

LAYSSARD FAMILY PAPERS
(Ms. 2875)
Inventory

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

Reformatted 2003
Revised 2010

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LAYSSARD FAMILY PAPERS

1794-1960, undated

Mss. 2875

LSU Libraries Special Collections

SUMMARY

Size.	1 linear foot
Geographic locations.	Rapides Parish (now Grant Parish), Orleans Parish
Inclusive dates.	1794-1960, undated
Bulk dates.	N/A
Language.	English, French, Spanish
Summary.	Family papers include land sale documents, materials relative to the literary career of Kate Kingston Boyd Grant, and genealogical research notes.
Organization.	Arranged categorically.
Restrictions on access.	If microfilm is available, photocopies must be made from microfilm. Original manuscript "From Blue to Gray" housed in vault is restricted. Use photocopy in Box 1, Folders 9-12.
Related collections.	N/A
Copyright.	Copyright of the original materials in this collection has expired, and they are therefore in the public domain.
Citation.	Layssard Family Papers, Mss. 2875, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Stack location(s).	W:20; OS:L; Vault

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

The Layssard family resided in northern Rapides Parish, La., an area that later became Grant Parish. Kate Kingston Boyd Grant (1852-1893) was a writer from Grant Parish, La.; she was married to Richard Henry Grant and was a relation of Harriet Grant, both heirs to Harriet Layssard.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Family papers include land sale documents, a slave sale document, materials relative to the literary career of Kate Kingston Boyd Grant, and genealogical research notes. The bulk of the material consists of unpublished literary works by Kate K. Grant, including three novels (one incomplete), a short story, and an unfinished play, all depicting Louisiana scenes. The writings are entitled "Beyond endurance," "From blue to gray, or the Battle of Colfax," "Old eternal vigilance," and "Liz." Antebellum New Orleans, the Colfax Riot of 1873, and small-town life in central Louisiana are the focuses of these works.

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS**I. Family papers, 1794-1960**

Earliest papers consist of two documents, one in French, the other in Spanish, signed by the Baron de Carondelet concerning land in Rapides Parish (1794-1795). A family letter (in French) from Bolon Layssard in New Orleans to his son Marafret Layssard in Alexandria, La., discusses the purchase and shipping of supplies (1822), while a later letter from H. Castarede in New Orleans discusses family news and rumors of dead and wounded in the Civil War (Feb. 18, 1863). Other papers include a true copy of a sale of land in Rapides Parish (1828), a fragment of paper listing the ages and birthdates of family members (ca. 1820), and a true copy of the marriage contract between Pamela Castarede and Stephen Marassite (Marafret) Layssard (1828). Legal documents include a true copy of a slave sale (1833), a power of attorney document, in French (1834), and a copy of a Sheriff's deed for the seized property of Mrs. Pamela Layssard (1868). Also included is a plat of land along Red River (1834), the succession of Malassite (Marafret) Layssard (1879), the sale of one-half of the Steamboat *Kate* from R. H. Grant to McKnight and Pirtle (1880), a partnership agreement of Richard Grant and R. Henry Grant (1882), and the succession of Richard Grant (1885). The certificate of copyright for Kate Kingston Grant's book title *Old Eternal Vigilance* as well as correspondence with Hubbard Publishing Co., concerning the book is included (1892).

Research notes consists of correspondence, notes on genealogy, and translations (from French and Spanish) and transcriptions of birth, marriage, and death records (1960, undated).

II. Photographs and Printed Items, ca. 1870-1930, undated

Photographs consist of a portrait of Malafret Layssard (ca. 1870) and an unidentified portrait by A.D. Lytle (1888). Printed items include a pamphlet titled "Directions for Securing Copyrights" (1891), and various newspaper clippings concerning the Daughters of the American Revolution (undated), and the funeral notice of Francis E. Brownell, son of Edward R. and Pamela Layssard Brownell (1930).

III. Literary works of Kate K. Grant, undated

Handwritten pages from the following plays, short stories, and chapters of novels (undated):

"Beyond Endurance"

"From Blue to Gray, or The Battle of Colfax"

"Old Eternal Vigilance"

"Liz"

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INDEX TERMS

Carondelet, Luis Héctor, barón de, 1748-1807.

Grant, Kate K. (Kate Kingston)

Layssard family.

Louisiana--History--19th century.

Manuscripts for publication.

Photographic prints.

Riots--Louisiana--Colfax.

Women authors, American--Louisiana.

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack</u>			
<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
W:20	1	1-2	Family papers (1794-1892, undated)
		3	Research notes (1960, undated)
		4	Photographs (ca. 1970, 1888)
		5	Printed items (1891-1892)
		6	Newspaper clippings (1930, undated)
		7-8	Literary works of Kate K. Grant. "Beyond Endurance," play and short story.
		9-12	Photocopy of literary works of Kate K. Grant. "From Blue to Gray." Original in vault is restricted.
		2	13
			14-44
	3	45-61	Literary works of Kate K. Grant. "Liz," unfinished novel.
OS:L	--	1	Certificate of Kate K. Boyd's acceptance into the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin (May 3, 1868)
Vault	--	--	RESTRICTED-- use surrogate in box 1, folders 9-12 "From Blue to Gray" manuscript