

Lilith Morton Collection 4.

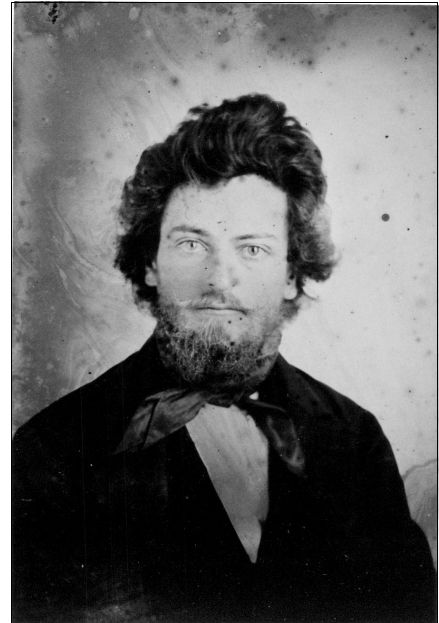
Keepsakes and papers pertaining to Lilith's father, Mandelbert Mansfield Morton [1832-1913].

Lilith Annastasia Morton was born 13 March 1884 in Mortons Gap, Kentucky, the third of seven children born to Mandelbert Mansfield Morton and Melvina England Fugate. Her father, Bert Morton, was a successful farmer who raised tobacco and lived on a farm outside Mortons Gap, Kentucky. Bert Morton, was 48 when he married her mother who had been 28 at their marriage. Lilith's mother, Melvina and her baby brother, Simon, died in June 1890 when Lilith was six years old. Bert's unmarried sister, Huldah, came to live with the family in Mortons Gap and helped to raise Bert's six surviving children.

Mandelbert Mansfield Morton was the oldest child of Thomas Morton and Mary Elizabeth Grady. Thomas Morton was born 25 December 1805 in Mortons Gap, Kentucky the son of Thomas Morton and Elizabeth Davis. Mary Elizabeth Grady was born in 1810 in Hopkins County and died 22 August 1884 in Hopkins County. Thomas Morton and Mary Elizabeth Grady had married on 17 November 1831 in Hopkins County, Kentucky. Their children included the following:

- i. Mandelbert Mansfield Morton, born 25 Oct 1832, Mortons Gap, Hopkins, Kentucky; married Melvina England Fugate, 22 Dec 1880, Hopkins County, Kentucky; died 22 Feb 1913, Mortons Gap, Hopkins, Kentucky.
- ii. Narcissa Isabelle Morton, born 6 May 1834, Hopkins County, Kentucky; married Andrew Jackson Sisk, 22 Apr 1860, Hopkins County, Kentucky; died 25 Dec 1864, Hopkins County, Kentucky.
- iii. Josephine Morton was born in 1836 or 1837 in Hopkins County, Kentucky. She died on 24 Feb 1857 in Hopkins County, Kentucky.
- iv. Huldah Anne Morton was born on 27 Jan 1840 in Hopkins County, Kentucky. She died on 24 Apr 1913 Mortons Gap, Hopkins, Kentucky. She was buried on 25 Apr 1913 in Flat Creek Cemetery, Hopkins, Kentucky. She never married.

Mrs. Lilith (Morton) Elliott carried a small box throughout her life containing letters and papers. Upon her death on 12 December 1973, the box came into the possession of her daughter, Mrs. Johnnye (Elliott) Gill. Mrs. Gill passed them to her grand daughter, Gail Jackson Miller (425 Midcrest Drive, Bowling Green, Kentucky). The original letters are currently (2020) in the possession of Mrs. Miller.



Mandelbert Mansfield "Bert" Morton
about 1860.

Lilith's box contained letters dating from 1897 through 1914. The letters included correspondence and notes from friends, relatives, girlhood boyfriends, and more serious suitors. The letters from her future husband show the progression of their relationship from their introduction to their plans to elope. Later letters from her husband show their movements and difficulties during their early years of marriage.

Lilith's box contained several other keepsakes. It contained a small, red leather wallet containing various receipts and financial papers. These appear to be from her father, Mandelbert Mansfield Morton's papers. The wallet also contained a small, ivory-handled knife. The box also contained a photograph of her father taken prior to the Civil War and a small pin with a photograph of Bishop Kelly. There were also calling cards, post cards, and a bundle of small pieces of material probably from special items of clothing.

The Lilith Morton Collection has been divided into five parts:

Collection 1, The Teen Year Letters, 1897 through December 1900;

Collection 2, The Courtship Period, November 1901 through June 1902;

Collection 3, The Early Married Years, July 1902 through October 1914;

Collection 4, Keepsakes and papers pertaining to Lilith's father, Mandelbert Mansfield Morton [1832-1913]; and

Collection 5, Miscellaneous keepsakes special to Lilith Morton.

Collection 4 contains the following items:

Item 1. These appear to all be financial receipts, notes, etc which had belonged to Mandelbert Mansfield Morton, Lilith's father. They were stuffed inside a red leather wallet.

Item 2. The red-leather wallet contained the financial papers and a small ivory handled knife. The wallet was tied with a string.

Item 3. The photograph of Mandelbert Mansfield Morton may be an ambrotype taken about 1860. It is contained within a case.