

VIALET FAMILY PAPERS

Mss. 5082

Inventory

Compiled by

Germain J. Bienvenu

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Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

2018

Revised 2021

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SUMMARY

Size	78 items
Geographic Locations	Louisiana, Missouri, Mexico, Cuba, France
Inclusive Dates	1799-1875, 1959
Bulk Dates	1815-1855
Languages	French, Spanish, English (predominantly French)
Summary	Personal and business letters and financial and legal documents of the Vialet family of Baton Rouge and New Orleans, Catherine Miranda de Casas and Pierre Ladouceur of Baton Rouge, B. Piveteau-Fleury of New Orleans, and the Bissonet, Primeau, and Ladouceur families of St. Louis, Missouri.
Access Restrictions	None.
Arrangement	Organized chronologically.
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	Vialet Family Papers, Mss. 5082, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries Special Collections, Baton Rouge, La.
Stack Location	119:10

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Louis Emmanuel Vialet (also known as Manuel Vialet) was born circa 1789 in Nantes, France. At one point, his father had been in the Ohio region before returning to France. On March 19, 1821, in Baton Rouge, Louis Emmanuel Vialet married Elizabeth Fachou (also referred to as Margu rite Fachou and Margu rite P t t). She was the daughter of Jean Fachou and Genevi ve Lelevain and a native of St. Domingue, having been baptized at J r mie, Ha ti. Jean Fachou and Genevi ve Lelevain were also the parents of Joseph Fachou and Bernard Fachou. Joseph married in Mayagu z, Puerto Rico, while Bernard moved to New Orleans at some point. Louis Emmanuel Vialet and Elizabeth Fachou were the parents of Jean Louis Vialet, born January 18, 1824, in Baton Rouge. Jean Piveteau-Fleury and Jos phine Michel served as Jean Louis Vialet's godparents. Louis Emmanuel Vialet and Elizabeth Fachou were also the parents of Louis Eug ne Vialet, born February 27, 1822, and christened August 27, 1822, in Baton Rouge, his mother's name appearing as "Margu rite Fochoux" on the baptismal record. Louis Eug ne Vialet seems to have died in early childhood. Louis Emmanuel Vialet struggled financially in Baton Rouge, operating a storage building at one point. He sought better prospects in New Orleans, leaving his immediate family in the care of others in Baton Rouge. He died a widower in New Orleans on October 3, 1829.

Following the deaths of his parents, Jean Louis Vialet (also referred to as John Vialet and J. L. Vialet) was taken under the care of Pierre Ladouceur and Ladouceur's wife, Catherine (n e Francisca Catalina Miranda), widow of Eulogio de Casas. Even in correspondence before his death, Louis Emmanuel Vialet calls the couple his son's parents. Letters from Vialet relative B. Piveteau-Fleury (whose brother Jean was Jean Louis Vialet's godfather) to Ladouceur and Catherine Miranda de Casas indicate a sharing of the child's needs between the three adults. Jean Louis Vialet married Elizabeth Parnell on May 8, 1843, in Baton Rouge. He served in the Mexican War, working at a hospital in Vera Cruz, Mexico, and operated a pharmacy in Baton Rouge. By the time of the June 1872 settling of his grandfather Jean Fachou's succession in France, Jean Louis Vialet was deceased, leaving behind a widow, two sons, and a daughter.

Pierre Ladouceur, who shared the same name as his father, was born in St. Louis, Missouri, circa 1798. His mother was a Bissonet whose siblings included P lagie, Louis, Marie Delorices (spellings vary), and Joseph. P lagie Bissonet married Paul Primeau. They were the parents of Louis Primeau and Genevi ve H lo se Primeau, who married Auguste Pasquier. The younger Pierre Ladouceur's sister El onore (also called "L onore" and referred to as "Godo" in some letters) married Baptiste Godert (also spelled *Godere*, *Gaudert*, *Gauderre*, and *Gaudere*). Pierre Ladouceur the younger and El onore also had a brother named Baptiste. The younger Pierre Ladouceur was in New Orleans by 1815 and made Baton Rouge his home around 1818, maintaining ties with Missouri relatives (in "Haute Louisiane") all the while.

Catherine Miranda (born circa 1796) was the daughter of Francisca Burie (also known as Fran oise Bori) and the sister of Francisco Miranda. She married Eulogio de Casas in Baton Rouge. Sometime after Casas's August 1820, death in Havana, Cuba, the "Widow Casas" or "Madame Cassas" (as Catherine Miranda is most often referenced) and Pierre Ladouceur wed. Thereafter, she continued to be referred to as "Madame Cassas." Pierre Ladouceur was buried in

October 1848 in Baton Rouge, and Catherine Miranda, widow of both Casas and Ladouceur, was interred in the same town on May 7, 1850.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Organized chronologically.

The collection comprises personal and business letters and financial and legal documents of the Vialet family of Baton Rouge and New Orleans, Catherine Miranda de Casas and Pierre Ladouceur of Baton Rouge, B. Piveteau-Fleury of New Orleans, and the Bissonet, Primeau, and Ladouceur families of St. Louis, Missouri.

The earliest item, a February 1799 document in Spanish signed by Carlos de Grand-Pré, is a copy of a deed of emancipation by which Nicolas Lamatta (Nicolas Lamothe) frees Maria Juana.

The March 28, 1815, letter from Louis Emmanuel Vialet (who signs his name "Louis et Manuel Vialet" in this instance) retrospectively describes effects on Baton Rouge of the British invasion leading up to the Battle of New Orleans.

Letters from Pélagie Bissonet Primeau, Pierre Ladouceur the elder, and Eléonore Ladouceur Godert (1815-1822) mention male relatives' working and wintering on the Missouri River.

Three letters (May 7, 1817; May 3, 1818; January 24 [year missing]) in three different handwritings, probably all from Pascal Bissonet in Havana, Cuba, to his nephew (probably Pierre Ladouceur) encourage the nephew's removing to Cuba for business opportunities.

Correspondence from Pélagie Bissonet Primeau (August 23, 1817; April 7, 1846; September 17, 1846), Louis Primeau (July 24, 1846; February 19, 1849), and Louis DuBreuil (August 15, 1849) discusses sale of family land in the St. Louis, Missouri, prairie involving Pierre Chouteau, Antoine Soulard, and James Lucas. A May 27, 1850, account by John L. (Jean Louis) Vialet relates to the same property, and an undated document once serving as a cover for letters contains notes about the land.

Items dated August 15, 1815; February 10, 1820; August 30, 1820; November 4, 1822; February 20, 1824, and undated concern the Miranda family of Baton Rouge. Catherine Miranda de Casas's legal proceedings involving Alexandre Baudin and the United States Arsenal at Baton Rouge in the wake of Eulogio de Casas's death are reflected in items dated November 4, 1822; August 8, 1828; December 23, 1828; and July 29, 1831. An undated letter from Alexander Baudin written after 1821 and before October 1848 highlights Edward Livingston's and Father John Brady's involvement in the part of Eulogio de Casas's succession dealing with land at the United States Arsenal in Baton Rouge. Baudin also relates difficulties with Spanish authorities over releasing information on Casas's death in Havana.

A February 12, 1820, letter from Francis Le Clercq in Gallipolis, Ohio, indicates that Louis Emmanuel Vialet was investigating possessions possibly left by his father in that area before the latter returned to France. Letters dated July 19, 1821; November 25, 1824; February 28, 1826; August 8, 1828; December 9, 1848; March 10, 1849; November 23, 1849; December 18, 1849; April 12, 1850; June 8, 1852; June 1, 1872; December 11, 1874; and November 25, 1875 relate

to property from Jean Fachou's succession in the Médoc region of France. The undated document once serving as cover for letters also includes information on the Fachou inheritance.

Correspondence (1824-1829) from Louis Emmanuel Vialet (who signs most letters "L. E. M. Vialet") concern his financial difficulties, his son's care, the activities of Pierre Ladouceur and Catherine Miranda de Casas, and the slave "Félicité" (also called "Dédé" and "la Vieille").

B. Piveteau-Fleury's letters (1830-1855, undated) pick up where Louis Emmanuel Vialet's leave off in discussing the needs of Jean Louis Vialet, Pierre Ladouceur, Catherine Miranda de Casas, and the slave Félicité, with the letters from the 1850s beginning to reflect the assistance that the ailing B. Piveteau-Fleury requires from the adult Jean Louis Vialet.

Jean Louis Vialet's activities in Texas and Vera Cruz, Mexico, during the Mexican War are reflected in letters dated June 18, 1846; September 6, 1847; October 25, 1847; December 25, 1847; January 19, 1848; January 29, 1848; and March 9, 1848.

The collection also contains Reverend Auguste Martin's October 19, 1848, certified copy of Father Desmoulins' October 26, 1824, record of Jean Louis Vialet's baptism as well as undated prayers.

Documents from May 1850 and June 1850 concern Jean Louis Vialet as sole heir of Catherine Miranda de Casas and Pierre Ladouceur, the will of the former including slaves Mary and Louis.

INDEX TERMS

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

Arsenals--Louisiana--Baton Rouge.
Baton Rouge (La.)--History--19th century.
Baudin, Alexandre.
Bissonet family.
Chouteau, Pierre.
Cuba--History--19th century.
De Casas family.
Fachou family.
Ladouceur family.
Médoc (France)--History--19th century.
Mexican War, 1846-1848.
Miranda family.
New Orleans, Battle of, New Orleans, La., 1815.
New Orleans (La.)--History--19th century.
Piveteau-Fleury, B.
Primeau family.
St. Louis (Mo.)--History--19th century.
Slaves--Louisiana.
Violet family.

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack</u> <u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Dates</u>
119:10	1	1	Papers, 1799-1818, 1959, undated
		2	Papers, 1820-1824, undated
		3	Papers, 1826-1830, undated
		4	Papers, 1831-1847
		5	Papers, 1848-1853, undated
		6	Papers, 1854-1875, undated

APPENDIX: Itemized Summary of Contents

February 11, 1799, Baton Rouge. Copy in Spanish of a February 2, 1799, deed of emancipation by which Nicolas Lamatta (Nicolas Lamothe) frees slave Maria Juana, but contingent upon her paying what he paid when he bought her from Madame Monsante. Signed by Carlos de Grand-Pré and witnessed by Pablo de Larin and Miguel Ordoñes. Accompanied by a September 12, 1959, notation in English by J. L. Vialet IV.

March 28, 1815, Baton Rouge. Letter in French from Louis Emmanuel Vialet (who signs his name "Louis et Manuel Vialet") to "Mon ami," who has left Baton Rouge. The letter concerns people who left suddenly because of the English approach leading up to the Battle of New Orleans and then came back. The writer reports that [Drot? Diot?] Andress, Paulin Le Blanc, Mr. Dubreuil, and everyone who could carry weapons were at Jackson's camp for two months. Vialet states that Mademoiselle Juliette married Monsieur Garreau of the public school, although everyone had believed he would marry Mademoiselle Louise. The author relates that Raphael Legendre and Paul Guedry have been hanging around Madame Andress's since everyone was at camp and that the Andresses have suffered because of the death of slave Charles and the loss of two female slaves. Vialet mentions that Agricole Le Blanc and Mr. Still died and refers to Madame Godeau's wellbeing. He relates Tessier's becoming parish judge and recounts an intended parade involving a coat of arms, Stanard, and Mr. Burnell. Vialet adds that he is going to take Paulin's place at Dufau's, that Mr. Tournillon is giving up his store, that Mr. Le Roi and Mr. [Christoval?] are going to New Orleans, and that Mr. Desrousseaux sends his regards.

April 19, 1815, St. Louis, Missouri. Letter in French from Pélagie Bissonet Primeau to nephew Pierre Ladouceur, New Orleans. In this letter, the scribe spells the family name *Bissonnette*. The addresser refers to bad stories about the recipient's uncle Pascal. She mentions Emilien and Lalie as well as Mr. and Mrs. Trudeau. "Monsieur Jean B^{te} Trudeau, St. Louis Territory" appears on the cover.

April 19, 1815, St. Louis, Missouri. Letter in French from Pierre Ladouceur the elder to Pierre Ladouceur the younger, New Orleans. The writer reports that his daughter, Eléonore, and her husband have two children and that the recipient's brother Baptiste did well on the Missouri the preceding autumn. The addresser sends his regards to the addressee's uncle Pascal. Added to the letter is the son's brief response to the father dated March 24, 1816, New Orleans.

August 15, 1815. Letter in French from "C," a female, to "Mon ami," care of "Couquou." On the cover appears in another hand Francisco Miranda's name, the date 1820, and Baton Rouge. The writer says that she has not heard from the recipient since he left the area and understands from "Madame ___cique" that he has returned. She sends him a vest and tie that he had left at the house as well as some rose fabric.

January 20, 1817, St. Louis, Missouri. Letter in French from Pierre Ladouceur the elder to Pierre Ladouceur the younger, Baton Rouge. The father refers to the son's having said that he is in such dire conditions that he cannot afford to leave without assistance. The addresser assures the

addressee that the latter's sister, brother-in-law, and aunt want him to return to St. Louis and that he will be receiving 100 piastres from Pierre Marassé, coxswain of the *Brindamour Ménard*. Ladouceur the father relates that the recipient's brother Baptiste and uncles are wintering on the Missouri. The writer expresses the belief that Ladouceur the son must have received the letter sent through Antoine "Gauderre," brother of the recipient's brother-in-law. He adds that Mr. and Mrs. Trudeau send their regards, as does Eulalie.

January 24, [year missing], Havana, Cuba. Fragment of letter in French from Pascal Bissonet to his nephew. The author mentions F. Caller, Bernard, the Café del Comercio, and doing as a "Créole des Florides" in what seems to be an attempt to get the nephew to go to Cuba.

May 7, 1817, Havana, Cuba. Incomplete letter in French, probably from Pascal Bissonet, to his nephew. The writer says he did not lack work in Matanzas and discusses his occupational and financial situation, urging the nephew to join him in opening a shop. The uncle also wishes to know about Joseph "Caye" and "Pasqual."

August 23, 1817, St. Louis, Missouri. Letter in French for Pélagie Bissonet Primeau (who signs with a mark) to Pierre Ladouceur, Baton Rouge, witnessed by F. M. Guyol. The author affirms that in 1803, her late mother, Ladouceur's grandmother, sold Pierre Chouteau an arpent of land in the prairie bordering St. Louis; however, as Chouteau owed Ladouceur's godfather, Antoine Soulard, two arpents of land, the sale was recognized as passing into Soulard's hands. Since the death of the addresser's mother, Soulard has asked the family to acknowledge his ownership, which the author, her husband, and her siblings Louis, ["Marry" for "Marie?"] Delorices, and Joseph as well as Ladouceur's sister ("Godere") and brother-in-law have done. The aunt hopes the nephew will join the family in recognizing Soulard's claim. She relates that Ladouceur's father and sister are well and that his brother Baptiste and two uncles are in the Missouri country until the following year.

Undated. Copy of the August 23, 1817, letter in French from Pélagie Bissonet Primeau, St. Louis, Missouri, to nephew Pierre Ladouceur, Baton Rouge. Some mistakes occur in the transcription, especially regarding proper names.

May 3, 1818, Havana, Cuba. Letter in French from Pascal Bissonet to his nephew, probably Pierre Ladouceur, probably New Orleans. The author states that Mr. Smith, the distiller who was staying in Baton Rouge, has arrived in Havana and given Bissonet the nephew's news. The writer mentions the opportunities the recipient would have in joining him in Havana. Bissonet wants to know how his Pélagie and his siblings are doing. He sends regards to Louis Brillons, to Pascal (his "tocaille," or namesake), and to Pascal's family.

December 7, 1818, St. Louis, Missouri. Letter in French from Geneviève Primeau to cousin Pierre Ladouceur, Baton Rouge. The author states that everyone is well.

February 10, 1820. Document in English stating that before Charles Tessier, East Baton Rouge Parish judge, appeared Jean Gracie and François Guedry to say that a tract in Spanish Town originally granted to Juan Perez and now claimed by the Widow Miranda was first settled and improved in 1806 and has been cultivated ever since. The document is recorded by Herault.

February 12, 1820, Gallipolis, Ohio. Letter in French from Francis Le Clercq to "L. Manuel Violet" (Louis Emmanuel Vialet), Baton Rouge. Le Clercq acknowledges receipt of Vialet's October 16, 1819, letter. He says that while the old residents of Gallipolis remember Vialet's father well, they have heard nothing of him since the elder Vialet left for France. The writer asserts that Madame Dupin disposed of everything that the elder Vialet may have left in Ohio. In a postscript, Le Clercq asks the recipient to extend regards to the writer's brother Auguste, who lives in the Baton Rouge area.

November 29 (year missing but written prior to the August 30, 1820, death of the recipient's mother, Francisca Burie, also known as Françoise Bori), probably from Bayou Sara/St. Francisville. Letter in French from L. Manuel (Louis Emmanuel) Vialet to Francisco Miranda (addressed as "Monsieur François De Miranda"), Baton Rouge. The writer discusses the costs of barges where he is. He acknowledges Miranda's having informed him of Auguste Dupin's burial at Mr. De Bellievre's expense. Vialet recounts how he had helped Dupin when the latter arrived in the country with nothing, even though Vialet had very little, either. Vialet says that if Guillaume arrived, De Gras was leaving. Vialet asks that his books be retrieved from the sister of one of the men and placed with "M^{de} Dominge." The writer asserts that he views Miranda's mother as his own and Miranda as the best of friends. He wants to know about the recipient's mother, sister, and "la petite fille" and mentions Mr. or Mrs. "Cassa" (Casas) near the end.

Undated (written prior to the August 30, 1820, death of Francisca Burie, also known as Françoise Bori), Baton Rouge. Letter in Spanish from Francisca Burie to her son. The writer affirms that she and Casas had answered her son's letters but that they were not delivered by Santiago Collao because the embargo kept the latter from leaving "Orleans." The writer expresses gratitude over the favorable treatment her son has received from the Francisco Collante(s) family, and she conveys regards from the recipient's sister, brother-in-law, and Juanillo. The mother asks what made her son sign "S. Peres" and "Fran^{co} Collante" in place of his name. She relates that the recipient's sister lost a son in February, shortly after the baby's birth in January.

August 30, 1820. Note in French testifying to the death of Françoise Bori, Widow Miranda, at 4:00 p.m. on the same day.

September 19, 1820, St. Louis, Missouri. Letter in French from Léonore Godert (also spelled Godere, Gaudert, Gauderre, and Gaudere) to brother Pierre Ladouceur, Baton Rouge. The writer reports that her family and the recipient's father are well. She mentions that her husband and her brother Baptiste have left for the Missouri country. The writer switches from the familiar to the formal form of address to plead for news from the recipient and to relate the affections of his godson ("votre fijos"), his godson's family, his father, and her family for Ladouceur.

July 19, 1821, Villeneuve-sur-Lot, France. Letter in French from Monmartin to relative ____ ("dit Faxou?" "dit Saxou?"), Baton Rouge, care of Mr. Bruguière, New Orleans. The writer addresses the recipient as "mon cher parent" and expresses sorrow over the latter's having lost his wife (leaving four children) as well as a colossal fortune. The letter responds to the recipient's inquiry into possessions left by his mother in France. Monmartin states that his wife, Marie Delsol; Marie Gibert, wife of Bonpas; and Marguerite Gibert, wife of Auradou sold to

Jean Fachou (first cousin of both the addresser and the addressee and deceased for a year) a house and garden at the entry to Casseneuil, which the women had inherited from the succession of the recipient's mother, Marguerite (Dauriot? Dauriet?). Monmartin relates in detail transactions involving Jean Malateste, stating that the women had acted in the belief that the recipient's mother had not left any children, whereas the recipient was living in the United States. Monmartin states that the addressee's godmother, Mariel-Anne, has been dead for 34 years, the addressee's father for 10 years, and that it has been 28 years since the family has heard from the addressee's brother. Monmartin relates that Louis Sarrazin, town carpenter, fears that his son, Simon Sarrazin, living in Baton Rouge, may have perished in a voyage, leaving a black female to manage his belongings.

September 5, 1822, _____, Missouri. Letter in French from Pélagie Bissonet Primeau to nephew Pierre Ladouceur, Baton Rouge, care of Baptiste Salois. The writer expresses joy over hearing that the recipient wishes to return the family in Missouri, saying Ladouceur's brother had thought of joining Ladouceur but then took advantage of an opportunity that will have kept him in the Missouri country for two years. She reports that Ladouceur's godson, Emilien, and Ladouceur's brother-in-law, Baptiste "Gauderre," are also away for an extended period, leaving no one to go get Ladouceur (as requested by the recipient). However, the aunt asserts that later the recipient's uncle, brother, godson, and brother-in-law could find the means to get Ladouceur to Missouri. The aunt relates that Ladouceur's father died August 11 at the home of Ladouceur's sister, Eléonore, and that Eléonore lost her oldest son, aged 5, in January, leaving her four remaining children. The writer sends regards to Ladouceur's wife. In a postscript, the addresser asks for news of the addressee's uncle Pascal, as she does not know if he is alive or dead.

November 4, 1822, Baton Rouge. Promissory note in French from Alexander Baudin, resident of Pointe Coupee Parish, to the Widow of Eulogio de Casas (née Catalina Miranda), witnessed by Pierre Ladouceur and Joseph David. Baudin promises to pay the widow half of what he will be able to acquire from the succession of Casas, who died in Havana August 24, 1820.

November 4, 1822, Baton Rouge. Promissory note in French from Joseph David to Widow Casas, witnessed by Pierre Ladouceur. David promises to pay the Widow Casas 200 piastres and six percent interest, using his tools and two cows as collateral.

November 19, 1822, St. Louis, Missouri. Letter in French from Pélagie Bissonet Primeau to nephew Pierre Ladouceur, Baton Rouge. The aunt acknowledges receiving news from June that the nephew is married and expresses joy at his wanting to return to Missouri. She says, however, that his request to go get him arrived too late, as his brother and brother-in-law left in late summer to spend the winter on the upper Missouri, leaving the writer alone with her husband. The addresser reports that her daughter Geneviève-Héloïse married Auguste Pasquier, a European, October 29. The writer relates that Pasquier is the carrier of the present letter and that she had sent an earlier one care of "Salois Capitaine d'un bateau a feu." The addresser conveys the regards of the addressee's nurse Marguerite and her daughter Eulalie as well as those of the Trudeaus. She says that Mr. Trudeau would like to know if Charles Robert, reportedly living in Baton Rouge, is alive or dead. A notation on the cover in another hand possibly refers to Robert: that he is alive and residing four leagues from Baton Rouge, on the other side.

February 20, 1824, Baton Rouge. Note in French and Spanish witnessed by Romualdo and Ynes Carmena certifying that Antoine Lanoisse has given Catherine Miranda, Widow Casas, livestock to pay a debt of 200 piastres.

November 5, 1824, New Orleans. Letter in French from L. E. M. (Louis Emmanuel) Vialet to Catherine Miranda, Baton Rouge. The writer relates his financial difficulties as well as the fact that he has had to rent another female servant because Dédé (female slave Félicité) has fallen ill. Vialet says that he longs to see his son ("notre petit Vialet") and that, if the recipient (who is like a second mother to the child) would bring the boy to New Orleans, he could see him every day. Vialet says to send news through "Vannile" and conveys regards from "Mademoiselle Mathilde" and her family. The writer next includes a letter to Pierre Ladouceur. He relates having seen "Antoin Viale," whose manner of speech almost made Vialet think "Madame Cassa" was dead. Vialet reports Viale's having said that Catherine Gras and "la Vieille Victoire" were administering care. He mentions excitement over the presidential election and believes Adams will win.

November 25, 1824, Baton Rouge. Letter in French from L. E. M. (Louis Emmanuel) Vialet to J. F. Buchou, Sr., Maison Merler and Company, Façade des Chartrons, Bordeaux, France. Penned by someone else, the letter acknowledges receipt of the addressee's correspondence care of Mr. Menard. Vialet sends the present document through François Legras of Médoc, France, who knows the places of interest to the writer: Goëlane and Issan en Médoc near Margaux en Médoc. The writer thanks the recipient for tending to matters involving Vialet's interests in the area. Vialet includes transcriptions of two letters written to his father-in-law, Jean Fachou. The first letter, dated 25 Fructidor Year 10, Bordeaux, France, to Jean Fachou, Jérémie, St. Domingue, from "Lattes" (but not Joseph Lattes, author of the second letter to Fachou), responds to Fachou's having written concerning claims of Messieurs Biron of Goëlane occasioned by the death of Lattes' father. Lattes says Mr. Testas of Bordeaux was procurator for the Biron minors and put Mr. Dupuys, notary at Rauzan and known as "Dupurpau," in charge of investigating the minors' properties. The French Revolution brought things to a standstill, and Lattes relates all that was done for the Biron minors while they stayed with his father. He asserts that Thomas Biron was sickly, that the Widow Biron was often in debt, and that he has had no letter from the Biron sons since they left France for Jérémie, St. Domingue. The second letter, dated May 16, 1810, at "Charlestown, Amérique," to Jean Fachou from Joseph Lattes ("brother or even uncle" of the author of the first letter to Fachou) confirms Lattes' having written an earlier letter congratulating Fachou on the latter's arrival in New Orleans. In the earlier letter, Lattes also asked if Fachou had seen the writer's cousin Jean Baptiste Lattes in New Orleans. Lattes wants to know if Fachou has sent powers of attorney to Bordeaux concerning the Biron family's properties. In a postscript, he says that Mr. Dupuys, notary at Rauzan, is keeper of the property at Goëlane.

February 28, 1826, Baton Rouge. Letter in French from Louis Emmanuel Vialet, care of Mr. Menard (who adds a notation), to F. Buchou, Façade des Chartrons, Bordeaux, France. The writer seeks help with claims to property in Goëlane once owned by Bertrand Biron and coming to Vialet through the Fachou family. He mentions a Mr. Guimard, pharmacist in Bordeaux, and Mr Bonnezeze, residing in Dax, in association with the claims.

February 18, New Orleans. Letter in French from L. E. M. (Louis Emmanuel) Vialet to Pierre Ladouceur, Baton Rouge. On the inside cover appear in another hand “année 1827 et 1828” and “1829” and on the outside “Good for tou Bits Baton Rouge 12 September 1829” and “care Beauregard.” Vialet says to tell Madame Casas that he cannot wait to kiss his son and that he will pay for both to come to New Orleans. He says the mail should go through Messieurs Beauregard (“Bourgar”) and Languier. He relates that Big Joseph (“le Gros Josphe [sic.]”), who worked for Antoine Viale, died after three days of illness. The elder Vialet says to kiss “l’enfant des deux papa [sic.]” for him, refers to himself as “papa au gatau” (papa-gâteau), and says to kiss the child’s “maman” (Madame Casas) as well. He mentions Joseph Hernandez (spelled Josphe Harnandes) and Gaspard concerning payment.

____, 1828, New Orleans. Letter in French from Louis Emmanuel Vialet to Pierre Ladouceur, Baton Rouge. The writer says he is going to Mobile and to tell Dédé (female slave Féicité) that all are well. He mentions Jean Louis and sends his best to his son (“Violet”) and to Madame Casas.

August 8, 1828, New Orleans. Letter in French from L. E. M. (Louis Emmanuel) Vialet to Pierre Ladouceur, Baton Rouge. The writer reports that he and female slave Dédé have been sick but are better and that the latter wants to visit her son Jean Louis, who is eight leagues away at the place of “Mr. Merondre,” which would allow the writer (still in financial difficulties) to sell merchandise through her. Vialet relates seeing “Monsieur Colla,” who has sent “Vianille” to Baton Rouge, and “Antoin Viale,” who has a shoe-repair shop on St. Philip Street. He asserts that he has given Madame Casas’s letter to Mademoiselle Mathilde and that he wants Madame Casas and his son (“Violet”) to come to the city, where he is staying in a small room belonging to “Monsieur Granjou” at Girod and Camp. He affirms needing to go to Mayaguëz, Puerto Rico, to investigate his inheritance and mentions inheritance at “La Golanté” as well. He states that he spoke with Mr. Baudin concerning the late Mr. Casas’s succession, about which Mr. Baudin has consulted Mr. Gardere. He sends his best to “Maman Vitoir” and to Mademoiselle “Vergine” (Virginie?) and alludes jokingly to Madame Casas as his child’s “maman.”

August 16, 1828, New Orleans. Letter in French from L. E. M. (Louis Emmanuel) Vialet to Pierre Ladouceur, Baton Rouge. The writer states that he is sorry to hear that “Violet” has been sick, but asserts being sure that “his sweet little mama” is taking good care of him. The elder Vialet relates that he has sent slave Dédé both to see her son and to sell merchandise. He discusses his financial state and says he is thinking of moving to the end of Esplanade Avenue. He expresses surprise over the love crime committed by “Mr. Vincen” and mentions François Ivons, Madame Casas, Mademoiselle Mary, “Maman Vitoil,” “Vergine,” the “Andres” girls, John Keay, Rosette, Ginis, and “Ville Martin,” the last three seeming to be slaves.

September 19, 1828, New Orleans. Letter in French from L. E. M. (Louis Emmanuel) Vialet to Pierre Ladouceur, Baton Rouge. The writer mentions business involving Madame Casas, A. Shiles, and P. K. Lawrence and recounts his financial struggles. He says to tell “Violet” that as much as he wants to see his son, he does not want the boy to venture to New Orleans before the first frosts. He conveys Mademoiselle Mathilde’s regards to Madame Casas, whom Mathilde calls “Titine Miranda” and whom the writer calls his son’s “maman.” Vialet mentions that slave

Dédé wants to go to Baton Rouge. On the cover, he says the recipient's cow was sold and gives his address as being on Rampart Street between Canal and Customs.

October 9, 1828, New Orleans. Letter in French from L. E. M. (Louis Emmanuel) Vialet to Pierre Ladouceur, Baton Rouge, care of "Mlle. Pagny." The writer lists presents arriving through "Mademoiselle Pognon Trudaux," noting that slave "la Vieille Dédé" sends apples and says to kiss the younger Vialet for her. The elder Vialet expresses hope of seeing little Vialet, the child's "maman" (Madame Casas), and Ladouceur soon in New Orleans and asks that Madame Casas indicate on which steamboat ("St Boot") she and the boy would arrive. Vialet asserts that Ladouceur would do better in New Orleans than in Baton Rouge. He conveys Mademoiselle Mathilde's regards to Madame Casas and closes with the following regarding the latter and his son: "Kiss little Vialet for me as well as his mama. Tell his mama that I hope to marry soon and give her a little girl to place with Vialet, making a little sister for him."

December 23, 1828, New Orleans. Letter in French from L. E. M. (Louis Emmanuel) Vialet to Pierre Ladouceur, Baton Rouge. Vialet discusses his son and thanks Ladouceur and Madame Casas for all they are doing for the boy, making references to Madame Casas as being the child's mother. Vialet also relates his financial predicaments. He says that his "Vieille Nègresse" (the slave Félicité or "Dédé") is so sick that he regrets having brought her with him, as she is more hindrance than help. Vialet says he has seen Mr. Baudin, who asked if Mr. Casas's holdings had been advertised in the Baton Rouge *Gazette*. The writer also mentions "Old Robidau," "votre comere [sic.]," "Mademoiselle Mary Carmelle," "Monsieur Jeans. . .," Mr. de Bellievre (spelled "De Beleve"), Mr. Beauregard (spelled "Borgar"), and Mr. Menard and asks that nothing of his affairs be told to folks in Baton Rouge, as they have bad tongues, especially his enemies.

January 29, 1829, New Orleans. Letter in French from L. E. M. (Louis Emmanuel) Vialet to Pierre Ladouceur, Baton Rouge, care of B. T. Beauregard. The elder Vialet states that he has not heard about the recipient, Madame Casas, or his son ("Vialet") in a while and mentions the possibility of the latter two coming to New Orleans. He describes setting up business at the corner of St. Peter and Burgundy in New Orleans and recounts financial hardships. He refers to sending letters through Pepe Monget and John Keay and says he has received papers from Mr. de Bellievre (spelled "Belive") through Mr. Larguier (spelled "Largue"). He mentions John ("Bouleau?"), says to kiss "le petit Vialet" as well as the child's "maman" (Madame Casas), and conveys slave Dédé's regards to everyone.

August 30, 1830, New Orleans. Letter in French from B. Piveteau-Fleury to Widow Casas, Baton Rouge, care of "Monsieur Monrose." The writer says that Monrose will take charge of what "cette vieille" (the slave Félicité or "Dédé") has left at Madame Casas's, noting in a P.S. that Félicité is unwell. Piveteau-Fleury asks for news of the "petit" (Jean Louis Vialet). He notes that New Orleans is very unhealthy and that many people are dying.

October 20, 1830, New Orleans. Letter in French from B. Piveteau-Fleury to Widow Casas, Baton Rouge. The writer acknowledges receipt of Casas's letter sent through "Mlle. Eulalie" and states that he will send "le petit" (Jean Louis Vialet) some winter clothes care of Mr. Bernos. He says that "la Vieille" (slave Félicité) asks for her things, especially her woolen blanket.

Piveteau-Fleury asks if there is a named tutor for young Vialet and requests information on the sale of both land and slave Félicité, Mr. Bonnecaze having purchased both for the boy.

February [page torn but written in the early 1830s], New Orleans. Letter in French from B. Piveteau-Fleury to Madame Casas, Baton Rouge. The writer inquires about a package of items he sent through Mr. Bernos for "le petit" (Jean Louis Vialet).

July 29, 1831, aboard steamship between New Orleans and St. Francisville. Letter in French from Alexandre Baudin care of Mr. Baron to Catherine Miranda, Widow of Eulogio de Casas, living behind the United States Arsenal at Baton Rouge. The letter concerns the recipient's late husband's will, which involves "Mr. Garder," Victoire "Clairmens" (also spelled "Clairmand" in the same letter), and land near the fort. Baudin also mentions land dealings in the Felicianas.

September 18, 1831, St. Louis, Missouri. Letter in French from Léonore Ladouceur Godert, to her brother Pierre Ladouceur, Baton Rouge. The writer reports that their brother Baptiste died July 27 at St. Louis and that her eldest daughter, married only eleven months, died ten days later.

June 3, 1832, New Orleans. Letter in French from B. Piveteau-Fleury delivered through "votre nègre" to Widow Casas, Baton Rouge. The writer sends items to "Vialet" and reports that the slave Félicité ("la Vieille") thanks the recipient for the bottle of filé the latter had procured. Piveteau-Fleury says to kiss "le petit Vialet" for him.

December 25, 1836, New Orleans. Letter in French from B. Piveteau-Fleury to Widow Casas, Baton Rouge. The writer says he is keeping "Vialet" till Sunday and will return him on the *Bayou Sara*. He mentions that "Mademoiselle Charlotte," the daughter with whom he is residing, sends her best, as does the slave "la Vieille Félicité."

March 11, 1839, New Orleans. Letter in French from B. Piveteau-Fleury to Widow Casas, Baton Rouge. The writer mentions that he is sending his letter through "Mlle. Rosina" and that he has received the recipient's through Mr. Michel. He states that Charlotte and the slave "la Vieille Félicité" send their regards and that Charlotte asks the recipient to kiss Vialet for her.

July 19, 1839, New Orleans. Letter in French from Pierre Ladouceur to Widow Casas, Baton Rouge. The writer states that he will be leaving aboard *Le Météor*. He reports that he has told Wanille to go stay with the addressee during the addresser's absence and that Wanille will be departing aboard the *Baton Rouge*. Ladouceur notes that Wanille has left "Laurince" and that there have been payment failures between the latter two involving laundry. Ladouceur says to tell Vialet to serve in his place during his absence. He sends regards to "my little Léonore," Prudence, "petit Louis," "Man Victoire," Miss Virginie, Catherine Sévéno, and Mr. Devince.

August 10, 1844, New Orleans. Letter in French from B. Piveteau-Fleury to cousin Jean Louis Vialet, Baton Rouge. Piveteau-Fleury states that his brother, who was the recipient's godfather, died June 22, 1843. The writer extends regards to Widow Casas, to Vialet's wife, and to Mr. Ladouceur.

April 7, 1846, St. Louis, Missouri. Letter in French from Pélagie Bissonet Primeau to nephew Pierre Ladouceur, Baton Rouge. The aunt advises the nephew not to sign any papers concerning family land taken into possession by Mr. Chouteau and Mr. Soulard, and she urges him to venture to St. Louis to participate in the family's claims to the property.

June 18, 1846, Baton Rouge. Letter in French from B. Jourdan to Jean Louis Vialet, Texas, care of "Captain Stewart Army of Occupation, Texas." The writer expresses sympathy over Vialet's wife's having lost a child to measles and states that the pharmacy in Baton Rouge is busy. Jourdan wants to know about the recipient's march on Matamoros and lists in detail what he would like to learn about Mexico and maneuvers there.

July 24, 1846, St. Louis, Missouri. Letter in French from Louis Primeau to cousin Pierre Ladouceur, Baton Rouge. Primeau announces his appointment to represent the family in dealings with J. Lucas and his need to know if Ladouceur wants Primeau to represent the recipient as well. The addresser states that Uncle Joseph had come from Mexico to spend the rest of his life with Primeau's father and mother but died on July 18.

September 17, 1846, St. Louis, Missouri. Letter in French from Pélagie Bissonet Primeau to nephew Pierre Ladouceur, Baton Rouge. The aunt reports that there has been no progress in negotiations with Mr. Lucas, that the family has given her son Louis Primeau power to deal with Lucas, and that she wants to know if the recipient wishes Louis to represent him as well.

September 6, 1847, Baton Rouge. Letter in French from Pierre Ladouceur to Jean Louis Vialet, "Compagnie A du Capt. Besaçon Dragon à Veracruz, México." Ladouceur acknowledges receipt of Vialet's July 16 letter from New Orleans and the July 28 letter from Vera Cruz. Ladouceur reports that he is not doing well and that neither is Vialet's "maman" (Madame Casas), who pines for Vialet day and night and thinks she will never see him again. Ladouceur refers to the recipient's having said he has a recommendation from Louisiana Governor Johnson for placement in a hospital position. The writer asserts that all Vialet's children send him many regards. "Le General Paterson et Morgan" appears in the margin.

October 25, 1847, Baton Rouge. Letter in French from Pierre Ladouceur to Jean Louis Vialet in Vera Cruz, Mexico. The writer refers to the recipient's having been sick and to Vialet's having asked for a return of his books from Mr. La Combe. Ladouceur says that Vialet's "maman" (Madame Casas) misses him terribly. He relates that Vialet's children are relatively well and that they send their regards. Ladouceur mentions having to travel north to tend to business and hopes Vialet will return to be with Madame Casas during Ladouceur's absence. The addresser relates the deaths of Louis Guedry and Raphael Cousinard. Vialet writes on the cover that he would very much like to comply with his father's request.

December 25, 1847, New Orleans. Letter in French from B. Piveteau-Fleury to Catherine Miranda, Widow Casas, Baton Rouge. The writer inquires about Mr. Ladouceur and states that he has received a letter from Jean Louis Vialet since the latter went to work in a Vera Cruz, Mexico, hospital.

January 19, 1848, Baton Rouge. Letter in French from Pierre Ladouceur to "J. L. Vialet, U.S. Army, Vera Cruz, Mexico." The writer asserts that the recipient's absence augments his mother's (Madame Casas's) illness. Ladouceur announces the deaths of "Anelle" and "Mariquitte" who lived on the other side of the bayou and states that "l'Italian," Placide, and Vialet's children send their regards.

January 29, 1848, Baton Rouge. Letter in French from B. Jourdan forwarded by Captain Stewart to Jean Louis Vialet at the San Francisco Hospital in Vera Cruz, Mexico. Jourdan mentions the health of Pierre Ladouceur, Madame Casas, and Vialet's wife. He requests the recipient's help in getting money owed by Mr. Ruffino (or Rufino), who is in Vera Cruz and against whom the writer has filed legal proceedings. Jourdan asks for an English-language newspaper from Mexico in exchange for the Baton Rouge *Gazette*. He asserts that most of all he would like to receive a French-language newspaper from Mexico regularly and explore the possibility of establishing an agency for it in Baton Rouge.

March 9, 1848, Baton Rouge. Letter in French from Pierre Ladouceur to "Louis Vialet, U.S. Army, Vera Cruz, Mexico." Ladouceur mentions the deaths of "Marequite," of her husband (who was the brother-in-law of "Plassida" and was a fisherman who lived across the bayou), and of "la pauvre man Victoire." Ladouceur relates that the recipient's "maman" (Madame Casas) still longs for Vialet and has seen his wife, Elizabeth, who was sick almost all winter.

Undated (written after 1821 and prior to Pierre Ladouceur's October 1848 death), New Orleans. Letter in French from Alexander Baudin sent by the steamship *Feliciana* to Pierre Ladouceur, Baton Rouge. Baudin requests information concerning Francisca Catalina (Catherine) Miranda's marriage to Eulogio de Casas, which occurred in Baton Rouge, as well as the date Casas left Baton Rouge for Havana via Pensacola. The writer also gives and requests information concerning land Casas owned by the United States Arsenal in Baton Rouge, mentions seeking Edward Livingston's help in resolving issues associated with it, and criticizes Father John Brady's and Thomas Lozada's involvement in the Casas succession. Baudin also relates difficulties acquiring information from Havana regarding Casas's August 1820 death there and tells Ladouceur to get as much information as he can from Beauregard, Mr. Gracie, and "la Mulatresse Victoire Clairman." He sends his regards to "Madame L."

October 19, 1848, Baton Rouge. Reverend Auguste Martin's certified copy in French of Father Desmoulin's October 26, 1824, record of Jean Louis Vialet's baptism in Baton Rouge. The document indicates Vialet's January 18, 1824, birth as the son of Louis Manuel Vialet and Marguerite Pétiot with P. Fleury and Joséphine Michel serving as godparents.

December 9, 1848, New Orleans. Letter in French from B. Piveteau-Fleury to cousin Jean Louis Vialet, Baton Rouge, care of Mr. Waddill, pharmacist. The writer mentions the recipient's having said Judge Tessier wrote France declaring Jean Louis Vialet to be Jean Fachou's sole heir, but Piveteau-Fleury reminds Vialet that Fachou had two sons, Joseph and Bernard, Bernard having told the writer that his older brother, Joseph, had married in Mayaguëz, Puerto Rico and later left the place. Piveteau-Fleury says he has written Joseph since Bernard's death but has received no response. The writer also confirms that Jean Fachou died in Mayaguëz between 1828 and 1833. Piveteau-Fleury asserts that the recipient's late mother, Elizabeth Fachou, was

the daughter of Jean Fachou and Geneviève Lelevain. The writer conveys condolences over Pierre Ladouceur's death and sends his best to Widow Casas.

February 19, 1849, St. Louis, Missouri. Letter in English from Louis Primeau to Mrs. Pierre Ladouceur, Baton Rouge. Primeau expresses sympathy over Pierre Ladouceur's death and states that the recipient should direct questions concerning land claims in Missouri to James Lucas.

March 10, 1849, New Orleans. Letter in French from B. Piveteau-Fleury to cousin Jean Louis Vialet, Baton Rouge. The writer responds to Vialet's having asked for certification that his mother was the legitimate daughter of Jean Fachou and Geveviève Lelevain. While Piveteau-Fleury states that he believes Vialet's mother was legitimate, all he can certify is that she was born in St. Domingue and baptized at Jérémie. Piveteau-Fleury says that the slave "la Vieille Félicité" is very sick, and he sends his regards to the Widow Casas and to Vialet's wife.

August 15, 1849, St. Louis, Missouri. Letter in English from Louis DuBreuil to Jean Louis Vialet, Baton Rouge. DuBreuil discusses the land-dispute settlement between the Primeau family as Bissonet heirs and Lucas. He also mentions "my uncle Beauregard" in the postscript.

November 23, 1849, New Orleans. Letter in French from B. Piveteau-Fleury to cousin Jean Louis Vialet, Baton Rouge, inclosing Bernard Fachou's since-lost 1846 certificate of death. The writer says he has had no news of Joseph Fachou since Bernard Fachou's arrival in New Orleans in 1830 or 1831, when Joseph Fachou was living in Mayaguëz, Puerto Rico. The writer conveys his best to Madame Casas and to Vialet's wife. Piveteau-Fleury mentions in a postscript that slaves Jean Louis and mother (Félicité) send their regards.

December 18, 1849, New Orleans. Letter in French from B. Piveteau-Fleury to cousin Jean Louis Vialet, Baton Rouge. The author states that he has not heard from the recipient since the former sent the latter Bernard Fachou's death certificate. The writer conveys his regards to Madame Casas and to Vialet's wife.

April 12, 1850, New Orleans. Letter in French from B. Piveteau-Fleury to cousin Jean Louis Vialet, Baton Rouge. The addresser responds to the addressee's having asked if his late mother had had any property before she died. Piveteau-Fleury affirms that all she possessed was the slave "Cette Vieille Félicité" and properties in Haiti. Piveteau-Fleury sends three death certificates (since lost) and extends his best to Madame Casas and to the recipient's wife. He adds that the slave Félicité is very sick and that Jean Louis (her son) is not well, either.

May 27, 1850, Baton Rouge. Account in English by John L. (Jean Louis) Vialet. The author testifies that St. Louis, Missouri, native and 30-year Baton Rouge resident Pierre Ladouceur died October 17, 1848, in Baton Rouge. Vialet asserts that Ladouceur bequeathed his Missouri land claim (involving Chouteau, J. Lucas, and Ladouceur's sister) to wife, Catherine Ladouceur. The writer affirms that Catherine Ladouceur died without heirs May 7, 1850, in Baton Rouge, having willed the land claim to Vialet. In pointing out that the land claim came to Ladouceur as a Bissonet heir, Vialet spells Bissonet *Bissonette*.

June 10-11, 1850, Baton Rouge. Manuel Moreno's June 10, 1850, copy of his June 8, 1850, copy in French of Pierre Ladouceur's October 9, 1848, will drawn up by Charles Tessier and witnessed by John R. Dufrocq, Benjamin Bryan, and Moses L. Meeker, Baton Rouge. Ladouceur bequeaths everything to his wife, Catherine Miranda, widow of Eulogio de Casas. Following are Moreno's June 10, 1850, copy of his June 8, 1850, probate of the will in English (petitioned by John L. Vialet); certifications by Moreno and Judge John J. Burk on June 10, 1850; and an attachment of Governor Joseph Walker and Secretary of State Charles Gayarré's June 11, 1850, certification of Burk's judgeship.

June 10-11, 1850, Baton Rouge. Manuel Moreno's June 10, 1850, copy in English of his May 18, 1850, copy of Catherine [Miranda, Widow Casas] Ladouceur's September 29, 1849, will drawn up by Manuel Moreno and witnessed by Jean Lacoume, E. Gary, John B. Bon, Robert Devlin, and John R. Dufrocq, Baton Rouge. The will declares John (Jean) Louis Vialet sole heir and owner of mulatta slave Mary (age about 16) and mulatto slave Louis (age about 12), both to be freed upon reaching 30 years of age. Following the will is the June 10, 1850, copy of the May 18, 1850, probate drawn up by Moreno upon Michael L. Sheehey's and Joseph J. Pino's declaration of Ladouceur's death. Also included are Judge John J. Burk's June 10, 1850, certification of accuracy and the attachment of Governor Joseph Walker's and Secretary of State Charles Gayarré's June 11, 1850, certification of Burk's judgeship.

July 31, 1850, New Orleans. Letter in French from B. Piveteau-Fleury to cousin Jean Louis Vialet, Baton Rouge. The addresser expresses regret that the addressee's trip to St. Louis was in vain but also conveys pleasure over the recipient's having escaped the cholera outbreak. Piveteau-Fleury extends regards from slave "la Vieille Félicité" and from Jean Louis, Jean Louis' wife, and Jean Louis' daughters.

November 30, 1850, New Orleans. Letter in French from B. Piveteau-Fleury to cousin Jean Louis Vialet, Baton Rouge. The writer acknowledges receipt of Vialet's letter care of Jean Cassino. He expresses regret that failing eyesight keeps him from travelling to be godfather of Vialet's child. He states that "la Vieille Félicité" as well as Jean Louis and wife send regards.

June 8, 1852, Baton Rouge. Letter in French from Jean Louis Vialet to Mr. Bonpas, France. The writer inquires into his late grandfather Jean Fachou's succession (formerly entrusted to Mr. Langhimé), spelling his grandfather's last name *Fachout*. He asks about the interests of Widow Montmartyr (possibly meaning Widow Monmartin) and of his uncle Joseph Fachou. Vialet says that the latter left Louisiana in 1824, that they have heard nothing of him since 1830, and that they believe he died in the West Indies. Mr. Bonnecaze appears in the postscript.

October 10, 1853, New Orleans. Letter in French from B. Piveteau-Fleury to cousin Jean Louis Vialet. The writer relates that his business ventures are not going well and that slave "Vieille Félicité" would be better off dead. He extends his regards to Vialet's wife and children.

May 2, 1854, Baton Rouge. Letter in English from Jean Louis Vialet to Mr. Gay. Vialet promises that if a pending suit is successful, he will give Gay half the amount from lands recovered in the suit.

March 24, 1855, New Orleans. Letter in French from Pierre Perez on behalf of B. Piveteau-Fleury (to whom Perez refers as “Piftôt Fleuri” and “Monsieur Cadet Fleuri Piftôt”) to Jean Louis Vialet. The letter concerns tax money to be sent care of Gustave Castanel, Baton Rouge, and Pierre Perez, New Orleans, to Piveteau-Fleury, whose eyesight is failing.

Undated. English translation of a June 1, 1872, letter in French from Mr. Charles, lawyer in Villeneuve-sur-Lot, France, to a male recipient. The letter states that a suit pending between Mr. Caurpuras and Messieurs Vialet has been decided in favor of the latter, with the Vialet children’s having been declared legitimate proprietors of a house and garden in Villeneuve-sur-Lot. The document states that Mr. Roupa, agent of Mrs. Anna Pernell, tutrix for the children, collaborated with Mr. Charles. The writer points out that John Fachou, who owned the property, had several children, one of them being Mrs. Vialet, and he wonders if there are other heirs. He closes by describing the property and relating that a neighbor is interested in buying it.

December 11, 1874. Letter in French from A. Bugier, notary at Villeneuve-sur-Lot, France, to a male recipient. The letter includes a model of the type of form to be signed by the Widow Vialet (tutrix for the minor Vialet son), the adult Vialet son, and the adult Vialet daughter to appoint a representative for sale of property inherited from Jean Fachou in Villeneuve-sur-Lot. Bugier describes the property in detail.

November 25, 1875. Letter in French from A. Bugier, Villeneuve-sur-Lot, France, to “Mr. Vialet,” New York. The writer sends Vialet a check for sale of property in Villeneuve-sur-Lot and lists expenses incurred.

Undated. Document in French and English once serving as a cover and listing on its front the dates of letters pertaining to Bissonet/Ladouceur family holdings in St. Louis, Missouri, and to Fachou/Vialet family holdings in Villeneuve-sur-Lot, France. On the back appears the following: “John Louis Vialet, compositeur au N. Y. Herald; Miss Anna Vialet; Eugene Arthur Vialet, compositeur au N. Y. Herald.”

Undated. Handwritten prayers in French, with Ladouceur’s name (spelled *Ladouseur*) penciled on the back.