9-13-2012

Hassman, Drusilla (Hand), 1875-1971 (MSS 413)

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Drusilla “Drusie” (Hand) Hassman was born in Vanderburgh County, Indiana on 23 May 1875 to Henry Wells Hand and Harriet Mary (Carson) Hand. The Hand family lived in Evansville, Indiana, the majority of Drusilla’s early life. She had one sister, Laura Jane Hand, and 3 brothers. After a numerous courtships, Drusilla married Frederick Hassman in 1906. The couple settled in Paducah, Kentucky, and had 6 children. Drusilla died on 23 November 1971 in Paducah.

COLLECTION NOTE

This collection consists chiefly of courtship letters to Drusilla (Hand) Hassman from 1895 to 1904. These letters are from various male admirers, seeking Drusilla’s love and companionship. Topics in the letters include mutual friends, literature, business, the opera, dances, and the conveyance of love. Drusilla’s male admirers are from southern Indiana, southern Illinois and western Kentucky. Also included in this collection is a folder of letters from Drusilla to her husband, Fred Hassman. The last few folders of the collection consist of letters from family and friends addressed to either Fred or Drusilla Hassman.

SHELF LIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOX 1</th>
<th>Hand, Drusilla – Letters to</th>
<th>1888?-1906</th>
<th>174 items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Folder 1</td>
<td>Inventory and biographical data</td>
<td>n.d.</td>
<td>6 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 2</td>
<td>Carney, Matthew J. – Chiefly letters from</td>
<td>1888?; July 29, 1892-Feb. 12, 1901</td>
<td>11 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>Items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 3</td>
<td>Little, Charles S. – Letters from</td>
<td>Mar. 9, 1894-Aug. 10, 1896</td>
<td>21 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 4</td>
<td>Goodman, George H. – Letters from</td>
<td>July 19, 1897-Feb. 12, 1899</td>
<td>18 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 7</td>
<td>Veatch, Henry B. – Letters from</td>
<td>Aug. 1-24, 1897</td>
<td>4 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 8</td>
<td>Thixton, Harry Ellynn – Letters from</td>
<td>Mar. 16-July 22, 1898</td>
<td>12 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 9</td>
<td>Swann, Francis William – Letters from</td>
<td>Feb. 5, 1900-Jan. 14, 1901; n.d.</td>
<td>8 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 10</td>
<td>T., Olley R. – Chiefly letters from</td>
<td>June 11, 1901-Apr. 13, 1902; n.d.</td>
<td>25 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 11</td>
<td>Hassman, Fred – Letters from</td>
<td>Mar. 31, 1904-July 15, 1906</td>
<td>22 items</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BOX 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hand, Drusilla – Correspondence, account book, photo, etc.</td>
<td>1891-1927</td>
<td>149 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 1</td>
<td>Hassman, Fred – Letters from</td>
<td>July 16-31, 1906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 2</td>
<td>Hassman, Fred – Chiefly letters from</td>
<td>Aug. 2, 1906-Sept. 6, 1908; n.d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 3</td>
<td>Hassman, Fred – Letters from Drusilla</td>
<td>Apr. 3, 1904-July 28, 1906; n.d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 4</td>
<td>Hassman, Fred – Chiefly letters to (miscellaneous)</td>
<td>1895; 1906-1907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 5</td>
<td>Hand, Drusilla – Chiefly letters from family members</td>
<td>1900-1908?; n.d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 6</td>
<td>Kenny, Mary S. – Letters to Drusilla</td>
<td>1898-1899</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Folder 7  Hand, Drusilla – Chiefly letters from various individuals
       June 24, 1894- Dec. 23, 1927; n.d.  41 items

Folder 8  Correspondence – Partial
       1892-1908; n.d.  14 items

Folder 9  Hassman (Hand), Drusilla - Photo of Drusilla and son Fred
       ca.1910  1 item

Folder 10 Hand, Drusilla – Store account book,
       1891-1892; 1896  5 items
       1891-1892 (39 p.), which also has some journal entries by Drusilla, 1896 (8 p.)

CATALOG CARD

MSS HASSMAN, Drusilla (Hand), 1888-1927
413  1875-1971

Chiefly courtship letters addressed to Drusilla (Hand) Hassman, Evansville, Indiana from various male admirers. Also correspondence with her husband, Fred Hassman, and letters sent to them as a married couple from friends and family.

2 boxes. 21 folders. 320 items. Originals.
2004.168.1

SUBJECT ANALYTICS

African Americans – Attitude towards  B2,F2
Arkansas – Travel and description  B1,F9
Authors – 19th century  B1,F9
Barrie, James Matthew, 1860-1937 – Comments about  B1,F4
Brennan, Charles John, 1868-1955 – Letters from  B2,F4
Carney, Matthew J., 1875-1942 – Comments about  B1,F4,6
Carney, Matthew J., 1875-1942 – Letters from  B1,F2,
Carson, R. C. – Comments about  B1,F3
Castlyn, Evalyn – Comments about  B1,F3
Catholic Church – Customs and practices  B2,F5
Chicago, Illinois – Travel and description  B1,F10; B2,F7
Courtship  B1,F2-11; B2,F1-3,7
Crowley, Thomas W.  B2,F4
Dances and dancing  B1,F7; B2,F7
Drama  B1,F9
Diseases – Comments about  B1,F2,4,11; B2,F2,3,7
Donovan, J. T. – Comments about  B1,F5
Duncan, Perle – Comments about B1,F6
Durrenburger, Jane Bell (Carson), 1862-1962 – Comments about B2,F4-5
Einstein, Alfred C. – Comments about B1,F5-6
Evansville, Indiana – Comments about B1,F2,7; B2,F7
Farmington, Missouri – Comments about B1,F5
Fires – Paducah B1,F4
Friendship B1,F2; B2,F4
Goodman, George H., 1876-1961 – Letters from B1,F4-6
Hand, Cora (Schofield) – Comments about B2,F4
Hand, Henry Wells, 1838-1913 – Comments about B2,F4
Hand, Laura Jane, 1876-1967 – Comments about B1,F4,6,10,11; B2,F1,4,5
Hand, Lynn Goodlett, 1878-1961 – Letters from B2,F4
Hassman, Frederick, 1880-1941 – Letters to B2,F3-4
Hassman, Frederick, 1880-1941 – Letters from B1,F11; B2,F1-2
Hassman, Lewis E., 1880-1960 – Comments about B2,F4
Hassman, Mary D., 1857-1900 – Letters from B2,F4
Hopkins, William – Comments about B1,F7
Illinois – Travel and description B1,F5
Indigestion B1,F2,4
Jesuits – 19th century – Comments about B1,F5
Kenny, Mary S., B2,F6
Literature – 19th century B1,F3, F5
Little, Charles L. – Letters from B1,F3
Marriage – Comments about B1,F4-8,10; B2,F1-3
Mitchell, Sidney – Comments about B1,F3
Nebraska – Description and travel B1,F9
Opera – Comments about B1,F9
Paducah, Kentucky – Comments about B1,F4,F6; B2,F7
Paxton, Ed – Comments about B1,F8
St. Louis, Missouri – Comments about B1,F5,F6
Swann, Francis William – Letters from B1,F9
Thixton, Harry Ellynn, 1850-1949 – Letters from B1,F8
Typhoid fever B1,F2
Veatch, Henry Babcock, 1876-1938 – Letters from B1,F7
Walsh, Blanche, 1873-1915 – Comments about B1,F4
Weather – Comments about B1,B2-3

SEE and SEE ALSO

Hand, Drusilla, 1875-1971
See:
Hassman, Drusilla (Hand), 1875-1971

Rice/Jeffrey 09/13/2012