

**See also UPA microfilm:**  
MF 5735, Series B, Reels 6-7

**Hennen-Jennings Papers**  
(Mss. 748)  
Inventory

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

Reformatted 2007

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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**

<b>Size.</b>	216 items and 1 manuscript volume and 24 printed volumes
<b>Geographic locations.</b>	St. Tammany Parish, La.; Tangipahoa Parish, La.; New Orleans, La.; New Haven, Conn.; Norfolk, Va.; Nashville, Tenn.
<b>Inclusive dates.</b>	1803-1918
<b>Bulk dates.</b>	1850-1870
<b>Language.</b>	English
<b>Summary.</b>	Personal correspondence of Alfred Hennen (1786-1870) and his family of St. Tammany Parish and New Orleans. Also, correspondence of Needler R. Jennings (d.1863) of New Orleans.
<b>Organization.</b>	Chronological
<b>Restrictions on access.</b>	No restrictions. If microfilm is available, photocopies must be made from microfilm.
<b>Related collections.</b>	N/A
<b>Copyright.</b>	Copyright of the original materials is retained by descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. copyright law.
<b>Citation.</b>	Hennen-Jennings Papers, Mss. 748, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
<b>Stack location(s).</b>	U:157; OS:H, Mss. Mf: H
<b>Also available on:</b>	Microfilm 5735, Series B, Reels 6-7 Omission: Printed volumes 2-24, Bound manuscript volume

## **BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE**

Alfred Hennen, son of John Hennen, a surgeon in the Continental Army, was born in Maryland in 1786. Alfred graduated from Yale and came to New Orleans in 1808 to practice law. He was a distinguished civil lawyer, a prominent Presbyterian, a professor of Constitutional Law at the University of Louisiana (later Tulane), and a director of the old Bank of Louisiana. He purchased a home in St. Tammany Parish in 1817 called The Retreat, and in 1820, married Anna Maria Davison.

Their daughter Anna Maria Hennen married Needler Robinson Jennings in 1843, and the two had five daughters, Anna Hennen Jennings (1845), Alice R. Jennings, Cora Hennen Jennings, Caddie Louise Jennings, and Edith Octavia Robinson Jennings (1858-1866). In 1867-1868, the girls attended school at Pelham Priory in the eastern United States. During the early part of the Civil War, Needler Jennings was a Major in the Confederate Army and served as aide-de-camp to Gen. Leonidas Polk at the Battle of Shiloh, where he was wounded. Jennings then died in November 1863. Alfred Hennen died in 1870.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

Personal correspondence of the Alfred Hennen family of "The Retreat," St. Tammany Parish, and New Orleans, mostly centering around Alfred Hennen's daughter, Anna Maria Hennen; and correspondence of Needler R. Jennings of New Orleans.

Early letters of the collection for the period ending about 1830 indicate that Hennen came to New Orleans in 1808, and bought a country home called "The Retreat". His letters to members of his family express devotion to them as well as unusual religious fervor.

Most of the letters from 1830 to 1850 are to Anna Maria Hennen while she was attending Mrs. Apthorp's School, New Haven, Connecticut, and later while she was living at "The Retreat" prior to her marriage to Needler R. Jennings in 1843.

The correspondence for the 1850's includes: letters to Jennings from Alexander Dimitry, historian and educator, and documents pertaining to the disposition of his library, 1851-1856; a letter from L. Agassiz, apparently the famous Swiss scientist and educator, regarding a lyceum engagement, 1852; statements concerning Jennings' interest in the Whig Party, 1852-56; and letters from Pierre Soule (former U.S. senator and minister to Spain, 1853-1855) 1853-1857, 1860 and 1863. Some of the letters in 1857 are written from Mexico.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See: John Preston Moore, "[a]rrespondence of Pierre Soule," The Hispanic American Historical Review 32 (1952) 59-72.

**HENNEN-JENNINGS PAPERS**

1803-(1850-1870)-1918

**Mss. 748****LSU Libraries Special Collections**

A letter, 1862, written by Gen. Leonidas Polk commends Jennings on his services during the Civil War. Most of the war-time correspondence is addressed to members of his family. A copy of his will dated Nov. 5, 1863, written shortly before his death (Nov. 20, 1863) mentions the various members of his family. Petitions and inventories of the estate filed by Mrs. A.C. Jennings gave an estimate of his holdings.

Letters and a document, 1866, signed by Andrew Johnson, granting pardon to Anna Maria Jennings for taking part in the rebellion, indicate that it was necessary for Mrs. Jennings to go to Washington to file claims for the restitution of her property.

The letters from 1867 to 1868 are from the Jennings daughters from Pelham Priory. Descriptions of the Washington Birthday celebration at the school tell of their hatred for the United States flag and reveal their loyalty to the Confederate cause.

The remainder of the collection, 1870-1918, includes a letter to Anna Maria from her mother after the death of Alfred Hennen, 1870; a letter to Mrs. Jennings from Rev. Benjamin M. Palmer referring to the Louisiana Lottery; letters from Edmund S. Ogden, son of O.M. Ogden, describing the construction of Camp Funston, 1917; and genealogical records of Rev. Henry Smith and the Ogden family.

The printed pamphlets include discourses and sermons by Rev. Benjamin M. Palmer; court cases, and two cases, and two stories Dominic You and Huascar, by O. N. Ogden.

**COLLECTION DESCRIPTION**

<u>Stack</u> <u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
U:157	1a	1	1803-1823, 6 items: Personal letters of Alfred Hennen of Philadelphia and New Haven to his sister, Eliza Hennen, his mother, and his father, Dr. James Hennen, Nashville, Tennessee, concerning their religious welfare (1803-1805); A letter (1813) from Needler Robinson to Robert Jennings, Norfolk, Va., pertaining to the business of distilling whiskey. In 1818, there is a letter from New Orleans addressed to his father in St. Mary's Parish regarding rumors of his marriage; in 1823, a letter to his daughter, Anna Maria.
		2	1832-1838, 26 items: Letters to Anna Maria Hennen while attending Mrs. Apthorp's School, New Haven, Connecticut, from her father, mother, and grandmother giving personal news; also included is a document (1856) with the original signatures of "Old Line Whigs."
		3	1840-1859, 51 items Letters to Anna Maria Hennen, the "Retreat," St. Tammany Parish, from her father and mother in New Orleans; a letter 1843, from her grandmother mentioning Mr. Jennings; letters to Anna Maria Jennings and N. R. Jennings from his sister, Amanda, concerning her desire to be independent. Several letters from Alexander Dimitry, historian and educator, and documents pertaining to the disposition of his library, 1851-1856. Letters, 1853-1857, of Pierre Soule from Mexico; letter from Louis Agassiz, relative to an engagement at the Lyceum, 1852; deed signed by A. N. Jennings for pew in First Presbyterian Church, 1857; appointment of Jennings as delegate-at-large to the convention of Whig Party, 1852 and 1856; power of attorney to Robert M. Lusher, 1859, by A. M. Jennings. Copy of letter "To the Editors of the New York Express," Oct. 1856, regarding reestablishment of Old Line New York Express," Oct. 1856, regarding reestablishment of Old Line Whig Party; and memorandum, May 1856, professing allegiance to Whig Party.
		4	1860-1868, 66 items: Letters to R. N. Jennings from Charles Gayarre and Pierre Soule, and a statement by Pierre Soule on Secession, 1860; correspondence of Jennings while in the Confederate Army with members of his family and friends, his will, and a letter from Gen. Polk, 1862-1863; letters introducing Mrs. Jennings as a claimant for the restitution of her property; a document, signed by Andrew Johnson, granting pardon to Anna Maria Jennings for

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
			taking part in the rebellion and thus giving her the right to own property, 1866. The letters from 1867 to 1868 indicate that Anna, Cora and Caddie Jennings were at school at Pelham Priory and a description of the Washington Birthday celebration relates their hatred for the United States flag. Letters and notes signed by Kate Jennings regarding the disposition of a mortgage on property in Kentucky, 1866-1868. A letter, 1867, from Alfred Hennen tells of the death of Duncan Hennen; letters of condolence at the death of Edith Jennings, 1866.
	1b	5	1870-1918, 15 items Letter to Anna Maria from her mother after the death of Alfred Hennen, 1870; Italian passport issued to Anna M. Jennings. Letter to Mrs. Jennings from B. M. Palmer referring to the Lottery and her sister, Mrs. Morris, reaction to the campaign, 1891; also a letter to Anna Hennen Jennings Carter from her sister, Alice. Letters of Edmund S. Ogden, son of O. M. Ogden, and Cora Hennen Jennings; one letter from Camp Funston describing the construction of the new camp, 1917.
		6	Undated, 29 items: Letter addressed to Mrs. Jennings from Thackeray; will of Needler Robinson; genealogical records of Rev. Henry Smith and the Ogden family; publications of Octavius N. Ogden, Louisiana author; photograph.
U:157	2	--	<b>Printed Pamphlets, 24 items</b> B. M. Palmer, A Discourse, Delivered on the Day of Fasting, Humiliation and Prayer. New Orleans, 1861.  B. M. Palmer, A Discourse upon the Occasion of the Death of the Late Alfred Hennen, Esq. New Orleans, 1870.  A [W]eekly [P]ublication containing Sermons by B. M. Palmer, vol. II, nos. 5, 8, 11, 16-19, 22, 23, 25-27, 33, 38 (New Orleans, 1876-1877).  <u>By-Laws Adopted for the Government of the Board of Directors of the New Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad Company.</u> New Orleans, 1859.  <u>Public Debt of Louisiana. Argument of Delegate B. R. Forman.</u> New Orleans, 1879.  Walter P. Scott <u>versus</u> John G. Moll. Supreme Court of Louisiana.  The State ex Rel. Mary W. Crean Et Al vs. Leonce P. Bouny, Tax Collector, Et Al. Supreme Court of Louisiana, [N]o 8028.

**Stack**    **Box**    **Folder**    **Contents**  
**Location**

August, Burnheim and Bauer versus Lisso & Scheen et al. Circuit Court of the United States, No. 8881.

O. N. Ogden, Dominic You. New Orleans, 1895.

O. N. Ogden, Huascar, or the Swimming Courier. Amite City, 1905.

2        --        **Bound Volume**  
Notebook of Essays. Needler R. Jennings. George Town, D.C. (1832).

OS:H        1        **Newspaper clippings**  
Various oversize clippings; 1861, 1901, 1916, 1935

**INDEX TERMS**

Bank of Louisiana.

Correspondence.

Eureka Plantation (La.).

Hennen, Alfred.

Jennings, Anna Maria.

Jennings, Needler R.

Johnson, Andrew, 1808-1875.

Louisiana--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Louisiana--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Personal narratives.

Louisiana State Lottery Company.

Ogden, Octavius Nash, 1852-1913.

Palmer, Benjamin M. (Benjamin Morgan), 1781-1847.

Polk, Leonidas, 1806-1864.

Presbyterians--Louisiana.

Saint Tammany Parish (La.).

Sermons.

Shiloh, Battle of, Tenn., 1862.

Soule, Pierre, 1801-1870.

Thackeray, William Makepeace, 1811-1863.

Whig Party (La.).

**CONTAINER LIST**

<u>Stack</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
U:157	1a	1	<b>Correspondence</b> 1803-1823
		2	1832-1838
		3	1840-1859
		4	1860-1868
U:157	1b	5	1870-1918
		6	<b>Correspondence, genealogical records, publications of Octavius N. Ogden, 1 photo undated</b>
U:157	2	(17 items)	<b>Pamphlets</b> Discourses & Sermons by B. M. Palmer, 1861-1877
		(1 item)	Pamphlet on by-laws for railroad co., 1859
		(1 item)	Pamphlet of argument on Public Debt Of Louisiana by Delegate B.R Forman, 1879
		(3 item)	Pamphlets on court cases, undated
		(2 items)	Pamphlets by O. N. Ogden, 1895, 1905
		(1 item)	<b>Bound Volume</b> Notebook of essays by Needler R. Jennings
OS:H		1	<b>Newspaper clippings</b> 1861, 1901, 1916, 1935
MF:H			
MF 5735, Series B		Reels 6-7	Omission: Printed volumes 2-24, Bound manuscript volume