Letter signed Isaac H. Sturgeon, St. Louis, to T.K. Skinker. Requests biographical information on Skinker's father.
- 1902 Aug 12 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Ida writes that she expects to sail for Europe Sept. 20th. Susie, her mother and Cote will go to Puget Sound. Dr. Winchester has changed his mind about going away. Mentions Mrs. Josephine Bryan, Miss Lizzie Hart. Mr. Farmington had just returned from Minnesota, where he left Mrs. F. I find he understands Ashley Cabell's little weakness. I enclose Joe Lewis's wedding invitation.

Box 2

Folder 1

- 1902 Aug 15 Letter signed Hermit A. Freeborn [Kermit A. Freeborn?], 1746 Mississippi Avenue, St. Louis, to Mrs. Skinker.
- 1902 Aug 17 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Describes walk in the country. I took the Olive street car out to DeBaliviere Ave. and there took the Midland to the Ashby road. It is a country of orchards and small fruits as well as grain. The farm houses are frequent, all well painted, and look comfortable. It is a strange collection of German names, Henry Thilker, Hermann Luedloff, August Protschke, Mrs. Mina Fey &c. Turning eastward out of the Link road, I walked along the Clayton road, past the Log-Cabin Club grounds. . . . The Marshes arrived about six o'clock.
- 1902 Aug 18 Bill for Mrs. Thom K. Skinker's payment to J.M. Allen of \$225.00 for beach cottage rental.
- 1902 Aug 22 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. This afternoon I helped to lay away in Bellefontaine our good friend Leavitt. In spite of the public sentiment that

he committed suicide, the funeral was well attended. There was an unusual preponderance of men, an evidence I suppose that the women are out of town. The plan of sending Evelyn Winchester to Leland Stanford has been abandoned. She will take a full college course at W.U. I enclose a song of the Skinker road. Jane Fordyce has gone to San Francisco to meet her spouse. Called on the Tennents. Positively, there has not been a warm night since you left. This is a great opportunity for you to speak up for St. Louis, and I expect you to do it.

- 1902 Aug 23 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Details travel plans and expenses for family's return from Prout's Neck.
- 1902 Aug 27 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. If you don't wish to visit Cousin Katherine, send Bella and Aleck. That way the old lady will have an opportunity of seeing that Wormeley blood makes in the ___th generation, both in the male and female line.
- 1902 Aug 28 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Hereafter, if I ever think of sending you all away from home again, I will wait til I find out what kind of summer it is going to be. I could have saved a good many hundred dollars for the new house, by pursuing that plan this summer. I enclose two of the many Skinker poems.
- 1902 Aug 29 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. What do you think of Mr. Hill? Never took a drink, or smoked a cigar, or kissed a woman, and still not a saint.
- 1902 Aug 31 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Ramble with Charlie. We rode 25 miles on electric cars, and walked 11 miles. Our route was to Creve Coeur Lake via the Midland railway, and from the lake southward across the country to Olive Street and further south still to the Conway road, and then eastward to the Clayton electric line at the Log Cabin Club. The Marshes came back to town on Thursday. McBlair is established at his new hom, 4375 Washington Ave.

Folder 2

- 1902 Sept 1 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Travel plans.
- 1902 Sept 12 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Spot Garland did not arrive yesterday. Susie wrote me from Seattle that he would be here. Encloses two handwritten poems titled "Skinker Road" and "To the Republic" by Miss Annie McCoy, 3520 Lindell Ave. Death notice of Mary O. Graham attached.
- 1902 Sept 15 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife, Charlottesville, Virginia.
- 1902 Sept 22 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife, [Charlottesville, Virginia].

- 1902 Sept 23 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife, Charlottesville. Let us indulge in a special treatô a talk of three minutes over the long-distance telephone. . . . I want you to see that you can hear just as well as anybody else 800 miles, if you can't across the room.
- 1903 Oct 30 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Jackson, Tennessee, to wife. There is no scenery here. Since I was here last, Mallory has died. You remember he was your brother Robert's particular friend. I hope by the time I get back your wrist will have recovered some of its flexibility.
- 1903 Oct 31 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Jackson, Tennessee, to wife, St. Louis. This town is and for a week has been the scene of festivities called a street fair. Business hours and hotels are decorated with flags, and with electric lights by night. . . . A small Ferriss wheel is in operation. Several persons have told me that such occasions are very demoralizing to the business and labor of the country.
- 1903 Nov 8 Postcard signed T.K. Skinker, approaching Cincinnati, to wife.
- 1903 Nov 10 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Charlottesville, Virginia, to wife. Details visits to relatives and friends. I found my ancient classmate W.H. White of Norfolk and Effa Hunton Jr. now of Richmond. Frank's funeral was well attended. The Board of Visitors are still in session & have not made known what they will do about the appropriation necessary to make the exhibit.
- 1903 Nov 10 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Charlottesville, to wife. Frank's funeral. The faculty is all much in favor of an exhibit at the World's Fairô unless indeed Dr. Mallet, who seemed to hang back.
- 1903 Nov 14 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Richmond, Virginia, to wife. The Board of Visitors authorized an expenditure of \$5,000, which ensures a fine exhibit. Visits to the Morris and Sally.
- 1904 Jan 8 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Denver, Colorado, to wife, St. Louis. The Vickery case is for argument at Chicago. . . . I do not even know whether I can get there in time. I have often wished that I had business enough at home to be able to decline that which takes me away. I have made here the acquaintance of Julian Skinker's son Murray. He is doing well as book-keeper for the Money Mercantile Co. . . .
- 1904 Mar 27-28 Three postcards signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Written en route to Washington, D.C.
- 1904 Mar 28 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Washington, D.C., to wife, St. Louis. For company I had three St. Louis lawyers, L.F. Parker, the general attorney of

the Frisco Co. and his son L.F. Jr. and Charlie Nolan.

Folder 3

1904 June 4

Letter signed T.K. Skinker, aboard steamer *Washington*, to wife, St. Louis. Arrived at Old Point last night. Our party consisted of Mr. & Mrs. Ballard & their daughter Miss Gertrude [Gertrude Ballard], Mr. & Mrs. Kingsland & grandson Douglas, Mr. D.M. Houser & his little boy. Teddie Wilcox came to see me this morning. Our party was increased by the addition of Frank [Estes] & Mrs. Estes, Mrs. Kingsland's daughter Bessie and her husband and Mr. Harney and Charlie Knapp who came from New York. Dedication ceremony of the Battleship *Missouri*. In the company I found quite a number of Missourians, among them Commander Knapp, Dexter Tiffany, young Chaffee of Carthage, and Ensign Castleman of Kentucky a nephew of George. The speeches didn't amount to much. The service is massive and handsome & will make no small addition to the ship's furniture. We saw where the fatal catastrophe occurred a few weeks ago.

1904 June 7

Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Berryville, Virginia, to wife. As I wrote you on the steamboat, I left Old Point Saturday evening for Washington. Bessie Selden is certainly a very lovely girl. I do not wonder that Charlie surrendered to her charms. Mrs. Wheat and Mary send you love. Mary had been but a short time at the Catonsville Sanitarium, when she found she was in the wrong box. It is a place for people who are mentally unbalanced.

1904 Aug 7

Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, North Hatley, Quebec, Canada. Friday night Julian and his mother came in and spent with us. They were much impressed by the World's Fair illumination. I am much afraid that Julian would discountenance the use of the armchairs at the Missouri Building as too ludicrous. Yesterday Jane went to Valley Park with Claude Matthews at one o'clock and did not get back till half past one o'clock this morning.

1904 Aug 12

Letter signed Frank C. Morris, Louisa Co., Virginia, to Thos. K. Skinker, St. Louis. We find it necessary in the settlement of Aunt Sally's affairs to sell the Library, and write to know if you or Charley or any would care to buy it. We will take \$350.00. I should think Charley, being a lawyer, would prize his grandfather's library.

1904 Aug 18

Letter signed V.M.H. to T.K. Skinker. I have a number of country friends who expect to visit the World's Fair. I can throw you some trade. Letter is written on stationery of the West End Hotel, St. Louis. (Advertisement for Skinker Hotel attached.)

1904 Aug 18

Typescript letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife. I am sorry to note Pinnie's account of herself. Her condition must be nearly desperate, and I doubt very much if Mr. Seamon appreciates the fact. Charlie reports that

Mrs. Selden is improving. (More on the Seldens.) We had Tom and Annie Skinker with us last night. I took them and Jane up to the Fair. We saw the Boer War and rode home in an automobile. Julian thinks that Tom is not doing much at school. . . . I believe him mistaken. I suppose you have read in the paper of Mrs. Breck. Jones [Mrs. Breckinridge Jones] awful death. I wrote Mary advising that she and Fred and Rosalie come now and see the World's Fair. Mary wrote as if it was a sort of insanity to propose anybody should come to St. Louis in August.

Folder 4

1904 Aug 24

Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, North Hatley, Quebec. I enclose a letter lately received from Mr. Frank Norris. I answered that I did not want the Library as a whole, but I might be able to come by and make a selection. I had a visit today from Mrs. Speer, Virginia McBlair's cousin. A Richmond church is thinking of calling Dr. Winchester. Aleck and Douglas canoed on the Meramec [River] that day that Mrs. Wright was drowned. None of the published accounts mention it, but Aleck says that the boatmen say that both Wright and the other man were drunk. Attendance (at the fair) is increasing, not as it ought to, but still considerably & steadily.

1904 Aug 28

Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. I paid my first visit to both the Manufactures and to the Mines & Metallurgy Buildings. I came to the cloth exhibit of the Charlottesville Woolen Mills. I did not know before that true anthracite had been found south of Pennsylvania (in Virginia). . . . On the Denny road I passed Ben Thomas's new place, the one he established after Boland kicked him out. Conversation with J. Preiss. I spent an evening last week with Maggie Potter.

1904 Sept 2

Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. I think we might reduce the wedding party to three and thus cut down the expenses. If it is done this way, I will have just that much more to use in helping Charlie at going to housekeeping; so I have no doubt he and Bessie will approve. I don't blame Kat for liking Chicago. But that is no reason why she should look down on St. Louis.

1905 Apr 13

Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Charlottesville, Virginia, to wife. I went to call on Mrs. Thornton and sat with her until her staying guests, U.S. Senator & Mrs. Martin, arrived. Visited Miss Mary Miner, the Meades, Pinnie, Micajah Woods, Jim & Lily Morgan. Pinnie said that Tom Morris is so addicted to the use of morphine that a stranger cannot venture to deal with him. She is going to give up Mrs. Rives's house on the 1st of June. The program this afternoon was a pretty cold deal for the alumni.

1905 Apr 18

Three postcards signed T.K. Skinker, Washington, D.C., to wife, St. Louis. Describing difficulty of finding hotel accommodations.

1905 Apr 19

Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Washington, to wife, St. Louis. Called on my

friend Mr. John S. Blair, who immediately took me over to the Court of Claims and got me admitted to practice there, with a view to helping him in a suit. Ceremony at the Naval Academyô presentation of a silver cup on behalf of the Sons of the Revolution. The cause of the great crowd here now is the meeting of the D.A.R.

- 1905 July 28 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Arcadia Valley Sanitarium, Ironton, Mo. I am very sorry to hear of your malarial attack. Eck left this morning on his westward journey. I contented myself with telling him that perhaps the division of functions between us was fair, I furnishing the money for the trip and he the brains. I have a letter from Mary at Healing Springs. Mr. & Mrs. Sam Gordon were expected to arrive. Rosalie is with Mrs. Wheat & Frederick is with a camp of boys in W. Virginia.
- Folder 5**
- 1905 Aug 2 Letter signed A. Rives Skinker, Portland, Oregon, to Mother, St. Louis. Journey from Ogden, Utah, to Portland.
- 1906 Mar 4 Postcard signed T.K. Skinker to Bella. You failed to put into the hat-box both my tooth-brush & my hair-brush.
- 1906 Mar 4 Postcard signed T.K. Skinker, east of Cinti, to wife.
- 1906 Mar 6 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, New York, to wife, St. Louis. Observations about New Yorkô prices, etc., a suburb comparable to Ellenwood.
- 1906 Dec 19 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife, 5836 Clemens Ave., St. Louis. At Broadway and Market . . . was a crash between two card. I sprang back to avoid consequences & in so doing lit square on the toes of a small German woman. I have been viewing Arkansas since 8 oœclock this morning. In spite of Col. Fordyceœs devotion to the state, I still cannot see what she was ever invented for.
- 1907 Jan 7 Letter signed Bella [Skinker], Rochester, Minnesota, to Mother, St. Louis. Dr. Williamœs permission for me to go home next Saturday came like a gracious gift from above. The wound doesnœt look badly at all now.
- 1907 Aug 4 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Wequetonsing, Michigan. Rob. Galt and Charlie came to dinner. Last night I passed an hour with the Terrys, including John Jr., who was introduced to me as their œbaby.ö I am reserving my visit to Lovell til after Aleck goes to camp. (On letterhead of The Alumni Association of Washington University.)
- 1907 Aug 6 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Wequetonsing, Michigan. Lev is to dine with me this evening, and I am to go over the subject of repairs with him. Eck is to leave for camp tonight. I have provided him with

12 two-grain capsules of quinine & a small flask of good whiskeyô the former to be taken before going to bed, and the latter, a swig whenever he is caught in the rain.

- 1907 Aug 10 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Wequetonsing. I am getting as solitary as a lone cow-boy on the plains. Visited Minnie, Judge Hough, the Baileys. Bertha wishes to spend two or three more days with Anne in Chicago.
- 1907 Aug 19 Typescript letter signed Alex R. Skinker, St. Louis, to Mother, Wequetonsing. Describes camp and the rain. I have seen both Major Orrick and Lieutenant Thomas since they were hurt, and both are getting along well.
- 1907 Aug 28 Typescript letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. I think Lev Chase is trying to drive a hard bargain. Perhaps owing to Bella's condition we could not get out of his house by the 15th of September. Alex enjoyed himself very much at St. Joseph, having been taken up by some of the prominent ladies of that city and given an entre to high society.
- 1907 Sept 3 Typescript letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Wequetonsing. If Bella wishes to prolong her stay at Weque, I have no objections. She is entitled to a time of perfect rest. The state room is already paid for. The babies could be put in one of the lower berths and you and Elizabeth would then have two berths left to divide between you.

Folder 6

- 1907 Sept 5 Note signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Wequetonsing.
- [1907] Oct 2 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Richmond, Virginia, to wife, St. Louis. Having Pitzman with me by day and by night, I have never been able to get a single hour I could call my own. We examined & studied Brookline, Bronxville & Larchmont near N.Y. and Roland Park. It is a wonder how autos enable one to get over ground; and at the same time they are so easy to stop & afford every facility for examination. In many places the natural lay of the land resembled Ellenwood enough to be very suggestive.
- 1907 Oct 4 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Richmond, Virginia, to wife, St. Louis. After leaving Mrs. Buchanan in her log cabin, Pitzman and I made for the street cars and took our way back to Norfolk. Next morning I devoted to showing Pitzman around Richmond. Invited to dine with Mr. & Mrs. Valentine. I did not rush to a telephone as soon as I reached Richmond to call Mary up. This speedy motion might have been unbecoming the dignity of a deputy to so august a body as the General Convention. After supper Wednesday I played bridge with Mary against Fred & the imperishable Miss Bettie Clark. You must tell Rena I found Aunt Bouser and paid her a short visit. She did

express in most unqualified terms her disapproval of Rena's matrimonial plans.

- 1907 Oct 6 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Richmond, Virginia, to wife, St. Louis. The Convention held no session on Saturday, the day being devoted to the trip to Williamsburg. The official party consisted of the visiting bishops, a lot of home bishops, and a delegation of two from each of the thirteen states. I came across a good many people I knew or made the acquaintance of - Rev. Randolph McKim, Mrs. Leftwich, Minnie Carter, Miss Triplett, Mrs. Moore of Rochester, N.Y., one Florence Cabell, Mrs. Cabell formerly Nannie Endres. I went down to Williamsburg with Lev, Fannie & Parson Fauntleroy. . . . Mary had some sort of operation performed last spring which was unsuccessful. Fred has a strange ailment - a sort of paralysis of the throat. I received a letter from Dr. Schwarz describing Bella's condition.
- 1907 Nov 28 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Rochester, Minnesota. Arrived at last in the good old city of St. Louis about on time. I called up Elizabeth and Jane and gave them the last word from Bella, which they in turn gave out to several friends. I found a letter from Mary in which she said: "Fred and I agreed that you had every right to be a proud grandfather. They are such pretty babies." I have found out why both the Mayos took part in the operation on Bella.
- 1907 Dec 1 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Rochester, Minnesota. News of Bella. I thought I might as well call up and congratulate Mr. McCluney on his 50 years of service in the state and State National Bank. Nancy is slowly gaining in her vocabulary. A letter from Billy Napton announced that Charlie had lately died in the state hospital at St. Joseph.
- 1907 Dec 3 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. I enclose a clipping, from which I infer that I will have nothing to do as Examiner til January. It seems to mean that instead of calling witnesses to prove that the railroad books show the government will be allowed to put experts to work. I was re-elected president of the Law Library Association. Charlie seems to feel that things are coming this way. He has recently gotten two appointments on street opening commissions.
- Folder 7**
- 1907 Dec 5 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Rochester, Minnesota. Called on Cousin Gray. People are asking about Bella. The latest of these is Louisa Thompson. Also Mrs. Eaton and Lev Chase.
- 1909 Apr 18 Letter signed Alex R. Skinker, Kansas City, to Mother, St. Louis. It is a great pleasure living with Doug. This last week I have had a pretty hard time. Three out of six of my operators (at A.T. & T.) quit at once. They were sore over some changes I made and walked out. I have started going to

Grace Church with Doug. I have had no time to meet people yet except in the most casual way.

- 1909 May 26 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Gainesville, Texas, to wife, St. Louis. What will the survivors of the [Indian] race, enjoying the benefits of civilization a generation or two from now, think of the war of extermination that raged for generations between their ancestors and the whites?
- 1909 Sept 7 Letter signed Eck [Alexander Skinker], Brookfield, Missouri, to mother. Ray and Clara have set Oct. 4th as the date of their wedding. . . . I hope you don't get all worn out moving.
- 1909 Oct 19 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Lebanon, Missouri, to wife, 5821 Clemens Ave., St. Louis. You need not be afraid that we will get lost in the wilds of Laclede or Camden County. We are to have a driver.
- 1910 Mar 20 Letter signed Alex [Skinker], East Orange, New Jersey, to mother. The Phi Delt banquet was very enjoyable. Among the speakers were Mr. McReynolds who is prosecuting the tobacco trust and Edwin Emerson, Jr., the war correspondent who once addressed the Contemporary Club. Met a Chas. Bohn [Charles Bohn].
- 1910 Apr 30 Letter signed Alex R. Skinker, East Orange, New Jersey, to mother. By the way, I have not heard whether any decision has been reached in Brudø's suit for damages against the Worldø's Fair Company. I hope Izzieø's operation has made her feel much better. I don't see how you could have refrained from telling Cousin Mary her real condition, and if you did I wonder if it occurred to her to contrast her own complaining with sisterø's fortitude. In this six months I have really seen little of New York.
- 1910 May 18 Letter signed A[lex] R. S[kinker], East Orange, New Jersey, to mother. I am greatly surprised at your account of Mr. Binningtonø's conduct. I hope for the sake of the parish that Mr. B. will soon go elsewhere. Last Saturday I went down to Ellis Island and saw several hundred Russian Poles, Hungarians, Swedes, Italians, Germans, etc. . . . The system is so perfect and the men who handle it so skilled that it takes a remarkably short time to dispose of a shipload. . . . The camaraderie among the employees of the A.T. & T. Co. is a very pleasant feature. Randall Hayt, who is to marry Peggy Cabell, is an old classmate of mine.
- 1910 June 20 Letter signed Alexander Rives Skinker, East Orange, New Jersey, to mother. I suppose by this time work has been started on the house. I reckon by the time I get home for a visit I won't recognize the old place at all. . . . Saw Terry Allen. You know he has been living in Tennessee for several years, is president of a bank, a telephone company, and has a finger in I don't know how many other pies.

Folder 8

- 1910 July 18 Letter signed Alexander Rives Skinker, East Orange, New Jersey, to mother. Description of a massacre of öskeeters.ö
- 1910 Aug 16 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Fish Creek, Wisconsin. Here I was interrupted to give a check to Godfrey Hirsch for work done in July, amounting to \$3740. This is a large payment for one month, accounted for by the great amount of brick work done in July.
- 1910 Aug 17 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Since mailing my letter of yesterday, I have been over 6464 [Ellenwood], even unto the third floor thereof. Long description of work in progress.
- 1910 Aug 21 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. I am very much distressed about little Keith's condition. If I were in Elizabeth's place I would not hesitate about bringing her home. More description of progress on house at 6464 Ellenwood. I spoke to Jane about the lot. Claude is ready to build a house to cost \$15,000. He leaves it to Jane to say whether it shall be built or not. She hesitates on account of the need the firm has for money.
- 1910 Aug 22 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Plans for visit of Elizabeth, Charlie and Keith.
- 1910 Aug 25 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. More specifications for house. Walter Woodward and his friends are pushing the improvement of the Thomas tract vigorously. They are making streets and building sewers at a great rate. Mr. Brecht, one of the party, is said to be ready to begin building. Jay Smith has not begun yet. I attended Judge Klein's funeral today. The doctor's certificate said cancer [was the cause of death]. I do not think he knew this.
- 1910 Aug 29 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. The contractor said that if nothing unforeseen occurred, he could finish the house by the first of December. Aleck's friend Guy Stude has the building of Elizabeth Randolph's new house on the Price road. Mr. Tuckerman has turned up here. He is just as good company as ever and just as erratic. . . . I fear he is desperately poor. Speaking of the movement to appoint a bishop coadjutor, he highly commended Dean Davis for the place, & said that no clergyman in the East who was fit for it would accept the place on account of the general prejudice against Bishop Tuttle.
- 1910 Aug 31 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. I spent an hour or two at Ellenwood. The sewer men, having finished all the principal sewers, are now busy building man-holes & making the connections to the several lots. I had a call today from a landscape gardener, named Hehl, who brought a very strong letter of recommendation from Ben Gratz. Jack Nisbet turned up here last week, and

has dined with us twice. He intends to come back to St. Louis to stay. I attended the funeral of young Edwin Freegardô drowned in the Meramec [River], trying to learn to swim, with his grandfather & brother.

1910 Sept 2 Letter signed Alex R. Skinker, East Orange, New Jersey, to mother, Fish Creek, Wisconsin. Hurray! Hurray! In less than a month I shall be home. Henry and Frances are to be married on Oct. 1st and Henry has asked me to be best man.

Folder 9

1910 Sept 4 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Fish Creek, Wisconsin. We are continuing our frequent visits to 6464 [Ellenwood]ô and with good results. Errors are discovered in time, which would be costly to correct later. We had William Donaldson to dine with us Friday night. We have also had the Chases several times.

1910 Sept 5 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. I have just returned from John Wilkinson's funeral, held at Wagoner's place. His disease was hardening of the arteries of the heart, from which he has suffered for two years.

1910 Oct 26 Letter signed Alex. Rives Skinker, East Orange, New Jersey, to mother, St. Louis. I saw Cousin Ida and Julia; also Bendina Hudson was here for a while and I called on her. I have had a letter from Bessie Hall promising to introduce me to her friend, Millie Fowler. Walter Brooks, the fellow who succeeded me at Kansas City, has been transferred to New York. During the last week I have received invitations to Bob McGoodwin's, Effie Bagnell's and Hazel Hyde's weddings.

1911 Jan 2 Letter signed Alexander Rives Skinker to mother, Peckman's Hotel, St. Louis. Christmas celebration. Sunday evening I went to supper at Miss Fowler's, Bessie Hall's friend.

1911 Feb 14 Letter signed Alexander Rives Skinker to mother, c/o T.K. Skinker, Pierce Building, St. Louis. This morning the boss called me in and said he wanted me to go to Chicago as supervisor of traffic. No more long stays away from home for some time now. I will be supervising the handling of the service in the whole Division which includes Cleveland, Cincinnati, Omaha and Minneapolis, so I shall have a chance to see many parts of the country.

1911 Aug 20 Letter signed Alexander Rives Skinker, Harbor Springs, Michigan, to mother. I stayed at Weque until Thursday evening when I came over to the Point to stay with the Marrieres until tonight. Saw Rob, Julia Caldwell, Mr. Potter and Bishop McCormick (officiating at church), Philo Stevenson, Charlie Pettus, a Mr. Thomas. But the bay is not the same. There are hardly any sailboats out this year. Rob is reading a lot of theology. All the Galts send love to all the Skinkers. Wilhelmine has had a very attractive girl

visiting her, Doris Rinehart of Bloomington, Illinois. Will Brown and his wife are staying in a bungalow beyond Emmet Beach. Margery Brown, Will's little six year old, is a dear.

1911 Sept 20 Letter signed Alexander Rives Skinker, Paris, Texas, to mother, 6464 Ellenwood, St. Louis. There is an opposition company here and word was received at Dallas that they were giving better service than we were. So I was sent here to make an investigation on the quiet. . . . I find that not having any carfare to speak of I shall be as well off as I was in Chicago in spite of a slight reduction in my salary. I have seen Frances and Henry several times. I live within six blocks of the Hughes.

1911 Oct 25-Nov 3 Eight postcards signed T.K. Skinker to wife, 6300 Forsyth Ave., St. Louis, describing a trip to Virginia - my first premeditated exclusively pleasure trip undertaken for my sole benefit.

Folder 10

1911 Nov 4 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Grottoes, Virginia, to wife, 6300 Forsyth Ave., St. Louis. Describes jaunts over Virginia battlefields (Front Royal, Port Republic). In Front Royal we found a very handsome monument to all the men born in that [Warren] county who served in the Confederate army, including Major John N. Edwards of Shelby's Missouri Brigade & several other men who served in other Missouri regiments.

1911 Nov 5 Postcard signed T.K. Skinker, Charlottesville, Virginia, to wife, St. Louis. Have just heard Rev. Mr. Tucker preach.

1911 Nov 6 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Richmond, Virginia, to wife, St. Louis. I communicated with Mary and found her at home. Today I visited Carleton in a pouring rain & found, of course, many changes. But I also found those garden terraces still standing.

1911 Dec 6 Postcard signed T.K. Skinker, Texarkana, to wife, St. Louis.

1911 Dec 8 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Sweetwater, Texas, to wife, 6464 Ellenwood, St. Louis. This place is called Sweetwater because there is a sweet water in a creek three miles from here and quite beyond the reach of the good people of this burg. At this hotel we drink cistern water because the water from the city waterworks is "gyppy." I expect to be in Dallas tomorrow morning, and will spend the day there with Eck.

1911 Dec 13 Letter signed Alexander Rives Skinker, Little Rock, Arkansas, to mother, St. Louis. This summer when I visited at Harbor Point I met a girl who was also visiting Billy Marrierre. . . . Unfortunately, however, she lives in Bloomington, Illinois. What I want you to do is ask her to come and visit us in St. Louis for a couple of days following Christmas. This may sound like a

very strange arrangement to you to have a girl coming to see me. . . . Is this too much of a new fashioned idea for you? Her name is Doris N. Rinehart.

- 1912 Jan 19 Letter signed Alexander Rives Skinker, Dallas, to mother. I am so glad you and the rest of the family approve of Doris. I should never want to marry without the approval of all of you (except the ones whose approval I would never have unless I married a barrel of money). It touches me very deeply that father has been so willing to help me in the venture with Doug.
- 1912 Feb 19 Letter signed Alexander Rives Skinker, Kansas City, to mother. I have started my second week in the paint business and things seem to be going finally. It is already very interesting. I am living with Douglas and that is a very good arrangement for we are able to talk over our business affairs at home.
- 1912 July 28 Letter signed Alexander Rives Skinker, Kansas City, to mother, St. Louis. Business is doing pretty well.
- 1912 Sept 1 Letter signed Alexander Rives Skinker, Kansas City, to mother, St. Louis. Tell Dad that yesterday I finished a non-smoking week. I didn't make it longer for my regular time to quit for a month is November and that is quite enough per year. I suppose the girls are back again under the parental roof tree. Description of business. I do not lead a very gay life.
- 1912 Oct 13 Letter signed Alexander Rives Skinker to mother. Here is one more year passed and I can barely realize I have ceased being a boy. . . . Not an exciting way of celebrating one's birthday, but I hope there will be plenty more. I take it that Jane is improving as I have had no news.
- Folder 11**
- 1913 Jan 12 Letter signed Alexander Rives Skinker, Kansas City, to mother, St. Louis. Last week I went to a dinner dance at the country club given in honor of Nancy Bell who was married last night. Today I was quite busy at church. . . . I have tentatively agreed to take charge of a boy's club which is being organized. I have felt for a good while that I shall never be happy or satisfied living here. I have made up my mind to try to make such arrangements that I can leave the business without impairing success. If I can do this, I am coming home. Includes manuscript dinner menu.
- 1913 July 12 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Brevard, North Carolina. Last night Bella broke again into society, having Dr. Green and Messrs. McMaster and Duncan Meier to dinner. Wm. Donaldson [William Donaldson] is to leave for Europe on the 26th. Last Sunday he was taken with a shortening of breath. Dr. Gundelach Jr. reports a complication of diseases, including enlargement and fatty degeneration of the heart. He already knew that he had diabetes. Improvements are going on in the O'Neil

yard.

- 1913 July 14 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Brevard, North Carolina. At church the chapel was so hot that Mr. Norton again moved out to the arcade where there was a splendid breeze. This preaching under the arcade is a good idea and illustrates Mr. Norton's lack of formalism. Poor Eck's feeling the results of his overwork in the hot weather. The chickens are doing their duty well and the g hoppers are fast going. Bella, however, is getting very tired of the chickens. They have no appreciation of clean granitoid.
- 1913 July 16 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife, accompanying remittance for board.
- 1913 July 16 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Bella ordered a go-cart sent to little Sam last Monday. Eck has gone back to work again. The strike is still unsettled, and according to the strike leaders, it is to be kept up all summer. Aleck, however, is at his regular duties. Allen Selden has been detailed to escort the girls to the picture shows. Poor Allen! Always running upon heavy work.
- [1913 July 16?] Note signed Bella to father. I learned principally from you that a gentleman considers suspenders a piece of his underwear. . . . I cannot change my habit of thought.
- 1913 July 18 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. I have discarded my suspenders and put on a belt. This I will continue to wear as long as I can stand it. It was my appearance at table in suspenders that seemed to give Bella most offense. A day or two ago I found Mrs. Ferris and her little girl sitting under the shade of a group of young locusts. . . . It was a real pleasure to see that some of our trees are beginning to serve their purpose. If the bathroom situation becomes too uncomfortable, you had better take a room in the hotel, but I think the hotel can hardly give you the exclusive use of a bathroom. Bella has just read from the morning papers a list of St. Louisans departed for western North Carolina, including J.P. Lombard & family whose destination is Asheville.

Folder 12

- 1913 July 21 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Brevard, North Carolina. Alex and Allen spent yesterday canoeing on the Meramec [River]. Alex says that on long stretches of the river you could see as many as 500 canoes passing a given point with half an hour. He tells of one boat house in which 700 boats are kept. The dredging done by the sand and gravel companies has greatly improved the river. Dave O'Neil was placing wire guards on his tennis court. It looks like an early beginning of building on the Lambert lot. The Lamberts have rented Davis bungalow and are to move in as soon as he takes possession of the Chancellor's house.
- 1913 July 24 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. When I write to Bertha, it takes time. I

have to compose it first in pencil & then write it out in ink. When I have done this, no doubt Bertha thinks to herself, how dull! We have a new car on the Clayton line. I wrote Capt. Robert a letter of thanks telling him that I took the car as a partial answer to my prayer (to him, for more service). [Enclosed is a typewritten note on the nature of God and the creation.]

- 1913 July 28 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Mr. John Hancock Norton has arrived. I am now willing to call his Pa Father Norton. We are letting the organ contract to the Estey Organ Co. But the grandest church item is yet to come, and I tell it to you as a state secret. The Bishop has bought another lot and a half to add to the church property. It adjoins the lot on which St. Michaels stands, fronts 100 ft. on Wydown and runs clear through to Ellenwood Ave. where Cecil joins Ellenwood. The Lambert house is going to be an oddity. It will be 30 ft. front and 104 ft. deep, coming back almost to the dividing line between them and O'Neil. Under the north third and south third there will be a basement, but none under the middle third.
- 1913 July 30 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. It was decided a trip to New Mexico for the trustees of the Edward Butler estate was not necessary. News from Mrs. Norton continues favorable. Mr. N. is to go for a vacation to Pentwater, Michigan where he will visit the Boughtons. Aleck left last night for Bloomington. Last week I had the granitoid pavement in front of the house taken up and made over. The Lambert excavation is progressing.
- 1913 Aug 2 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Mentions little Sam. It has been discovered that John Hancock Norton is just 77 years younger than Mr. Haarstick.
- 1913 Aug 4 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Mr. Norton has started on his summer vacation. He has placed his family silver with Mr. & Mrs. Dix for safe keeping. Yesterday afternoon their apartments were entered and all their clothing carried off. For some time past, depredations have been going on at the gymnasium. Morris invoked the aid of the detective department, and before long the jewelry was found at a pawnshop in E. St. Louis. This led to the arrest of the thieves—three boys 15 & 16 years of age living in the West End. I suppose you have read in the Republic of that Mr. Hunter Davidson who renounced the Episcopal church at the gate of Monticello.
- 1913 Aug 6 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. We are becoming society people. Tonight we dine Miss Anne Smith & Charlie Reber. Tomorrow night we are to be dined by Mr. & Mrs. Herf at the Country Club. Tonight we are to feast on the last of the chickens, the grasshoppers being exterminated.
- Folder 13**
1913 Aug 6 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Brevard, North Carolina. The weather.

- 1913 Aug 9 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Health problems of little Sam and Elizabeth. Bella & I are to take a motor ride this afternoon. We are to have for guests the Misses Madge & Ada Lee Bartlett of Clayton, and Miss Bridgett Turner (alias Delia Turner) of 6464 Ellenwood Ave.
- 1913 Aug 13 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. We have not yet gotten over our joy at the discovery of the Ap Shinkle wills. Bella is so enthused that she wants me to go straight to London. We have had a nuisance imported to the hill in the shape of a parrot, the loudest-screeching, most raucous beast I ever heard. He woke Mr. Brookings the first morning Mr. B. arrived and kept him awake from day-break. The beast belongs to the Wallaces.
- 1913 Aug 18 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. I have not gone to Bristol yet; but may some of these days. Bertha is such a good excavator that I will let her try her hand further. Mr. & Mrs. Louie LaBeaume are starting to Europe. . . . Mr. Norton has returned from Pent Water and found his family in good condition. Julian Skinker & Mamie spent yesterday with us.
- 1913 Aug 20 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. On the 9th, Bella and I took an automobile drive. The little Bartlett girls' mother was Ada Rutherford. . . . When we were on the Gravois Road our tire suddenly popped. I found the Hawes bungalow. I was met in the yard by Mrs. Hawes with her mother Mrs. Robinson, nee Lizzie Giles the beautiful. I noticed that the road oiling ends just west of the Hawes place. Whether this is pull or pay, I don't know; but Harry is fine on pull.
- 1913 Aug 23 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Bella has not yet testified in the Godfrey case. Just as we were ready to put her on the stand, it was announced that the plaintiff, the plaintiff's attorney & the referee were all going to take vacations. Love to all and especially to Nancy, who is going on Nine years old.
- 1913 Aug 25 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. N.B. When you want money, it is always well to specify the amount. I can hear the operators at both ends of the line saying to themselves: Skinflint! He won't give his wife any money!
- 1913 Aug 26 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. I have been made very sorry by your accounts of your ill health. I have met our new neighbor, Mr. Sam Goddard, and am pleased with him. He is to move in on the 15th Sept.
- 1913 Oct 8 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, New York, to wife, St. Louis. Attending the Episcopal General Convention; visiting relatives.
- 1913 Oct 11 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, New York, to wife, St. Louis. Frank McMaster made a ringing speech, and when the vote was taken, it was found that in

our delegation he was the only one who took his view. I would not like to have this happen to me. I have been put on the Committee on Education, but have so far heard of nothing to come before it.

1913 Oct 15 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, New York, to wife. I have been all day expecting a telegram from Charley as to the disposition by the supreme court of my application for postponement of Ward v. Delany. I think I wrote you of my visit Sunday to Mrs. Vernon Davis.

Folder 14

1914 Oct 18 Two postcards signed T.K. Skinker, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, to wife, St. Louis, mailed from train stations. Postcards include views of Pennsylvania Railroad New Type Freight Locomotive, Engine No. 3396, and Pennsylvania Railroad bridge over the Susquehanna River near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

1914 Oct 21 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Washington, to wife, St. Louis. Yesterday I got a seat up front at the meeting of the association, where I was face to face with President Wilson and Ex-president Taft. It was fine to see the perfect good will between the President and the Ex-president. Many said that could not have been possible if the other ex-president had been present. Visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Houston, Tom Keith and Mr. Moore. Saw Eppa Hunton, Leigh and Mrs. Robinson. At Mount Vernon the address of welcome was to have been delivered by Jim Keith, but he is very ill at Woodburn. Hunton thinks it doubtful he will recover. Jennie Fitsburgh Turner is living here, her husband 94 & nearly gone.

1914 Oct 23-27 Three postcards signed T.K. Skinker to wife., written on train between Washington and Richmond, Virginia. Visiting relatives.

1914 Dec 8 Postcard signed T.K. Skinker, Kansas City, to wife, St. Louis. In the supper room I found Will & Mollie Clagett, the latter just returned from a visit to relatives at Mexico, Mo. She has somehow removed or obliterated the freckles & speckles & is a rather fine looking woman. Will is city auditor. Have letters soliciting subscriptions to the organ fund sent to Duncan Meier & Clint Whit, but not to Zack.

1914 Dec 9 Postcard signed T.K. Skinker, approaching LaJunta, Colorado, to wife, St. Louis. Continuous jawing with Col. MacDougall of K. City and also Mrs. Nat Brown.

1914 Dec 10 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, La Junta, Colorado, to wife. I am stopping here at a Harvey eating house and hotel, and I find it a very nice place indeed. The tables are waited on by young women, who are very polite & quite expert at their business. . . . Joe Brown is still auditor of the Harvey System.

- 1915 Jan 31 Two postcards signed T.K. Skinker to wife, mailed from Kansas City, Missouri, and Ossawatomie, Kansas.
- 1915 Feb 2 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Pueblo, Colorado, to wife. Pueblo is a town of some 45,000 inhabitants, grown up around a series of smelters. Day and night these are belching forth smoke and soot. My old rheumatic trouble found the occasion to give me a little reminder, so I sought out an osteopath. He is a Missourian, DeTienne by name, and a follower of Dr. Hildreth.
- 1915 Nov 1 Postcard signed T.K. Skinker, Kansas City, to wife. Just finished a good breakfast in company with Mr. & Mrs. Henry Meier, on their way to Cal.
- 1915 Nov 2 Postcard signed T.K. Skinker, LaJunta, Colorado, to wife. Joe Brown died last July. I wonder it was not published in the Southern Churchman.
- 1915 Nov 3 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, LaJunta, Colorado, to wife. The judge has finished his regular term here, and is only returning tomorrow to try our cases. It may make our trials very short, and if my associate, Mr. Sabin, is correct we will not have much to try, so I may be home sooner.

Folder 15

- 1916 Jan 21 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Biloxi, Mississippi. Pursuant to appointment, Mr. Geo. Farrand Taylor [George Farrand Taylor] preached to us today about Holy Cross House. He laid great stress on the dispensary as a most useful part of the institution, and, calling Cote by name, gave her full credit as the founder. Mr. Brooking came in & talked to Bella and me this afternoon for an hour, discussing Washington University, Smith Academy and Manual Training School and Secretary Houston in very interesting style, and at length. Manual Training School has gone down entirely. . . . Mr. B. dealt with evident pleasure upon the promotion of Prof. Hall to be chancellor. He said he was satisfied that it was his duty to the nation to give up his hold on Houston. He thinks Houston will be secretary of the treasury in the next cabinet.
- 1916 Apr 17 Postcard signed T.K. Skinker to wife, written en route to Texarkana.
- 1916 Nov 7 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife, written on train. Some scattering telegrams have been brot in according to which Mr. Wilson is defeated. . . . The Kaiser & his adherents in this country have determined who shall be president.
- 1917 Jan 9 Typescript letter signed manager of circulation, Century Co., New York, to T.K. Skinker, St. Louis. Thank you for your reply to my letter asking why you discontinued your subscription for The Century. We have had several of your subscribers tell us that they feel that The Century was devoting too many of its pages to fiction, and not enough to articles.

- 1917 Jan 14 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Biloxi, Mississippi. You got away just in time to escape the 10 degree weather. Daniel overslept himself and did not show up until 7:15. Daniel unexpectedly owned up, but Bella's belligerent disposition was not so easily balked of an opportunity, and she went for Daniel for having left the furnace choked with cinders and ashes. . .
- 1917 Jan 16 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Biloxi. It was certainly an inspiration when you bethought yourself of Biloxi. May you keep on improving until you get back to your old condition when you could walk at will and work around among your flowers. Always active in planning good for others, Bella bethought herself of a plan to send Little Sam to the Community school, kindergarten class. By this he would get a change of air & scene, bright surroundings and lots of little cherubs[?] to associate, play and fight with. I think this is too good a scheme to drop easily. The enclosed clipping shows that poor Mrs. [Virginia Coleman] Gregory has passed away at last.
- 1917 Jan 18 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Biloxi. We had our first mishap with the automobile this morning. We had just entered the Park when a rear tire went wrong. I enclose a notice of the death of Mrs. Manny. I also enclose a supplicatory letter from the Century Magazine. I did not know such a big concern would grovel so low.
- 1917 Jan 23 Postcard signed T.K. Skinker to wife, Biloxi. Am about to start for Washington to attend National Security League Convention. Mrs. Herf still in hospital.
- 1917 Feb 8 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to "My Dear Ma," Biloxi. Aleck and his brother officers are busy preparing for a call for service - they of course do not know when or where. I am enclosing a very interesting letter from Aleck Hall; don't lose it. Bella is obdurate about going to Biloxi. The little boy's description of a funeral.
- Box 3**
Folder 1
- 1917 Feb 10 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, St. Louis, to wife, Biloxi. Bella absolutely refuses to substitute for Bertha at Biloxi. I am satisfied that a main reason is that it would suspend the operations of the Junior Aux., Mrs. Brown being on the point of departure from the city. Her husband, the doctor, has had an advantageous offer to go to Peoria, Ills., and has accepted it. I hope it will not turn out as poor Boughton's removal did.
- 1917 Feb 11 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Aleck is to go to the Armory where he is to be O.D. (officer of the day) for 12 hours, or until 7 o'clock tomorrow morning. Then to work at his new factory, 1012 Market St. If the other

officers of the First are as diligent at Aleck, it will be a crack regiment. Doris is in town. She will miss out on seeing much of him; but I suppose that will suit her new beau, whether it suits her or not. We had a good congregation today, to listen to a good sermon from Bp. Johnson. Mrs. Herf is to be home next Wed. in satisfactory condition.

- 1917 Feb 19 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Went yesterday to the Sons of the Revolution service at Dr. Day's Unitarian church. Thursday night I am to preside at the banquet of the Sons. Dr. Day gave us an excellent address. Yates Downman disappeared Jan. 17 and no trace has been found of him.
- 1917 Feb 22 Typescript letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. Problems with furnace repair. Contributions to the church pension fund. Besides William Donaldson's \$1,000, the other members of our parish have contributed about \$700. The rumor is that the \$5,000,000 has been over-subscribed and that the fund now amounts to about \$5,200,000. But after all, this is no great things.
- 1917 Feb 26 Letter signed T.K. Skinker to wife. The Morrises arrived in the city on Saturday. We arranged to have them dine with us yesterday. Mrs. M. was delighted to find at our Historical Society a book which settles two disputed questions of early Minnesota history. The Society has several copies & so Mrs. Beauregard gave Mrs. M. one. She carries it home as a prize.
- 1917 Nov 11 Postcard signed T.K. Skinker, Oklahoma City, to wife, St. Louis.
- 1917 Nov 14 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Camp Doniphan, Fort Sill, Oklahoma, to wife, St. Louis. Aleck has gone into town to help locate Rulon in her new home. I found Rulon quite at home at Mrs. Lawrence's & apparently on good terms with them, but they did not seem willing to furnish her supper. I saw Lt. Winzenberg yesterday. Dr. Broadhead said that if he could hold out til Thursday night there would be good reason to expect recovery.
- 1917 Dec 17 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, on train somewhere in Missouri, to wife, St. Louis. Describes fellow travelers on train. Letter written on stationery of 66464 Ellenwood, St. Louis, Mo.
- 1918 Feb 11 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Kansas City, to wife, St. Louis. I went this morning to Mr. Goodlet's office and there staid nearly all day talking over with him & others the affairs of the Westgate Paint Co. which has never recovered from the condition of wreck in which Doug Skinner reduced it. I have my ticket bought from LaJunta.
- Folder 2**
- 1918 Feb 13 Letter signed T.K. Skinker, Denver, Colorado, to wife, St. Louis. I expect Murray Skinker to come to the hotel to see me in an hour or so.

- 1918 July 18 Postcard signed T.K. Skinker, LaJunta, Colorado, to wife, St. Louis.
- circa 1923 Fragment of typescript circular letter signed Otto Mallery, member of Board of Directors, regarding the American Peace Award.
- 1923 Dec 4 Whitaker & Company Investment Securities advertisement for utility bonds.
- 1924 Jan 5 Typescript circular letter of the Committee of Organized Saint Louis to Secure Democratic National Convention.
- no year July 9 Letter signed Frank C. Morris, Hazelbrook, Virginia, to Mrs. Skinker. Your letter of April 17th was duly received and at the time Aunt Sally's health was very precarious. Her condition is very distressing to me, as she insists on living at Ferncliff and frequently her servant leaves and she is there alone. About the furniture, it was levied on by the sheriff for debt and my brother Tom paid the debt for her. I sincerely sympathize with you and Mr. Skinker in your troubles and trust they are alleviated ere this, tho' I believe they come as certainly as the passage of time and are cast off only in death. . . .
- no year Aug 13 Letter signed Minnie [Keith Copton?], Lynn, Massachusetts, to [Bertha Rives Skinker?]. Family well-wishing.
- no year Aug 14 Note signed Clarace to Pa [T.K. Skinker?]. Child's note. I am so sorry you had to go and lose your nice rest.
- no year Sept 19 Letter signed Bertha R. Skinker, St. Louis, to husband. I am just in receipt of your last letter dated 17th. Hope you are determined to take a real holiday. I am truly sorry to hear of Mary's poor health. What is the use of their hastening to be rich if they are going to sacrifice health in its pursuit?
- no date Five-page typescript titled "Some Wydown Recollections," which includes copies of two letters: Letter of S. Wydown, Richmond, to his daughter Bell, December 11, 1819, and letter of Samuel Wydown, Edgwood, to his daughter Sarah, January 24, 1820.
- no date Letter signed Mary I[sham] S[kinker], Grass-Dale, to her brother.
- no date Envelope of colored fortune-telling fish, advertising Friedman shoes and Fleischmann's yeast. Envelope is labeled "from the World's Fair."
- Folder 3**
no date T.K. Skinker's docket book. New office 419 Chestnut St. (112 pages)
- Folder 4**
1839-1858 Thomas Skinker's tax receipts.

- Folder 5**
1859-1864 Thomas Skinkerø tax receipts.
- Folder 6**
1865-1868 Thomas Skinkerø tax receipts.
- Folder 7**
1869-1872 Thomas Skinkerø tax receipts.
- Folder 8**
1873-1875 Thomas Skinkerø tax receipts.
- Folder 9**
1876-1877 Thomas Skinkerø tax receipts.
- Folder 10**
1878-1880 Thomas Skinkerø tax receipts.
- Folder 11**
1881-1882 Thomas Skinkerø tax receipts.
- Folder 12**
1883-1886 Thomas Skinkerø tax receipts.