

WILLIAM WALLACE GARIG AND FAMILY PAPERS
Mss. 2993
Inventory

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

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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

Size.	1.75 linear ft.; 10 manuscript volumes
Geographic locations.	Baton Rouge, La.; Minnesota
Inclusive dates.	1855-1959
Bulk dates.	1900-1953
Language.	English
Summary.	Papers pertaining to the animal husbandry work and social life of Confederate veteran William Wallace Garig and the teaching careers and social lives of his daughters Mercedes and Louise Garig. Materials include: correspondence, writings and notes, financial documents, photographic items, printed materials, scrapbooks, and diaries.
Restrictions on access.	None.
Related collections.	James M. Andrews Papers, Mss. 861 Eva Scott and Family Papers, Mss. 2994
Copyright.	For those materials not in the public domain, copyright is retained by the descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. Copyright law.
Citation.	William Wallace Garig and Family Papers, Mss. 2993, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
Stack locations.	7:58-60; OS:G

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

W. W. (William Wallace) Garig was born in 1839 in East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana and died on October 26, 1908. He was the son of Philip and Jane Garig. Before the Civil War, he lived in Minnesota. He enlisted in the Confederate Army in 1862 at Camp Moore in Louisiana, entering into Company A of the 11th Louisiana Infantry Regiment. He later married Susan Beatrice Freeman (1840-1915), who was from East Feliciana Parish. They married on February 21, 1866 in East Feliciana Parish. Their children were William Wickliffe (died in August 1931), Idalia Inda (died in March 1906), Mercedes Melville (born on July 18, 1877 and died on July 17, 1957), George Gardiner (died in November 1961), Lillian Louise (died on July 8, 1935), Rukins R. (died on October 5, 1948), and Edwin E. (died in June 1951). There were other children who did not survive childbirth or childhood.

W. W. Garig had a livestock and animal husbandry business that he operated in Livingston Parish at Cedar Ota. He bred and sold dogs, poultry, pigs, hares, and other animals. He contributed articles to various agricultural periodicals, specifically *The Southern Farmer* (New Orleans, Louisiana). His daughters Mercedes and Louise were both members of the Louisiana State University (LSU) English faculty. Mercedes wrote a textbook titled *Drill in English*, and Louise wrote two theses at LSU: *Grading and Promotion in the Elementary School* and *Geographic Influences in Southern History*. The two sisters lived together in Spanish Town in Baton Rouge for most of their lives. After Louise's death, LSU constructed Louise Garig Hall, a residence hall and dormitory, in her honor (circa 1938).

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Papers include correspondence, writings and notes, financial documents, teaching and professional materials, picture postcards, photographic items, diaries, scrapbooks, manuscript volumes, and printed materials created, collected, and received chiefly by W. W. Garig, Mercedes Garig, and Louise Garig.

Nineteenth century correspondence is addressed chiefly to W. W. Garig and is mostly from friends and family. Letters of note include two letters from Garig's brother Milton, who writes from Baton Rouge about his sickness to Garig, in St. Paul, Minnesota at the time (July 20 and August 5, 1858). In another letter, Milton asks Garig about his new picture business (May 25, 1859). Garig's parents write to him in one letter and provide him with business advice (February 13, 1859). In another letter from J. J. M. Gaulden, writing from Bayou Sara, Louisiana, the writer discusses the 1860 U.S. presidential election and the possible secession of Louisiana (November 5, 1860). Included in the 19th century correspondence are certificates awarded to Garig by the Office of the Louisiana State Fair Association for animal breeding (1890).

Twentieth century correspondence is addressed chiefly to Mercedes and Louise Garig and is mostly from friends and family. A letter of note from Emmett Garig, who writes from Norwood, Louisiana, offers condolences to Mercedes after W. W. Garig's death (November 13, 1908). In a letter from Hugh Mercer Blair, writing from Waynesboro, Virginia, the writer asks Mercedes where he can buy her *Drill in English* book (June 10, 1914). Four letters from Lyle Saxon (*Time-Picayune* journalist) discuss newspaper work in New Orleans and general news and events (December 20, 1917; July 26 and September 24, 1918; undated). Another letter from a friend mentions the national influenza epidemic (January 5, 1919). A telegram and a letter from Mary B. Garig to Mercedes discuss the death of Rukins Garig (October 6 and 8, 1948).

Writings and notes of interest include drafts (undated) by W. W. Garig titled "Record of an Old Rebel" and "The Great Unsolved Problem." In the former, Garig recollects several events in his life, specifically events related to the Civil War. In the latter, he presents his views on the outcome of the Civil War, often criticizing African Americans and expressing white supremacist beliefs. Financial documents of note include insurance policy certificates for several of W. W. Garig's children (1893) and Garig's application for soldier's pension (oversize; undated). Most photographic items are unidentified and include an ambrotype, a daguerreotype, two tintypes, cabinet cards, and photographic prints. Printed materials of interest include advertisements of Garig's animal husbandry and livestock business; publications from Citizens' Councils and Citizens' Councils of America opposing desegregation; two Louisiana State University calendars (1913, 1916); and a printed speech by L. E. Thomas opposing Huey P. Long as a candidate for governor (in miscellaneous printed materials; 1927).

Manuscript volumes of interest include three Civil War diaries belonging to W. W. Garig (1862-1865) which describe his enlistment at Camp Moore (first entry of vol. 1), his movements throughout the war, his daily routines, and oftentimes the weather; a diary belonging to Mercedes Garig; and several scrapbooks (that were also once ledgers) belonging to W. W. Garig that contain a variety of printed materials on animal husbandry and religious topics (mostly from Baptist publications and sources).

CROSS REFERENCES

Subject	Date	Description of relevant documents
Citizens' Councils of America.	1907, 1947-1959, undated	Pamphlets and other printed items from the Association of Citizens' Councils, pertaining to resistance to deferral desegregation orders.
Confederate soldier's diary-- Louisiana.	1862-1865	Three diaries of Confederate cavalryman W. W. Garig.
Medical diseases--Influenza.	Jan. 5, 1919	Letter pertaining to national influenza epidemic.
Music--Sheet music.	1910, 1918	Published sheet music: <i>Louisiana Two-Step</i> by Harry Weston (News Orleans, 1910); <i>Well, Here We Are</i> by Mrs. E. S. Polk and W. B. Clarke (Baton Rouge, 1918).
Long, Huey Pierce, 1893-1935.	1927	Published speech opposing Long as candidate for Governor of La: <i>Address of Hon. L. E. Thomas of Shreveport, Delivered at Washington, La., September 24, 1927.</i>
LSU faculty--Mercedes Garig-- Baton Rouge.	1900-1953	Letters, printed items, and other materials pertaining to LSU, particularly classes in English composition, including some teaching materials of Mercedes and Louise Garig, members of the English faculty.
Political campaigns--Bayou Sara (La.)	Nov. 5, 1860	Letter speculating on results of presidential election of 1860, possible secession of La.
Saxon, Lyle--New Orleans (La.)	1917-1917, undated	Four letters from Saxon discussing newspaper work in New Orleans and general greetings: Dec. 20, 1917; July 26 and Sept. 24, 1918; undated.
Social life--Baton Rouge (La.)	1855-1956, undated	Letters and other items pertaining to social life, education of children, fashions, entertaining, and other topics.

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Contents with dates</u>
	7:58	1	1-12	Correspondence, 1858-1862, 1890-1919
		2	1-10	Correspondence, 1920-1945
		3	1-8	Correspondence, 1946-1954, undated
			9-10	Writings and notes, undated
		4	1-2	Financial documents, 1873-1935, undated
	OS:G	--	1	Soldier's application for pension and insurance documents, 1894, 1908-1911, undated
	7:58	4	3	Obituaries, 1874-1952, undated
			4-5	Teaching and professional materials, 1912-1953, undated
			6	Invitations, 1904-1954, undated
				Printed Materials
			7	Advertisements for W. W. Garig's livestock business, circa 1897, undated
			8	Related to Baton Rouge, La., 1940-1952
			9	Citizens' Councils and Citizens' Councils of America, 1907, 1947-1959, undated
		5	1-3	Louisiana State University, 1913-1938, undated
			4-5	Religious items, 1914-1955, undated
	OS:G	--	1	Sheet music, 1910, 1918
	7:58	5	6	Miscellaneous, 1927, 1941-1942, 1956, undated
			7	Picture postcards, 1903-1908, undated
		6	1-6	Photographic items, 1918, undated
				Manuscript Volumes
	7:60	7	1	Vol. 1: Diary (W. W. Garig), Oct. 30, 1862-May 15, 1863 Vol. 2: Diary (W. W. Garig), Jan. 1-April 28, 1864 Vol. 3: Diary (W. W. Garig), Jan. 5-May 12, 1865. Vol. 4: Diary (Mercedes Garig), 1947 Vol. 5: Notebook (Mercedes Garig), 1952
	7:59	--	vol. 6	Ledger, 1904-1906
		--	vol. 7	Scrapbook (W. W. Garig), 1858-1898, undated
		--	vol. 8	Scrapbook and ledger (W. W. Garig), 1873-1879, undated
		--	vol. 9	Scrapbook and ledger (W. W. Garig), circa 1855-1895, undated
		--	vol. 10	Scrapbook (W. W. Garig), circa 1860s, undated
	7:60	7	4	<i>Madelon Passes and Mam'selle Delphine: A Story of the Christmas</i> (signed by Harry Stillwell Edwards), 1922
			5	<i>The Settlement of the German Coast of Louisiana and the Creoles of German Descent</i> (by J. Hanno Deiler), 1909