

G.P. WHITTINGTON PAPERS

MANUSCRIPTS COLLECTION 29

1804-1942
2 Linear Feet
(5 Manuscripts Boxes)
509 Items

Rehoused by Melissa Smith & Mary Catherine White
January 2005

ACQUISITION

Gift of Mary Thomas Whittington Duncan to the Tulane Manuscripts Department on 23 February 1952.

CITATION

Please cite as follows:

G.P. Whittington Papers, Manuscripts Collection 29, Manuscripts Department, Howard-Tilton Library, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA 70118

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

George Purnell Whittington, born in 1881 in Alexandria, Louisiana attended Tulane University and was admitted to the bar in 1901. He practised law in Alexandria and also found himself drawn to the histories of Rapides Parish and central Louisiana. Due to the razing of the Alexandria library during the Civil War and thus the loss of many of the parish's records, Whittington's papers remain today one of the more comprehensive and important collections in Louisiana with regard to the history of central Louisiana. In his *Dr. John Sibley of Natchitoches, 1757-1837, Sketch of his life by G.P. Whittington*, Whittington explores the life and career of Dr. John Sibley, a physician, an Indian agent, and a confidant of Thomas Jefferson. Whittington also wrote the biography of Governor Thomas Overton Moore, Louisiana's governor during secession who lived in Rapides Parish. Whittington, however, is most known for his histories of Rapides Parish with his *History of Rapides Parish before the Civil War* as well as the numerous articles he published in various journals. In 1942, G.P. Whittington died in his home of "apoplexy while asleep." Among his published books, Tulane University Special Collections houses the following: *Rapides Parish Louisiana: A History*, *Louisiana Collection of G.P. Whittington, deceased; Late of Alexandria, La.*, and *Dr. John Sibley of Natchitoches, 1757-1837, Sketch of his life by G.P. Whittington*. Whittington also compiled Manuscripts #504-57, the Walker family materials.

SUBJECT HEADINGS

Alexandria (La.)—History
Bolton, Herbert E., 1870-1953
Claiborne, Richard, 1757-1818
Claiborne, William C.C., 1775-1817
Governors—Louisiana
Johnston, Josiah Stoddard, 1784-1833
King, Grace, 1852-1932
Livingston, Edward, 1764-1836
Moore, Thomas Overton, 1803-1876
Rapides Parish (La.)—Biography
Rapides Parish (La.)—History
Sibley, Dr. John, 1757-1837
Whittington, George Purnell, 1881-1932

INVENTORY

Box 1*Folder*

1. Whittington Correspondence, 1910
2. Whittington Correspondence, 1924-1925
3. Whittington Correspondence, 1926
4. Whittington Correspondence, 1927
5. Whittington Correspondence, 1928
6. Whittington Correspondence, 1929
7. Whittington Correspondence, March- May 1930
8. Whittington Correspondence, June- December 1930
9. Whittington Correspondence, January- May 1931
10. Whittington Correspondence, June- December 1931
11. Whittington Correspondence, January- June 1932
12. Whittington Correspondence, July- October 1932
13. *Rapides Parish, A History* by G.P. Whittington, Foreword- Ch. 2
14. *Rapides Parish, A History* by G.P. Whittington, Ch. 3
15. *Rapides Parish, A History* by G.P. Whittington, Ch. 4 and 6

16. *Rapides Parish, A History* by G.P. Whittington, Ch. 5
17. *Rapides Parish, A History* by G.P. Whittington, Ch.7-9
18. Bibliography List and Cards

Box 2

Folder

1. 1860-1866
2. *Some Facts about Rapides*
3. *Rapides*
4. *Early Rapides History, A Few Facts*
5. Printed Land Survey of Bayou Boeuf, 1804
6. *On Bayou Rapides and Sibley's Report*, 1805
7. Edward Livingston to William P. Farrand, Feb. 28, 1830
8. Josiah Stoddard Johnston to Richard Smith: March 26, 1831
9. Peter Spragen to Simon Greenb?: 1834
10. Agricultural Society of Louisiana Papers, 1838-1842
11. *Felician Democrat*, October 1, 1864
12. Mary Eliza Walker: invitation, supply list, newspaper clippings, and photo, 1865
13. Deed of Anne Rives and James Nolan regarding land in Napoleon, Arkansas, July 26, 1867
14. *General Orders and Circulars of the Confederate Ordinance Bureau Part I*, 1862-1864
15. *General Orders and Circulars of the Confederate Ordinance Bureau Part II*, 1862-1863
16. Incomplete letter regarding the Civil War
17. Confederate Poems: *Bonnie Blue Flag*, *Southern Captive*, and *Confederate Flag*, no date.
18. Acts Passed by Orleans Legislative Council: December 3, 1804
19. Correspondence of William Miller: 1804, 1816, 1817
20. Correspondence of Laussat to William Miller and Claiborne to William Miller: 1804, 1805
21. John Sibley Papers: Letters and Diary: 1757-1837

22. Hand-List of Legislative Sessions and Session Laws (Massachusetts State Library): 1798-1912
23. American State Papers: 1798-1817
24. Thomas O. Moore Papers: 1861-1865
25. Correspondence of Mrs. J.D. Calvit: 1896
26. Address of Honorable Gilbert L. Dupre: April 22, 1929
27. The Poiret, LaMothe, and Meullion Families Notes: No Date

Box 3*Folder*

1. Notes on Steamboats and Transportation
2. Preliminary notes on the Diocese of Alexandria, La.
3. Notes regarding Whittington's article, *The Battle of Mansfield*
4. Notes on families and descendants for *Old Rapides History*
5. Notes regarding *The Sandbar Fight*
6. Notes regarding the early history of Rapides Parish
7. Notes regarding *The Burning of Alexandria*
8. Baby Bonds of the State of Louisiana No Date
9. Report by Victor C. Barringer
10. Notes on the building of the Alexandria Public Library
11. Newspaper Clippings about Louisiana
12. Photographs: Louisiana State Univ. Bldg., Civil War Monuments (2), Unidentified Photo (Possibly John Sibley)

Box 4*Bound Volumes*

1. *Daily Journal for 1858* of Charles L. Zimmerman
2. *Correspondence Book* of G.P. Whittington used for research
3. Composition Book that G.P. Whittington used for research
4. Notes and Research of G.P. Whittington

5. Scrapbook of notes and clippings compiled by G.P. Whittington

Box 5

Bound Volumes

6. Scrapbook of notes and clippings compiled by G.P. Whittington
7. Scrapbook of notes and clippings compiled by G.P. Whittington