

THOMAS M. VINCENT AND FAMILY PAPERS

Mss. 3116

Inventory

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library
Louisiana State University Libraries
Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

Reformatted 2020
Revised by Nick Skaggs, 2021

CONTENTS OF INVENTORY

SUMMARY	3
BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE	4
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE	5
INDEX TERMS	7
CONTAINER LIST	8

Use of manuscript materials. If you wish to examine items in the manuscript group, please place a request via the Special Collections Request System. Consult the Container List for location information.

Photocopying. Should you wish to request photocopies, please consult a staff member. Do not remove items to be photocopied. The existing order and arrangement of unbound materials must be maintained. Reproductions must be made from surrogates (microfilm, digital scan, photocopy of original held by LSU Libraries), when available.

Publication. Readers assume full responsibility for compliance with laws regarding copyright, literary property rights, and libel.

Proper acknowledgement of LLMVC materials must be made in any resulting writing or publications. The correct form of citation for this manuscript group is given on the summary page. Copies of scholarly publications based on research in the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections are welcomed.

SUMMARY

Size	1.25 linear ft.
Geographic Locations	Florida, Kentucky, Ohio, Oregon, Washington, D.C.
Inclusive Dates	1824-1932
Languages	English
Summary	The Thomas M. Vincent and Family Papers consist of letters pertaining to Vincent's military career and family matters. Other items include genealogical materials, photographic items, diaries, newspaper clippings, stock certificates, a diploma, a notebook, an account book, and a John J. Audubon autograph.
Access Restrictions	Original letters and autograph housed in the vault are not to be accessed. Use photocopies or digital scans.
Copyright	For those materials not in the public domain, copyright is retained by the descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. Copyright law.
Citation	Thomas M. Vincent and Family Papers, Mss. 3116, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries Special Collections, Baton Rouge, La.
Stack Location(s)	OS:V, W:38-39, VAULT:1, VAULT MRDF 6

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Thomas McCurdy (or MacCurdy) Vincent was a U.S. Army officer from Ohio who served in the Seminole Wars and Civil War. From 1858 to 1861, he was an instructor at West Point. Vincent served in the Adjutant General's office in Washington, D.C., during the Civil War. He was responsible for the revision of U.S. Army regulations and for changing the method by which the U.S. Department of War transacted its business. Vincent served as adjutant general to various departments within the military and presented several reports to Congress on the organization of the U.S. Army.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Early papers (1824-1856), primarily correspondence, relate to Joseph B. Lancaster and the Lancaster family and reflect social events, education of children (specifically the Catholic education of girls), and family matters. Included are an autograph of John James Audubon (May 1, 1833); a letter from Mary C. Lancaster, Nazareth, Kentucky, to her parents discussing Whig sentiments among the students at a Catholic girls' school in Nazareth (November 21, 1840); a letter (written in New Orleans) from members of the abortive Lopez expedition to Cuba thanking Joseph for aid which he provided after the men were stranded in Key West, Florida (June 25, 1850); a letter from John E. Lancaster, Henderson, Kentucky, to cousin "Jack" regarding the local political environment in Kentucky (July 21, 1851); and a memorial citation by the Freemasons Hillsborough Lodge, Tampa, Florida, presented to Joseph's family upon his death (November 26, 1856).

Letters (1857) of Thomas M. Vincent and his fiancée, Laura Lancaster, pertain to Vincent's military career, family life, social matters, and the education of his son, Thomas Norris Vincent.

Additionally, correspondence contains letters of recommendation for Thomas Norris Vincent's admission to the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, including letters from William T. Sherman, George Crook, and Alfred Howe Terry (1884); letters from Julia Dent Grant concerning a promotion for a friend (July 17, 1891) as well as social news (August 26, 1891); and letters from Ida Minerva Tarbell, a journalist, concerning her article "Disbanding the Army in 1865" (January 15, 1900 and February 20, 1901). There is also correspondence regarding contemplated conversion to Catholicism (1857), and there are two handwritten copies of a letter from Oliver Otis Howard, Portland, Oregon, to Rufus Ingalls in which Howard protests of the influence of the Catholic's Mission Movement over lands on the Vancouver Indian Reservation of Oregon (March 13, 1876).

The collection also contains papers (1869-1890) of geodesist, Julius E. Hilgard (1825-1891), relating to his professional activities; his work on the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey; and charges of maladministration brought against him in 1885. Included are letters from Hamilton Fish, Department of State, concerning appointments and commissions (May 21, 1870 and April 16, 1872) and a special passport for Hilgard signed by Fish (oversize; September 16, 1874); letters from Joseph Henry of the Smithsonian Institution (July 20 and October 17, 1877); and a letter from George Bancroft (October 31, 1882).

Other items in the papers include genealogical materials of the Vincent, McCurdy, Lancaster, and related families; photographic items depicting Thomas Carleton Vincent, Julius E. Hilgard, William Carleton Vincent, Nellie Lancaster, and others; a diploma from St. Joseph College, Kentucky, for Joannem R. Lancaster (in Latin, 1848); Gold Mining Company stock certificates for Thomas Norris Vincent (1887-1888, 1895); and printed items and ephemera. Among the printed items are newspaper clippings, an obituary for William W. Blair (1824), a copy of "Brief of the Service -Military and Civil History- of Thomas MacCurdy Vincent, Brigadier-General, United States Army" (undated), and a reprint of "Disbanding the Union Army" by Ida M. Tarbell (undated).

Volumes include an account book (1849-1853) recording Thomas M. Vincent's expenditures as a cadet at West Point; two pocket diaries belong to Thomas (1856-1867); a notebook (undated); and Thomas's bound volume of printed reports pertaining to the Freedmen's Bureau, including *Letters from the Secretary of War dated December 4, 1873, and January 5, 1874 to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, transmitting to the House certain developments connected with the late Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands* (1877) and *Annual report of the Adjutant-General, on the operations of the Freedmen's Branch of his office* (1873-1876).

INDEX TERMS

Materials relating to these people, places, and things can be found throughout the entire collection.

Audubon, John James, 1785-1851.
Catholic Church--Missions--Oregon.
Catholic schools--Kentucky.
Conversion--Catholic Church.
Clippings (information artifacts)
Diaries.
Genealogies.
Grant, Julia Dent, 1826-1902.
Hilgard, Julius E.
Indians of North America--Oregon.
Kentucky--Politics and government--1792-1865.
Lancaster family.
Letters (correspondence)
McCurdy family.
Photographic prints.
Sherman, William T. (William Tecumseh), 1820-1891.
Signatures (names)
Tarbell, Ida M. (Ida Minerva), 1857-1944.
United States Military Academy.
Vincent family.
Whig Party (Ky.)

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
				<u>Papers</u>
W:38		1	1-9	Correspondence, 1824-April 1857
		2	1-9	Correspondence, May 1857-1894
		3	1-5	Correspondence, 1895-1916, undated
VAULT:1	--		1	Original William T. Sherman, Julia D. Grant, and Ida M. Tarbell letters and John James Audubon autograph, 1833, 1884-1901
VAULT MRDF 6	--	--	--	Compact disc: Digital scans of William T. Sherman, Julia D. Grant, and Ida M. Tarbell letters and John James Audubon autograph
W:38		3	6-9	Genealogy materials, 1833, 1891-1920, 1932
W:39		4	1-3	Genealogy materials, undated
OS:V		6	1-2	Genealogy materials (oversize), 1903, undated
		--	1	Genealogy materials (oversize), undated
W:39		4	4-5	Julius E. Hilgard papers, 1869-1890, undated
OS:V		6	3	Julius E. Hilgard papers (oversize), 1869-1874
			4	Joannem R. Lancaster diploma (oversize), 1848
W:39		4	6	Gold Mining Company stock certificates, 1887-1888, 1895.
			7-8	Newspaper clippings, 1850-1856, 1891-1916, undated
			9-10	Printed items and ephemera, 1824, 1868, 1886-1917, undated
			11	Photographic items, 1875, undated
				<u>Volumes</u>
		5	1	Volume 1: Thomas M. Vincent account book, 1849-1853
			2	Volume 2: Thomas M. Vincent diary, 1856
				Volume 3: Thomas M. Vincent diary, 1857
				Volume 4: Notebook, undated
			3	Volume 5: Freedmen's Bureau reports (printed), 1873-1877