

# Ruth Bitting Hamm Collection

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## Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	Four boxes
COLLECTION DATES:	1856-2008
RESTRICTIONS:	None
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	Record in National Union Catalog Manuscripts Collection On-Line
LOCATION:	Archives Annex
NOTES:	Four posters located in archives annex and Hamm photographs

## **BRIEF HISTORY**

Ruth Thelma Hamm was born July 3, 1915, in Torrington, Wyoming. Her parents were Frank Leslie and Harriet Belle Merwin Bitting. Frank and Harriet moved to Central Illinois to take over the David Merwin 240 acre farm in Ellsworth, Illinois. Ruth attended first and second grade at the Fairtown School (located between Ellsworth and Padua, IL) which was built by her great-grandfather Asher Merwin. The family was again urged to relocate to Florida where Ruth attended Hialeah High School. The family survived a large fire that burned close to the family house and the hurricane of 1926 which destroyed their home. The decision to move back to Central Illinois seemed to be an appropriate choice. The family moved to back to the area and continued to farm. Ruth and her sister Fern sought employment in Bloomington at various agencies and Prairie Farms Creamery.

Ruth married James Justin Hamm on July 22, 1936. Ruth and James moved to the Hudson area to a farm house built by James' grandfather, James Wilson. Later they moved again to the farm house built by James' other grandfather, Jacob Hamm. While living in Hudson, Ruth became very active in the Hudson Girls 4-H group. She was leader of the Hudson Clothing Club and watched several of the members model their award winning designs at the Illinois State Fair. Ruth also led Sunday School courses. She was invited to join the Hudson Home Bureau Unit and ultimately served as President of the McLean County Homemakers Extension Organization.

Ruth also belonged to the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution on the local, state, and national level. At the local level, she chaired numerous committees, was Registrar of the Letitia Green Stevenson Chapter, and was Chapter Regent. At the state level, Ruth was Illinois State Registrar and was elected Illinois State Regent. At the national level, Ruth was elected Vice President General of the National Society and was elected Registrar General of the National Society.

Ruth also belonged to several other lineage societies: Recording Secretary and then President General of the National Society Colonial Daughters of the Seventeenth Century; Councilor for The National Society Daughters of Founders and Patriots of America; The Colonial Dames of America, Chapter XII; Registrar General for the Hereditary Order of Descendants of Colonial Governors; and The National Gavel Society

She was awarded two titles: "The Honorable Ruth B. Hamm, Kentucky Colonel" and "Ruth B. Hamm Admiral of the Nebraska Navy."

In retirement, Ruth and James were very active in traveling, which led them to destinations such as Canada, Iceland, Bermuda, Cuba, and to England to view the coronation of Queen Elizabeth. They travelled across the United States working on family histories and to Germany to research the Bitting Family.

Ruth was an accomplished genealogist and published several titles including "Soldiers of the American Revolution Buried in Illinois 1976," "The Hudson Colony," and "The Bitting Family Then and Now."

## **SCOPE NOTE**

The Ruth Bitting Hamm collection contains several folders in four boxes. The items included are correspondence, maps, posters, photographs, ledger books, and genealogical information about the ancestors and relatives of Ruth Bitting Hamm. There are several land deeds and mortgages and daily journals. There are also several books about Central Illinois and several about her family. The collection was donated by her estate. The collection, especially the correspondence was left in the groupings chosen by Ruth Hamm. Outline of folder contents:

**Box 1: Research**

- Folder 1: Biographical Information
- Folder 2: Hudson Colony
- Folder 3: Old Zoning Materials
- Folder 4: Hudson Zoning 1960
- Folder 5: Zoning Maps
- Folder 6: Zoning Research
- Folder 7: Hudson Township Record Book
- Folder 8: Barns
- Folder 9: Hamm Barn
- Folder 10: Scott House
- Folder 11: Genealogy
- Folder 12: Miscellaneous
- Folder 13: Harriet M. Bitting Estate
- Folder 14: Joseph Bitting Revolutionary War Records
- Folder 15: Ludwig and Susanna Bitting
- Folder 16: Cemetery Records
- Folder 17: Miscellaneous Land Deeds
- Folder 18: D.K. Merwin Land Deeds
- Folder 19: Frank L. Bitting Land Deeds
- Folder 20: James Greer
- Folder 21: Ida Wilson Estate
- Folder 22: Julia Hamm Estate
- Folder 23: Julia Hamm for James J. Hamm
- Folder 24: Sons of the American Revolution Letters
- Folder 25: Sons of the American Revolution Programs

**Box 2: Correspondence and Ledgers**

- Folder 1: Hamm Correspondence I 1856-1891 (35 items)
- Folder 2: Hamm Correspondence II 1892-1912—postmarks include Clear Lake, IA; Hudson, IL; Spencer IA; Holder, IL; Jacksonville, FL; St. Augustine, FL; Palatka, Fl, Menominee, WI; and Bloomington, IL (33 items) IL; Streator, IL; Pontiac, IL; Holder, IL; St. Augustine FL; Chicago, IL;
- Folder 3: Hamm Correspondence III 1892-1912—postmarks include Hudson, IL; Normal, Bloomington, IL; and San Diego, CA(48 items)
- Folder 4: Wilson-Greer Correspondence 1902-1940—postmarks include New Zealand, Ireland, and Australia
- Folder 5: Merwin Correspondence 1902-1910—postmarks include Ellsworth, IL; Torrington, Wyo; Palatka Fl; and Bloomington, IL (27 items)
- Folder 6: Merwin Correspondence 1902-1916—postmarks include Palatka, Fl; Henry, Nebr; Ellsworth, Il; Torrington, Nebr; Empire, Neb; and Padua, IL (103 items)
- Folder 7: Bitting Correspondence 1913-1949—postmarks include Torrington, Wyo; Palatka, Fl; Ellsworth, Illinois; Newark, Il; Serena, IL; and Seneca, IL (35 items)
- Folder 8: Bitting, Stanley Letters 1945-1946 (Sent while in Army and stationed in the Pacific) (16 items)
- Folder 9: Miscellaneous Correspondence (22 items)

**Box 3: Genealogy**

- Folder 1: Bitting Family Outline & Miscellaneous Census Documents
- Folder 2: Bitting Family Census- Bucks and Perry Counties, PA
- Folder 3: Bitting Family Census- Berks County, PA
- Folder 4: Bitting Family Census- Montgomery County, PA
- Folder 5: Bitting Family Census- Lehigh County, PA
- Folder 6: Bitting Family Census- Juniata, Lycoming, Dauphin, Northampton, Union, and Snyder Counties, PA
- Folder 7: Philadelphia County, PA

Folder 8: Joseph Bitting  
Folder 9: Ludwig Bitting  
Folder 10: Martin Bitting  
Folder 11: Henry Bitting  
Folder 12: Jacob Bitting  
Folder 13: Samuel Bitting  
Folder 14: Charles Bitting  
Folder 15: Bitting Pedigree Charts  
Folder 16: Bitting Lineage Charts  
Folder 17: Miscellaneous Bitting Documentation  
    Folder 18: Miscellaneous Bitting Family Group Sheets  
Folder 19: Wills and Probate Court Papers  
Folder 20: Hamm Notes  
Folder 21: John, Martin, and Daniel Webster  
Folder 22: Webster Notes  
Folder 23: Bacon Notes  
Folder 24: Baxter Notes  
Folder 25: Foland Notes  
Folder 26: Taft Notes  
Folder 27: Taft Family Records  
    Folder 28: Graeff Family Records  
Folder 29: Benjamin Family  
Folder 30: Graham Family Records  
Folder 31: Bear Family Research  
Folder 32: Schreiter Family

**Box 4: Genealogy**

Folder 1: Biographical Sketches  
Folder 2: Biographical Sketches 2  
Folder 3: Miscellaneous Family Group Sheets  
Folder 4: Daughters of the American Revolution Applications  
Folder 5: Miscellaneous Newspaper Clippings  
Folder 6: Miscellaneous Sources  
Folder 7: Bear Correspondence  
Folder 8: Myrtle Donley Correspondence  
Folder 9: Ruth Hamm Correspondence  
Folder 10: Bitting Family Correspondence  
Folder 11: Harriet Merwin Bitting Diary  
Folder 12: Miscellaneous Items

## **BOX 1: Research**

### **Folder 1: Biographical Information**

- 1.1.1 Obituary for Ruth Themla Hamm printed in *Pantagraph* July 15, 2008
- 1.1.2 Newspaper Clipping of Ruth's marriage. *Pantagraph*, July 25, 1936
- 1.1.3 Extract from *Henrich (H-3) Bitting and his Descendants 1672-2005*; by Ruth Bitting Hamm; 2005; pgs 111-117

### **Folder 2: Hudson Colony**

- 1.2.1 Article, "The Hudson Colony," paper written by George W. Gastman; 7 pgs
- 1.2.2 "The Hudson Colony," handwritten by George W. Gastman; 58 pgs

### **Folder 3: Old Zoning Materials**

- 1.3.1 Photocopy of Hudson plat map, undated and taped to cardboard
- 1.3.2 Photocopy of Hudson plat map
- 1.3.3 "In Commemoration of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the founding of Hudson, Illinois, July 4, 1936;" booklet
- 1.3.4 Photocopy of Hudson Map T. 25 N.—R.2 E., taped to cardboard
- 1.3.5 Havens Grove Sub'n. 1<sup>st</sup> Add. Hudson, Illinois Final Plat
- 1.3.6 "Village of Hudson, Illinois Zoning Ordinance;" booklet

### **Folder 4: Hudson Zoning 1960**

- 1.4.1 Zoning Commission and Zoning Ordinance
- 1.4.2 Meeting Notice
- 1.4.3 An Ordinance Regulating the Parking and Use of Trailer Coaches in the Village of Hudson, Illinois ca. 1960
- 1.4.4 Zoning Ordinance, Hudson, Illinois, undated (4 items)
- 1.4.5 Drawn diagram
- 1.4.6 Ordinance No. 1015 Garbage Service Charge Ordinance, 1971
- 1.4.7 Ordinance No. 1025 An Ordinance Prohibiting the Running at Large of Dogs, and Impounding Dogs, in the Village of Hudson, McLean County, Illinois, 1974
- 1.4.8 Correspondence to Mr. Fred Houser from James J. Hamm, February 10, 1967
- 1.4.9 Correspondence to John Craig from the Law Offices of J. William Meara dated June 21, 1960

### **Folder 5: Zoning Maps**

- 1.5.1 Zoning map of Hudson Township, Illinois; undated; red lines and marks (2 copies)
- 1.5.2 Zoning map of Hudson Township, Illinois; undated (3 copies)
- 1.5.3 Plat; Eastland Subdivision; undated; stamp "Carl O. Miller 65 Illinois Land Survey" in corner (2 copies)

### **Folder 6: Zoning Research**

- 1.6.1 "An Ordinance Regulating the Parking and Use of House-Car Trailers to Provide for the Establishment, Operation Inspection and Licensing of Tourist and Trailer Camps in the Town of Normal, Illinois, 1950; 8 pgs

- 1.6.2 “Zoning and Plat Approving Ordinance, Ordinance No. 365, El Paso, Illinois, 1959; 19 pgs with fold out map; also includes newspaper clippings, “Zoning Group Approves El Paso Ordinance” and “Noxious Weeds Must be Cut; Fines Provided”
- 1.6.3 “Between Section X and Section XI” notes for Ordinances, El Paso, Illinois and Eureka, Illinois; handwritten packet of notes containing zoning information from the City of Eureka and of El Paso, Illinois; 6 pgs
- 1.6.4 Ordinance No. 291 for City of Eureka, Illinois; 17 pgs; “An ordinance regulating and restricting the location construction and use of buildings, structures, and the use of land in the City of Eureka, Illinois, and for said purposes dividing the City into districts and known as City of Eureka Zoning Ordinance”

**Folder 7: Hudson Township Record Book**

- 1.7.1 Hudson Township Record Book April 6, 1858, photocopied by Ruth B. Hamm May 22, 1978

**Folder 8: Barns**

- 1.8.1 Pencil sketch of Barn
- 1.8.2 McLean County Old Barn Record Program Information Sheet for Jacob J. Ham Barn filled out by Mrs. James J. Hamm, May 31, 2002 (Sec. 33 Hudson Township)
- 1.8.3 McLean County Old Barn Record Program Information Sheet for James J. Hamm Barn filled out by Mrs. James J. Hamm, June 1, 2002 (Sec. 14 Hudson Township)
- 1.8.4 McLean County Old Barn Record Program Information Sheet for Outlot 99, Sec. 21 in Village of Hudson filled out by Mrs. James J. Hamm, June 1, 2002
- 1.8.5 McLean County Old Barn Record Program Information Sheet for Asher Merwin Barn filled out by Mrs. James J. Hamm, June 1, 2002 (Sec. 4 Dawson Township)

**Folder 9: Hamm Barn**

- 1.9.1 Newspaper photo, “Another Era,” undated
- 1.9.2 Newspaper photo, “Up In Flames,” undated
- 1.9.3 Photocopy of photographs of Hamm house in Hudson, ILL (2 items)
- 1.9.4 Photocopy of sketch of Hamm house from a book (11 items)
- 1.9.5 Picture of Hamm house (cut from a book), “Residence of J.J. Ham, Sec. 33. Hudson Township” photocopies were taken from this picture
- 1.9.6 Graph paper, blank
- 1.9.7 Newspaper clipping, “Hudson Farm Improved By Terraces,” undated, with newspaper photograph “James Cox Shapes Terraces,” April 1955
- 1.9.8 Newspaper photograph, “Floyd Littell of Hudson Feeds Western Lambs” undated
- 1.9.9 Newspaper clipping, “My Auto, ‘Tis of Thee,” undated
- 1.9.10 Drawing

**Folder 10: Scott House**

- 1.10.1 Matthew T. Scott House Chenoa, ILL photocopy of brochure
- 1.10.2 “Matthew Thompson Scott and Julia Green Scott and Adlai Ewing Stevenson and Letitia Green Stevenson” by Ruth B. Hamm September 27, 2000
- 1.10.3 Letitia Green Stevenson Chapter dedication program and lecture, 1983
- 1.10.4 Matthew T. Scott House Chenoa, ILL brochure

1.10.5 Handwritten notes

**Folder 11: Genealogy**

- 1.11.1 Pedigree Chart John Greer-Margret Wilson
- 1.11.2 "The Wilson-Greer Connection"
- 1.11.3 Photocopy of Jacob J. Ham biography; pgs 718-719
- 1.11.4 Photocopy of *History of McLean County Illinois* by Jacob L. Hasbrouck; James Wilson biography on pgs 666-667 and the James Greer biography pg 1063 (2 copies)
- 1.11.5 Family Tree for John Greer and Margaret Wilson
- 1.11.6 Scrap of paper with note, "James Wilson left Towanda in 1892 to live on a farm near Hudson"
- 1.11.7 Handwritten notes
- 1.11.8 "The Wilson-Greer Connection" edited 8-20-2004 with family biographies
- 1.11.9 "The Wilson Greer Connection" (2 copies)
- 1.11.10 Ezekiel Workman – Mary Ann Sands and John Greer- Margaret Wilson pedigree charts
- 1.11.11 Handwritten notes on John Greer
- 1.11.12 Typed copy of James Greer biography from *Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois* and *History of McLean County*—1908 version
- 1.11.13 Photocopy of several news articles, undated (7 items)
- 1.11.14 Handwritten notes on Wilson and Workman families; 3 pgs
- 1.11.15 Newspaper photo, "Celebrate Golden Wedding, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar B. Zumfe" undated
- 1.11.16 1860 Census worksheet for James Greer and James Shenasay (?)
- 1.11.17 The Wilson-Greer Connection typed version with notes about family
- 1.11.18 Handwritten notes about Workman Family
- 1.11.16 Correspondence to Mr. and Mrs. Hamm from Mary Greer
- 1.11.17 Address for Lance Corporal J. Turnbull
- 1.11.18 Correspondence to Ida Wilson from Homer Collins, April 7, 1941
- 1.11.19 Final Report in the Matter of Frank L. Bitting, Deceased, 1952
- 1.11.20 Dale Bitting obituary, *Journal Star*, April 25, 2004
- 1.11.21 Post it notes from cover of book, *The Genealogy of The Families Originating from the Marriage of Frederick Bitting and Mary Emma Wilt May 14, 1871- May 14, 1972, 101 Years*
- 1.11.22 Correspondence from Rosa to Mrs. Hamm dated October 10, 1972 concerning genealogy

**Folder 12: Miscellaneous**

- 1.12.1 Official Hudson Township Ballot, April 1, 1902 (3 items)
- 1.12.2 Photocopies of *Kitchen Luxuries* page 480-481
- 1.12.3 Photocopy of news articles, unknown sources and dates
- 1.12.4 Photocopy of "Village of Hudson: Survey of Village of Hudson" From "The Hudson Colony" by Ruth B. Hamm 1976; pgs 54-56
- 1.12.5 Information about donation to McLean County Museum of History

- 1.12.6 Newspaper clipping, "Mrs. C.A. Shinkle, 59, Long Resident of Ellsworth, Dies," *Pantagraph*
- 1.12.7 Correspondence to D.K. Merwin from Bank of Holder dated May 27, 1912 concerning taxes
- 1.12.8 Share in the Padua Grain Company, 1918 (2 items)
- 1.12.9 Certificate of Title of A Motor Vehicle, Frank L. Bitting, for 1926 Oldsmobile sedan, 1934
- 1.12.10 Advertisement for Moffatt's Heater, Fruit and Clothes Dryer
- 1.12.11 Contract for Community Talent Entertainment Agreement, 1936
- 1.12.12 Correspondence from Bruce Stephens to Ruth and Jim dated September 1996 concerning tractor in picture (photocopy attached)
- 1.12.13 Newspaper articles from wallet, "F.L. Bittings Public Sale, Monday, December 17, 1923," "\$42,000 Paid for Farm," 1925, "Hialeah Notes," clipping regarding surprise birthday party for Frank L. Bitting
- 1.12.14 Western Union from D.K. Merwin to Frank Bitting concerning opportunities in Florida
- 1.12.15 Receipt from H.W. Crumbaker to D.K. Merwin, 1902
- 1.12.16 Agreement between Geo. W. Davis and D.K. Merwin to have a Davis Carriage Company business in Florida and receive discounts on cars, September 9, 1912
- 1.12.17 Order for car, 1912
- 1.12.18 Envelope with contract and receipt, 1912
- 1.12.19 Notice to Stockholders of Ellsworth Telephone Company, August 22, 1966
- 1.12.20 Wholesale Price List of Nursery Stock for sale by Jas. M. Wills, Fall 1872- Spring 1873
- 1.12.21 "G: Great kings anciently rode in small chariots," Henry Merwin on back
- 1.12.22 approx. 11 pages of sheet music and lyrics
- 1.12.23 "From Wilderness to Statehood" by Ruth Hamm

**Folder 13: Harriet M. Bitting Estate**

- 1.13.1 Photocopy of Last Will and Testament of Harriet M. Bitting, 1979
- 1.13.2 Amendment to Deed in Trust, 1982
- 1.13.3 Deed in Trust form, 1979
- 1.13.4 Amendment to Declaration of Trust, 1982
- 1.13.5 Harriet M. Bitting, Declaration of Trust, 1979 and amendment 1982
- 1.13.6 Estate Appraisal, 1986
- 1.13.7 Correspondence to Harriett Bitting, Mr. and Mrs. Donald McAlister, Mr. and Mrs. Reid Sutton, Mr. and Mrs. James J. Hamm, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Gurtler, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Bitting, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Schreiter from The Peoples Bank dated March 12, 1986, concerning Harriet's expenses
- 1.13.8 Correspondence to Mr. and Mrs. Donald McAlister, Mr. and Mrs. Reid Sutton, Mr. and Mrs. James J. Hamm, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Gurtler, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Bitting, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Schreiter from The Peoples Bank dated July 31, 1986 concerning settling estate
- 1.13.9 Correspondence to heirs from Peoples Bank dated August 7, 1986, concerning contents of safe deposit box and appraisals

- 1.13.10 Harriet M. Bitting Farm Statement of Account Activity, January 1, 1986-June 30, 1986
- 1.13.11 Production and Marketing 1985 Crop Summary Harriet M. Bitting Farm, July 9, 1986
- 1.13.12 Review of Assets Harriet M. Bitting, 1986
- 1.13.13 Assignment of Beneficial Interest, 1985
- 1.13.14 Correspondence to heirs from Attorneys regarding the appraisal of the farm dated July 30, 1986
- 1.13.15 Farm Real Estate Appraisal, Harriet M. Bitting Trust, 1982
- 1.13.16 Assignment of Beneficial Interest with corrections, 1982
- 1.13.17 Photocopy of Frank and Harriet Bitting joint last Will dated November 2, 1948

**Folder 14: Joseph Bitting Revolutionary War Records**

- 1.14.1 19 sheets concerning Joseph Bitting Revolutionary War records including forms, correspondence, information regarding pensions

**Folder 15: Ludwig and Susanna Bitting**

- 1.15.1 Wills, both German and English, 1814

**Folder 16: Cemetery Records**

- 1.16.1 Receipt for services rendered, Samuel Bitting, paid August 10, 1945
- 1.16.2 Deed to Lot No. S1/2, No. 15, for Mrs. Frank Bitting, June 1949, First Addition Friends Cemetery, signed G.J. Mecherle
- 1.16.3 Contract for R.J. Von Fossen Co. for cemetery marker at Bentown Cemetery, Fall 1952, signed by Harriet M. Bitting
- 1.16.4 Receipt for work to R.J. Von Fossen Co., November 1952
- 1.16.5 Gold Bond Guarantee of Material and Craftsmanship, April 1940
- 1.16.6 Monthly statement from R.J. Von Fossen Co., October 1952
- 1.16.7 Correspondence from R.J. Von Fossen Co. to Harriet M. Bitting stating completion of work, October 1952
- 1.16.8 Agreement for Higgins-Jung-Kleinau Co. for cemetery marker with David K. and Millie, signed by Millie Merwin, September 1941

**Folder 17: Miscellaneous Land Deeds**

- 1.17.1 17 deeds from Illinois and Florida including Bitting, Roman Standard Life Insurance, Robert Morrow, Miami Mortgage and Guaranty Co., affidavit for John F. Berry, release of mortgage, Gertrude Mayo, James A. Light, John A. Goodwin, Curtiss-Bright Company, J. Alden Michael, Allan March, and Junkin and Erdmans Co.
- 1.17.2 Circuit Court law suit N. Jay Fincke v. Seminole Bond and Mortgage Co., July 23, 1953
- 1.17.3 17 deeds from Hudson area; names include: Margaret White, Jennie Worden, Carolina Greer, Viola Jewell, James Jewell, Jesse Jewell, James Wilson, Paul Distler, Mary Trimmer, Adolphus Hinshaw, Viola Trummand, William Worden, Sarah Worden Jennie Brown, 1883-1910

- 1.17.4 3 letters from B--- to Ed, February and March 1954 concerning blacktopping road and rounding a corner, includes a photograph

**Folder 18: D.K. Merwin Land Deeds**

- 1.18.1 Approximately 29 deeds, mortgages, leases with D.K. Merwin lands in Florida and Illinois

**Folder 19: Frank L. Bitting Land Deeds**

- 1.19.1 Approximately 27 deeds, mortgages, leases, farm leases, share crop leases

**Folder 20: James Greer**

- 1.20.1 Legal paperwork regarding funds held under name James Greer at Corn Belt Bank in Bloomington, Illinois, from James J. Hamm  
1.20.2 Family tree proving relationship between James J. Hamm and James Greer  
1.20.3 "Here's List of Unclaimed Deposits at Corn Belt Bank, *Pantagraph*, July 2, 1962, p. 5

**Folder 21: Ida Wilson Estate**

- 1.21.1 Handwritten note from Ida explaining what her final wishes were, March 23, 1948  
1.21.2 Receipt from McLean County Abstract Co., May 25, 1945  
1.21.3 Last Will and Testament, Ida Wilson  
1.21.4 Petition for Letters of Administration with Will Annexed, in probate court, the matter of the Estate of Ida Wilson  
1.21.5 Probate Court Final Report for Estate of Ida Wilson  
1.21.6 Letter from James J. Hamm to Wayne Townley, December 22, 1949, regarding phone bill for Ida Wilson  
1.21.7 Financial information (2 pages)  
1.21.8 Form from Corn Belt Bank, December 29, 1950 signed by James J. Hamm

**Folder 22: Julia Hamm Estate**

- 1.22.1 Memorandum of Agreement, April 21, 1927 between Julia Hamm and Ida Humphrey  
1.22.2 Probate Court papers, February 1932  
1.22.3 Probate Court papers, September 1934, Peoples Bank of Bloomington Final Report

**Folder 23: Julia Hamm for James J. Hamm**

- 1.23.1 Probate Court records, October 28, 1935, in the matter of the estate of Julia Hamm  
1.23.2 Inheritance Tax Appraisement, December 1950  
1.23.3 Memorandum and envelope written by Julia Hamm, list of all belongings left to James J. Hamm  
1.23.4 Typed version of list of belongings and letter from attorneys Stone and Wright, March 2, 1936 (2 pages)

**Folder 24: Sons of the American Revolution Letters**

- 1.24.1 Letter from Ruth Hamm to Thomas McEwan (SAR), October 19, 1966, including 3 Sons of the American Revolution worksheets (filled out) and application for membership
- 1.24.2 Letter to James Hamm from Earl Sanborn, November 3, 1966, confirming the necessary information had been received for membership
- 1.24.3 Letter to Ruth from Virginia, November 16, 1966, discussing genealogical information for SAR
- 1.24.4 Letter to Ruth Hamm from Frank Sullivan, November 30, 1967, inviting her to be a guest at a dinner in Chicago, as well as a response from Ruth Hamm and a thank you after the event
- 1.24.5 Letter from Frank Sullivan to Ruth Hamm, December 5, 1967, confirmation of reservations and attendance at SAR meeting
- 1.24.6 Meeting minutes of the SAR meeting of December 11, 1974, with news clipping: "New County Chapter of SAR Seeks 75 Charter Members," *Pantagraph*, February 16, 1975
- 1.24.7 Letter to James and Ruth Hamm from Executive Secretary of SAR, November 13, 1979, concerning library chairs and tables, includes photograph of table and chairs
- 1.24.8 National meeting of the American College of Heraldry, 1983, includes photograph

**Folder 25: Sons of the American Revolution Programs**

- 1.25.1 Illinois Society Sons of the American Revolution invitation to join, September 15, 1965
- 1.25.2 The Illinois Society Sons of the American Revolution invitation to social hour, reception, and dinner, December 2, 1966
- 1.25.3 Dedication of Revolutionary Grave Marker for General Joseph Bartholomew at Clarksville Cemetery, April 30, 1976(?)
- 1.25.4 Service to the National Society, SAR, James J. Hamm, letters concerning nomination for the Minute Man Award
- 1.25.5 97th Annual Congress National Society Sons of the American Revolution, June 6 – 10, 1987
- 1.25.6 Program for the 98th Annual Conference of the Illinois Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, May 13 – 14, 1988
- 1.25.7 Thank you for gift from the Library of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, March 16, 1992
- 1.25.8 The 108th Congress of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, Memorial Service, June 7, 1998, lists James J. Hamm
- 1.25.9 First Day of Issue for the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, Honors the Statehood of the 13 Original States

**Loose Items**

Abstract of Title: Tract 52 of Section 21 of Highlands County, Florida

Abstract of Title: Lot 7 of Block 76 of Hialeah, 5<sup>th</sup> Addition, Florida

Abstract of Title: Lots 5 and 6 of Block 126 B of Hialeah, 13<sup>th</sup> Addition, Florida

Will of Frank L. Bitting and Harriet M. Bitting

Petition for Letters of Administration in the matter of the estate of Gertrude Mayo

Petition for Probate of Will and Letters Testamentary in the matter of the estate of William E. Mayo

## **BOX 2: Correspondence and Ledgers**

### **Folder 1: Hamm Correspondence I 1856-1891 (35 items)**

- 2.1.1 Correspondence from Rox—to Mr. Ham dated February \_\_, 1856  
*(topics include school, teaching, transportation, holidays, Catskills, NY)*
- 2.1.2 Correspondence from P.O. Van Orten to J.J. Ham dated July 18, 1857  
*(school, teaching, weather, agriculture, holidays)*
- 2.1.3 Correspondence from P.O. Van Orten to Jacob Ham dated January 17, 1858  
*(school, teaching, marriage, agriculture)*
- 2.1.4 Correspondence from Marian Denton to Elsie Warner dated March 25, 1858  
*(school, weather, Sugar Party)*
- 2.1.5 Correspondence from Harriet M. Ham to Elsie dated November 20, 1858  
*(weather, relocating/moving)*
- 2.1.6 Correspondence from Malinda to Brother dated May 28, 1859  
*(health, accident, marriage, agriculture)*
- 2.1.7 Correspondence from H.O.W. to Sister Elsie and friends at home dated October 4, 1859  
*(ague, school, illness, food, drunk men, fighting, weather, agriculture, milking cows, sewing, relocating/moving, family, cooking, vegetation)*
- 2.1.8 Correspondence from unknown to Brother and Sister in Macon, IL dated March 18, 1861  
*(health, vacation, travel)*
- 2.1.9 Correspondence from William Ham to Brother and Sister dated June 10, 1860  
*(weather, family)*
- 2.1.10 Correspondence from William Ham to Brother and Sister dated July 11, 1861  
*(Civil War, weather, agriculture, school, blacksmithing, mortgage/loans)*
- 2.1.11 Correspondence from unknown to Brother and Sister dated February 21, 1863  
*(death of father, health, will, Fanny, lumber, funeral, weather)*
- 2.1.12 Correspondence from Elsie to Brother and Sister dated February 19, 1864  
*(weather, death, will, Fanny, church, purchasing land)*
- 2.1.13 Correspondence from sister Hulda to Sister dated February 28, 1864  
*(French lessons, injury to knee, physicians, weather, vacation)*
- 2.1.14 Correspondence from Hulda Johnson to Elsie dated September 9, 1865  
*(city life, relocating/moving, country home, small pox, death, illness, photographs)*

- 2.1.15 Correspondence from \_E. Ham to Brother and Sister dated January 30, 1967  
*(family argument, agriculture, relocating/moving)*
- 2.1.16 Correspondence from William Ham to Brother and Sister dated March 3, 1867  
*(blacksmithing, relocating/moving, purchasing land, agriculture)*
- 2.1.17 Correspondence from M. Tuttle (?) to Brother and Sister dated March 29, 1867  
*(weather, agriculture, church)*
- 2.1.18 Correspondence from unknown to Uncle Jacob dated December 23, 1867  
*(weather, holidays, relocating/moving)*
- 2.1.19 Correspondence from Orlo (?) to Brother and Sister dated March 9, 1868  
*(weather, illness--measles, agriculture, livestock, relocating/moving, "Chicago" riding plow, purchasing land)*
- 2.1.20 Correspondence from H.O.W to Confidential Sister dated November 12, 1868  
*(agriculture, cooking/baking, relocating/moving, school, railroads, travel)*
- 2.1.21 Correspondence from Henry to Sister dated March 28, 1869  
*(weather, health, business, railroad, church)*
- 2.1.22 Correspondence from unknown to Brother dated July 11, 1875  
*(weather, death)*
- 2.1.23 Envelope with handwritten notes from Ruth Hamm (?)
- 2.1.24 Correspondence from Henry to Sister Edith dated April 25, 1878  
*(relocating/moving, railroad, Homestead Act, property taxes, health)*
- 2.1.25 Correspondence from Henry O. Warner to Brother and Sister dated September 2, 1878  
*(health, agriculture)*
- 2.1.26 Correspondence from Henry to Sister Edith dated April 25, 1878  
*(weather, health, agriculture, building house, vacation, death, school, church)*
- 2.1.27 Correspondence from J.E. Ham to Brother and Sister dated June 28, 1869  
*(business, relocating/moving, agriculture)*
- 2.1.28 Correspondence from Jane E. Whitty to cousin dated April 15, 1889  
*(illness, health, wills)*
- 2.1.29 Correspondence from unknown to Sister dated June 7, 1889  
*(illness, health, vacation, travel abroad, death)*
- 2.1.30 Correspondence from Hulda Johnson to Sister Elsie dated June 14, 1891  
*(wills, illness, vacation)*
- 2.1.31 Correspondence from Hulda Johnson to Sister dated October 11, 1891  
*(illness, health, vacation, travel abroad, death)*
- 2.1.32 Correspondence from Anna Benjamin to Aunt Elsie dated November 16, 1891  
*(travel abroad, Asia Minor, Africa)*
- 2.1.33 Correspondence from Anna Tuttle to Aunt Elsie dated November 29, 1891  
*(weather, travel, health)*
- 2.1.34 Correspondence from Eddie J. Hamm to Father dated December 22, 1891  
*(church, travel Florida, weather)*
- 2.1.35 Correspondence from unknown to Father dated December 28, 1891  
*(travel, Florida, holiday, weather, boats)*

**Folder 2: Hamm Correspondence II 1892-1912—postmarks include Clear Lake, IA; Hudson, IL; Spencer IA; Holder, IL; Jacksonville, FL; St. Augustine, FL; Palatka, FL, Menominee, WI; and Bloomington, IL (33 items)**

- 2.2.1 Correspondence from Anna to Aunt dated May 3\_, 1892  
*(topics include travel--railroad, weather, doll making)*
- 2.2.2 Correspondence from Anna to Aunt Elsie dated June 29, 1892  
*(holiday, family inquiries)*
- 2.2.3 Correspondence from Orlo to unknown and undated, postmark September 1892 also contains correspondence from Curtis P. Coe to Orlo dated September 6, 1892  
*(relocating/moving, school, travel, business)*
- 2.2.4 Correspondence from Anna to Aunt Elsie dated September 23, 1892  
*(orphaned baby, weather, fruit crop)*
- 2.2.5 Correspondence from Anna Benjamin to Cousin Elsie dated November 21, 1892  
*(World's Colombian Exposition 1893 at Chicago, IL, travel--railroad)*
- 2.2.6 Correspondence from Anna Tuttle to Aunt dated November 21, 1892  
*(World's Colombian Exposition 1893 at Chicago, IL, fruit crop, weather, travel, quarantine, illness--Yellow Fever)*
- 2.2.7 Correspondence from Anna to Aunt Elsie dated May 30, 1893  
*(travel, fruit crop, travel abroad, school, doll making)*
- 2.2.8 Correspondence from Hulda Johnson to Sister dated June 20, 1893  
*(relocating/moving, shopping, school)*
- 2.2.9 Correspondence from Anna Tuttle to Aunt Elsie dated August 18, 1893  
*(holiday, travel)*
- 2.2.10 Correspondence from I.T.H. to Mother dated December 22, 1893  
*(travel to Chicago, renting farm)*
- 2.2.11 Correspondence from Jane Merwin to Mrs. Jacob Hamm (Cousin) dated January 29, 1894  
*(holiday, Christmas gifts, rehearsals, dress making, health)*
- 2.2.12 Correspondence from H.O. Hamm to Mother dated March 18, 1894  
*(teaching, lectures, birthday)*
- 2.2.13 Correspondence from Ida T. Hamm to Edward dated July 7, 1894  
*(weather, school, fruit crop, teaching)*
- 2.2.14 Correspondence from Ida T.H. to Mother dated November 4, 1894  
*(church, school, illness)*
- 2.2.15 Correspondence from Orlo to Bro dated February 24, 1895  
*(school, fruit crop, potato, boarders)*
- 2.2.16 Correspondence from Orlo to Mother dated March 24, 1895  
*(electricity, weather, boarders)*
- 2.2.17 Correspondence from Orlo to Mother dated June 24, 1895  
*(offered and accepted position as principal of St. Augustine Schools, raise)*
- 2.2.18 Correspondence from Orlo to Mother dated July 7, 1895  
*(moving/relocating, fruit crop)*
- 2.2.19 Correspondence from unknown to Mother dated July 14, 1895  
*(moving/relocating, discussion about Eddie attending Wesleyan)*
- 2.2.20 Correspondence from unknown to Mother dated July 20, 1895  
*(house description, business, work)*

- 2.2.21 Correspondence from M.A. Goodson to Elsie Ham (Cousin) dated August 30, 189\_ (agriculture, garden failure, illness--consumption)
- 2.2.22 Correspondence from H.O. Hamm to Mother dated September 2, 1895 (school, grape crop, Eddie's education)
- 2.2.23 Correspondence from Orlo to Mother dated October 6, 1895 (refrigerator purchase, first week at new job)
- 2.2.24 Correspondence from M.A. Goodson to Cousin Elsie dated November 1895 (death)
- 2.2.25 Correspondence from H.O.H to Bro undated with correspondence from Orlo to Mother dated December 22, 1895 on same page (holiday, Eddie's education)
- 2.2.26 Correspondence from Orlo to Mother dated March 1, 1896 (weather, Congress recognizing Cubans, rehearsals, city appearance)
- 2.2.27 Correspondence from M.A. Goodson to Cousin Elsie dated April 10, 1896 (illness, health)
- 2.2.28 Correspondence from Ida and Orlo to Mother dated April 26, 1896 (illness--measles, church, weather, Silver Wedding Anniversary)
- 2.2.29 Correspondence from Orlo to Mother dated June 7, 1896 (teachers' examinations, travel)
- 2.2.30 Correspondence from Orlo to Mother dated November 1, 1896 (weather, politics--Bryan election, church, agriculture)
- 2.2.31 Correspondence from Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Illinois Grade Report of Edward Hamm dated December 24, 1896
- 2.2.32 Correspondence from unknown to Eddie postmarked August 9, 1897 (health, illness--Yellow Fever, business, family inquiry)
- 2.2.33 Correspondence from M.A. Goodson to Cousin Elsie dated October 26, 1897 (health, travel)
- 2.2.34 Correspondence from Mrs. Albert Beckwith to Mr. Hamm dated December 28, 1897 (boarders, rules, rates)

**Folder 3: Hamm Correspondence III 1892-1912—postmarks include Hudson, IL; Normal, IL; Streator, IL; Pontiac, IL; Holder, IL; St. Augustine FL; Chicago, IL; Bloomington, IL; and San Diego, CA(48 items)**

- 2.3.1 Correspondence from unknown to Little Brother dated January 30, 1898 and Marie G. to Uncle dated January 30, 1898 (illness-sore throat, hunting, school)
- 2.3.2 Correspondence from Leona M. Parker to Eddie dated April 5, 1898 (love letter)
- 2.3.3 Correspondence from Leona to Edd dated May 2, 1898 (love letter, travel, leisure, illness, war)
- 2.3.4 Correspondence from W.H. Foster to Edward Hamm dated May 15, 1898 (breaking horses, agriculture, school, relationships)
- 2.3.5 Correspondence from Myrtle P. to E.J. Hamm dated June 22, 1898 also contains Part II (illness, love letter, dear John letter)
- 2.3.6 Correspondence from Myrtle Parker to Edd dated September 2, 1898

- (apology, explanation, response to marriage proposal)*
- 2.3.7 Correspondence from Edward Whitwood to Edward Ham dated January 23, 1900  
*(business)*
- 2.3.8 Correspondence from unknown to Cousin Elsie dated March 6, 1900  
*(family inquiry, illness)*
- 2.3.9 Correspondence from Ema Johnston to Sir dated March 12, 1900  
*(request for explanation)*
- 2.3.10 Correspondence from W.H. Foster to E.J. Hamm dated March 18, 1900  
*(weather, moving/relocating, nomination for governor, telephone line, agriculture, marriage)*
- 2.3.11 Correspondence from Ema Johnston to Friend dated April 2, 1900  
*(apology)*
- 2.3.12 Correspondence from Linda to Edward dated May 7, 1900  
*(apology, hopes Edward is not mad)*
- 2.3.13 Correspondence from Orlo to Sister dated Thanksgiving 1903  
*(divorce, legal matters, agriculture)*
- 2.3.14 Correspondence from Millie C. Smith to Mrs. E.M. Hamm dated December 30, 1905  
*(receipt)*
- 2.3.15 Correspondence from Orlo to Sister Edith dated February 16, 1908  
*(agriculture--apples, The Jungle, health, weather, travel)*
- 2.3.16 Correspondence from Uncle Orlo to Niece dated February 23, 1908  
*(religion, holiday, gifts, orchard)*
- 2.3.17 Correspondence from Orlo to Sister Edith dated March 12, 1912  
*(genealogy, weather, family inquiry, Esperanza Mining stock, voting)*
- 2.3.18 Correspondence from E.M. Ham to Eddie dated 189\_  
*(family inquiry, health, medicine, illness, food)*
- 2.3.19 Correspondence from H.O.H. to Mother dated October 27  
*(school church, travel, hired help)*
- 2.3.20 Correspondence from Orlo to Mother dated August 24  
*(school, health, illness, school board election, fishing, eating)*
- 2.3.21 Correspondence from unknown to Mother dated January (?) 13  
*(moving/relocating)*
- 2.3.22 Correspondence from Leona undated and unaddressed  
*(weather, flat tire on car, eating)*
- 2.3.23 Correspondence from Ida undated and unaddressed  
*(illness, sailing, church, food)*
- 2.3.24 Correspondence from Eddie undated and unaddressed  
*(living situation, illness, medicine, moving/relocating)*
- 2.3.25 Correspondence from Eddie to Mother undated  
*(eye doctor, living situation, dentist, illness, medicine, purchasing straw)*
- 2.3.26 Correspondence from Ida Ham to Mother undated  
*(health, illness, death, household chores, women's health, doctor)*
- 2.3.27 Correspondence from Mrs. James Miller undated and unaddressed  
*(death, family inquiry)*
- 2.3.28 Correspondence from Hulda Johnson to Sister Elsie dated November 14  
*(travel--railroad, wake, death, health, bank failure(?))*

- 2.3.29 Correspondence from Hulda Johnson to Sister (Elsie?) dated March 19  
*(travel--railroad, visiting Florida, church, wildlife)*
- 2.3.30 15 envelopes: addressed to Mr. Edward J. Hamm (Hudson, IL and Bloomington, IL), Mrs. Elsie Ham (Hudson, IL and Palataka, Fla), Mrs. J.J. Hamm (Hudson, IL), Mrs. Jacob J. Ham (Hudson, IL), Mr. Jacob J. Ham (Hudson, IL, Padua, IL, Bloomington, IL, and Windham Centre Greene County NJ) and J.J. Ham (Hudson, IL); one envelope not addressed
- 2.3.31 Test materials (2 items)
- 2.3.32 Bank item in the name of E.J. Hamm dated June 20, 1902

**Folder 4: Wilson-Greer Correspondence 1902-1940—postmarks include New Zealand, Ireland, and Australia**

- 2.4.1 Correspondence from Edward E\_\_\_ from the Coagh Presbyterian Church to unknown dated March 1901  
*(certification from Coagh Presbyterian Church of marriage of James Wilson to Martha Workman April 2, 1874)*
- 2.4.2 Correspondence from George Greer to Brother James (Greer) dated April \_\_, 1902  
*(health, family inquiry, religion, church)*
- 2.4.3 Wedding invitation for Julia Wilson to Edward Hamm date December 23, 1902
- 2.4.4 Correspondence from Mary Turnbull to Ida (Cousin) dated December \_\_, 1905  
*(painting, weather, agriculture--sugar cane, electricity)*
- 2.4.5 Correspondence from J & E Turnbull to Sister (Mrs. James Wilson) dated March 28, 1906  
*(death, illness--Dengue Fever, husband's work, loan)*
- 2.4.6 Correspondence from Lizzie L. Greer to Mrs. Wilson dated April 6, 1908  
*(illness, paying debts, family inquiry)*
- 2.4.7 Correspondence from James and M Wilson to Son and Daughter dated July 1, 1910  
*(moving/relocating, money, renting farms, agriculture, travel)*
- 2.4.8 Correspondence from J & E. Turnbull to Brother and Sister dated March 2, 1911  
*(family inquiry, marriage)*
- 2.4.9 Correspondence from Niece Mimmie (?) to Aunt Martha dated June 5, 1912  
*(death, sympathies, health, illness--pneumonia)*
- 2.4.10 Correspondence from Lizzie Turnbull to Auntie (Mrs. James Wilson) dated July 12, 1912  
*(death, stroke, sympathies, paralysis)*
- 2.4.11 Correspondence from Mary Turnbull to Aunt (Mrs. James Wilson) dated September 23, 1912  
*(death, stroke, sympathies, paralysis, illness)*
- 2.4.12 Correspondence from Mary Turnbull to Aunt (Mrs. James Wilson) dated December 27, 1912  
*(holiday, travel, family inquiry, Queensland)*
- 2.4.13 Correspondence from James Turnbull to Auntie dated March 2, 1914  
*(holiday, travel, weather)*
- 2.4.14 Correspondence from Mary Turnbull to Aunt dated October 1915

- (*moving/relocating, Australian Imperial Force, illness--measles, World War I (Great War) weather--drought*)
- 2.4.15 Correspondence from Mary Turnbull to Aunt dated November 27, 1917  
(*World War I, travel to America, army furlough*)
- 2.4.16 Correspondence from John Greer to Mrs. Wilson dated March 25, 1919  
(*World War I, inflation, illness--influenza, marriage, family inquiry*)
- 2.4.17 Correspondence from Beatrice Josephine Jackson to Aunt dated May 18, 1919  
(*family information--marriage and death, World War I--Galipoli, Jackson family information*)
- 2.4.18 Correspondence from John Greet to Mrs. Wilson dated May 12, 1925  
(*family information--marriage and births, weather, agriculture*)
- 2.4.19 Correspondence from Sara Greer to Mrs. Wilson dated October 18, 1923  
(*family information--births, marriages, and deaths, agriculture, weather*)
- 2.4.20 Correspondence from unknown to Sister dated September; postmarked October 14, 1924  
(*weather, agriculture, family, illness*)
- 2.4.21 Correspondence from \_\_ss Greer to Friend dated February 12, 1933  
(*death, illness--cancer on the liver or gall bladder, jaundice, agriculture*)
- 2.4.22 Wedding announcement for Emilie Bernice Benson to Clarence O. Tarrant June 5, 1938
- 2.4.23 Correspondence from Annie Greenbaum to Ida Wilson (Cousin) dated January 19, 1940  
(*weather, family information*)
- 2.4.24 Correspondence from Cousin Emily to Cousin Ida undated  
(*family inquiry, family information--births, marriages, divorce, and remarriage, illness--tuberculosis, numo thruox treatments, Bible prophecy, World War II*)
- 2.4.25 Correspondence from Magret Jane Mullin to Sister undated  
(*family inquiry, illness, health, death, weather, living situation*)
- 2.4.26 Correspondence from Margret Jane Mullin to Sister dated November 28, no year  
(*health, weather*)
- 2.4.27 Envelope containing Scottish Heather from John and Jeanie Le\_\_ie dated January 21, 1918
- 2.4.21 10 envelopes addressed to: Mr. William Humphrey (Hudson, IL), Mrs. James Wilson (Hudson, IL; five items), Mrs. Ida Wilson (Hudson, IL), Mr. and Mrs. James Wilson, and unmarked.
- 2.4.22 3 postcards: "I'll be lonesome without you at Hudson, Ill. Please don't go away," Giants Causeway, and Golf Terrace, Portstewart
- 2.4.23 Christmas greeting card Maori Whare, Ohinemutu, N.Z.
- 2.4.24 Bookmark; on back in pencil William Workman
- 2.4.25 Address for Annie Greenbaum

**Folder 5: Merwin Correspondence 1902-1910—postmarks include Ellsworth, IL; Torrington, WY; Palatka IL; and Bloomington, IL (27 items)**

- 2.5.1 Correspondence from M.E. Lewis to H.B. Cunningham dated April 21, 1908  
(*health, moving/relocating, money*)
- 2.5.2 Correspondence from *The Pantagraph* to H.B. Cunningham dated November 7, 1908

- (rates for advertisement)*
- 2.5.3 Correspondence from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated November 21, 1908  
*(purchasing land and equipment, agriculture, irrigation)*
  - 2.5.4 Correspondence from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated January 10, 1909  
*(ticket prices, travel, weather)*
  - 2.5.5 Correspondence from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated January 18, 1909  
*(weather)*
  - 2.5.6 Correspondence from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated January 25, 1909  
*(weather, agriculture)*
  - 2.5.7 Correspondence from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated February 9, 1909  
*(weather, purchasing land, agriculture)*
  - 2.5.8 Correspondence from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated February 14, 1909  
*(selling and buying land, agriculture)*
  - 2.5.9 Correspondence from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated February 18, 1909  
*(agriculture--rye, wheat, travel, purchasing land)*
  - 2.5.10 Correspondence from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated February 19, 1909  
*(land prices, agriculture)*
  - 2.5.11 Correspondence from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated March 12, 1909  
*(weather)*
  
  - 2.5.12 Correspondence from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated April 18, 1909  
*(illness, buying seed, building reservoir, agriculture, purchasing fruit trees, livestock)*
  - 2.5.13 Correspondence from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated May 4, 1909  
*(weather, agriculture--plowing, illness)*
  - 2.5.14 Correspondence from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated May 14, 1909  
*(weather, agriculture, soil conditions, travel)*
  - 2.5.15 Correspondence from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated June 14, 1909  
*(agriculture, weather, fruit trees, cream)*
  - 2.5.16 Correspondence from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated June 25, 1909  
*(agriculture, odd jobs, purchasing land)*
  - 2.5.17 Correspondence from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated August 2, 1909  
*(agriculture--threshing and plowing, weather)*
  - 2.5.18 Correspondence from Myrtle Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated April 12, 1909  
*(illness, health)*
  - 2.5.19 Correspondence from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated January 26, 1910  
*(buildings, livestock--horses, illness--consumption, health)*
  - 2.5.20 Correspondence from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated February 4, 1910  
*(health, livestock, holiday, Foundation)*
  - 2.5.21 Correspondence from W.W. Glover (Foster Lumber Company, Torrington, Wy) to H. B. Cunningham dated February 3, 1910  
*(lumber bill, out of stock supplies)*
  - 2.5.22 Correspondence from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated February 6, 1910  
*(health, eye treatment, livestock, purchasing land)*
  - 2.5.23 Postcard from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated February 8, 1910  
*(purchasing land)*
  - 2.5.24 Correspondence from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated February 28, 1910

- (lumber, illness--cold or grip, eye pain)*
- 2.5.25 Correspondence from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated March 1, 1910  
*(lumber, travel arrangements, weather, agriculture)*
- 2.5.26 Correspondence from H.B. Cunningham to D.K. Merwin dated March 5, 1910  
*(weather, farm help)*
- 2.5.27 Envelope addressed to D.K. Merwin postmarked Palatka, FL dated December 25, 1904

**Folder 6: Merwin Correspondence 1902-1916—postmarks include Palatka, Fl; Henry, Nebr; Ellsworth, Il; Torrington, Nebr; Empire, Neb; and Padua, IL (103 items)**

- 2.6.1 Correspondence from Myrtle to Father dated October 9, 1909  
*(travel, illness, weather, itemized bill for expenses)*
- 2.6.2 Correspondence from Harriet to Frank Bitting dated April 16, 1911  
*(church--Sunday school, agriculture, Florida, weather, leisure activities)*
- 2.6.3 Correspondence from unknown to unknown, in envelope addressed to Harriet B. Merwin, return address Torrington, Wyo. Dated May 5, 1911; includes pressed flowers  
*(poem)*
- 2.6.4 Envelope with pressed flowers addressed to Harriet Merwin, return address Torrington, Wyo, postmarked May 30, 1911
- 2.6.5 Correspondence from Harriet to Frank dated June 13, 1911  
*(agriculture in Nebraska and Florida, leisure activities in Nebraska and Florida, weather)*
- 2.6.6 Correspondence from Harriet to Frank Bitting dated July 26, 1911  
*(leisure activities in Nebraska and Florida, agriculture, ice making, holiday, regional food, race issues, crime, weather, accident--struck by lightning, dress making)*
- 2.6.7 Correspondence from Harriet to Frank Bitting dated August 9, 1911  
*(moving/relocating, work in Florida)*
- 2.6.8 Correspondence from Harriet to Frank Bitting dated August 28, 1911  
*(travel--railroad, work in Nebraska)*
- 2.6.9 Correspondence from Harriet Belle to Frank Bitting dated September 19, 1911  
*(travel--railroad, agriculture--fruit and corn, auction, cooking, livestock, moving/relocating, Ellsworth, IL)*
- 2.6.10 Correspondence from Harriet Belle to Frank Bitting dated October 25, 1911  
*(travel, Ellsworth, IL, livestock, agriculture)*
- 2.6.11 Correspondence from Harriet to Frank Bitting dated December 4, 1911  
*(travel, agriculture, illness--diphtheria)*
- 2.6.12 Correspondence from Harriet to Frank Bitting dated December 10, 1911  
*(travel--railroad, holidays, weather)*
- 2.6.13 Correspondence from Harriet to Frank Bitting dated January 12, 1912  
*(holiday, weather, accident--lightning strike, leisure activities, church)*
- 2.6.14 Correspondence from Harriet to Frank Bitting dated February 20, 1912  
*(leisure activities, holiday, illness--mumps, travel plans, weather)*
- 2.6.15 Correspondence from Harriet to Frank Bitting dated March 27, 1912

- (weather, illness--mumps, home improvement, leisure, travel plans, agriculture, livestock)*
- 2.6.16 Correspondence from Harriet to Frank Bitting dated May 18, 1912  
*(travel plans, leisure activities, church)*
- 2.6.17 Correspondence from Frank Bitting to Harriet dated May 27, 1912  
*(travel)*
- 2.6.18 Correspondence from Harriet to Frankie Boy (Frank Bitting) dated January 17, 1913  
*(holiday, weather, leisure activities, church, divorce, remarriage; see also 2.6.19, 2.6.29, and 2.7.1)*
- 2.6.19 Correspondence from Ben Bitting to Harriet dated June 23, 1913  
*(divorce, remarriage, explanation; see also 2.6.18, 2.6.29, and 2.7.1)*
- 2.6.20 Correspondence from unknown to Mama, Papa, and Lucy dated December 14, 1913  
*(livestock, cooking, fruit)*
- 2.6.21 Correspondence from Mrs. F. E. Bitting (F.E.B.) to My Dear Children dated June 26, 1914  
*(travel plans, livestock)*
- 2.6.22 Correspondence from H. to Folks at Home dated August 21, 1914  
*(laundry, baking, World War I, church, weather, automobile trouble, livestock)*
- 2.6.23 Correspondence from Hattie (?) to Mama, Papa, and \_\_\_t dated December 17, 1915  
*(home improvements, weather, baking, dress making)*
- 2.6.24 Correspondence from Hattie(?) to Mama, Papa, and Lucy dated December 22, 1915  
*(weather, holiday, illness)*
- 2.6.25 Correspondence from Hattie (?) to Mama, Papa, and \_\_\_t dated March 17, 1916  
*(weather, livestock, child rearing, church, Ellsworth High School, Ellsworth, IL)*
- 2.6.26 Correspondence from Frank to Father, Mother, and Sister dated March 17, 1916  
*(weather, breaking horses, livestock)*
- 2.6.27 Correspondence from Hattie to Mama, Papa, and Lucy Dick dated March 24, 1916  
*(weather gasoline, child rearing, baking, produce)*
- 2.6.28 Correspondence from Hattie to Mama, Papa, and Lucy Dick dated April 7, 1916  
*(weather, livestock, dressmaking, child rearing)*
- 2.6.29 Correspondence from unknown to Harriet Merwin dated January 22, 1919  
*(illness--grip, response to divorce letters 2.6.18, 2.6.19, and 2.7.1)*
- 2.6.30 Correspondence from unknown to A.L. Bartlett undated  
*(buying/selling land, land agreements)*
- 2.6.31 Letter from the First National Bank of Mitchell (Mitchell, Nebr.) dated April 23, 1910  
*(land deed)*
- 2.6.32 Receipt/bill for building materials, billed to Empire Improvement Co. from W.M. Copeland dated April 30, 1910
- 2.6.33 Receipt/bill for building materials, billed to Empire Improvement Co. from W.M. Copeland dated May 31, 1910
- 2.6.34 Letter from Bank of Ellsworth (Ellsworth, IL) dated September 28, 1910
- 2.6.35 Correspondence from Mr. and Mrs. Sunkel to Mr. and Mrs. Merwin and Family undated
- 2.6.36 6 envelopes addressed to Miss Harriet Merwin (Palatka, Fl, 3 items), Mr. Frank L. Bitting (Torrington, Wyo, 2 items), and Mr. and Mrs. David Merwin (Ellsworth, IL, 1 item)

2.6.37 62 bank items; Ellsworth Bank (Ellsworth, IL) and First National Bank (Torrington, Wyo); signed by D.K. Merwin; dated 1909-1910

**Folder 7: Bitting Correspondence 1913-1949—postmarks include Torrington, Wyo; Palatka, Fl; Ellsworth, Illinois; Newark, Il; Serena, IL; and Seneca, IL (35 items)**

- 2.7.1 Correspondence from Harriet Merwin to Ben Bitting dated January 28, 1913  
*(divorce; see also 2.6.18, 2.6.19, and 2.6.29)*
- 2.7.2 Correspondence from Leslie E. Bitting to Grandma and Grandpa dated December 2, 1930  
*(school)*
- 2.7.3 Correspondence from unknown to Hattie, Frank & Kiddies (Mrs. Frank Bitting) postmarked September 3, 1931  
*(family reunion, weather, tourist season, baking, house keeping)*
- 2.7.4 Correspondence from Marge to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) postmarked October 19, 1944  
*(school)*
- 2.7.5 Correspondence from Marge to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) postmarked October 26, 1944  
*(school)*
- 2.7.6 Correspondence from Marge to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) postmarked November 6, 1944  
*(school, pheasant hunting)*
- 2.7.7 Correspondence from Marge to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) postmarked November 28, 1944  
*(school, holidays, pheasant hunting, doctor and dentist visits)*
- 2.7.8 Correspondence from Marge to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) postmarked January 3, 1945  
*(holiday, hunting, vacation)*
- 2.7.9 Correspondence from Marge to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) dated January 15, 1945  
*(school, teaching, crime, toothache, travel plans)*
- 2.7.10 Correspondence from Marge to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) dated January 30, 1945  
*(weather, school, basketball, World War II, travel plans)*
- 2.7.11 Correspondence from Marge to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) dated February 6, 1945  
*(World War II, school, basketball, travel plans)*
- 2.7.12 Correspondence from Marge to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) dated March 5, 1946  
*(wedding plans, travel plans, automobile purchase, basketball, school)*
- 2.7.13 Correspondence from Marge to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) postmarked May 10, 1945  
*(school, exams, banquet, World War I, weather, holiday)*
- 2.7.14 Correspondence from Marge to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) postmarked July 16, 1945  
*(vacation, dentist, travel--bus, baking, leisure activities)*

- 2.7.15 Correspondence from Marge to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) postmarked August 20, 1945  
*(eye doctor, allergies--hay fever, war, sewing, teaching, insurance, living situation)*
- 2.7.16 Correspondence from Marjorie A. (Marge) to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) postmarked October 16, 1945  
*(school)*
- 2.7.17 Correspondence from Marge to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) dated November 15, 1945  
*(school, hunting, livestock, agriculture)*
- 2.7.18 Correspondence from Marge to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) postmarked November 28, 1945  
*(holiday, hunting, agriculture)*
- 2.7.19 Correspondence from Marge (return address of Mrs. Glenn Gilbertson) to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) postmarked July 19, 1946  
*(marriage, living situation, leisure activities, sewing, agriculture, weather)*
- 2.7.20 Correspondence from Marge to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) postmarked July 30, 1946  
*(agriculture, living situation, weather)*
- 2.7.21 Correspondence from Marge and Glenn to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) postmarked January 6, 1947  
*(weather, travel)*
- 2.7.22 Correspondence from Marge and Glenn to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) dated February 3, 1947  
*(weather, travel, travel plans)*
- 2.7.23 Correspondence from Marge to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) dated February 26, 1947  
*(basketball, travel plans, school)*
- 2.7.24 Correspondence from Marge to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) postmarked April 16, 1947  
*(travel, weather, school, leisure activities)*
- 2.7.25 Correspondence from Marge and Glenn to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) postmarked May 22, 1947  
*(travel, leisure activities, livestock)*
- 2.7.26 Postcard from Marge and Glenn to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) postmarked June 1947  
*(travel, weather)*
- 2.7.27 Birthday card from Marge and Glenn to Mom (Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) postmarked September 29, 1947  
*(clothing, travel plans)*
- 2.7.28 Correspondence from Marge and Glenn to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) dated October 12, 1947  
*(school, leisure activities, travel plans, illness--pneumonia)*
- 2.7.29 Correspondence from Marge to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) dated October 22, 1947  
*(illness--pneumonia, double pneumonia, and infected/paralyzed kidneys, school, travel plans, medicine)*

- 2.7.30 Christmas card from Marge and Glenn with correspondence to Folks postmarked December 16, 1947  
*(illness--cold, holiday, travel plans)*
- 2.7.31 Correspondence from Marge and Glenn to Mom, Dad, and all (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) dated March 22, 1948  
*(holiday, travel plans, leisure activities, illness--headache, treatment, moving/relocating))*
- 2.7.32 Correspondence from Marge to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) dated Friday February 6  
*(moving/relocating, illness--sinus, automobile problems, dentist, basketball, leisure activities)*
- 2.7.33 Correspondence from Marjorie to Mama, Daddy, and Fern dated Friday afternoon  
*(agriculture, cooking, bakin, livestock)*
- 2.7.34 Correspondence from Marge to Folks (Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Bitting) undated  
*(leisure activities, dentist, school, travel plans)*
- 2.7.35 Correspondence from Marge and Glenn, unaddressed and undated  
*(weather, agriculture, holiday, school)*

**Folder 8: Bitting, Stanley Letters 1945-1946 (Sent while in Army and stationed in the Pacific) (16 items)**

- 2.8.1 Correspondence from Stanley to Ruth (Mrs. Ruth Hamm) dated February 16, 1945  
*(training)*
- 2.8.2 Correspondence from Stanley to Ruth (Mrs. James J. Hamm) dated September 9, 1945  
*(Pacific Islands, leisure activities)*
- 2.8.3 Correspondence from Stanley Bitting to Ruth (Mrs. James J. Hamm) dated October 2, 1945  
*(typhoon, leisure activities, duties)*
- 2.8.4 Correspondence from Stanley Bitting to Ruth (Mrs. James J. Hamm) dated January 4, 1946  
*(marriage, dentist, duties)*
- 2.8.5 Correspondence from Stanley Bitting to Ruth (Mrs. James J. Hamm) dated January 28, 1946  
*(dentist, broken relationship, leisure activities)*
- 2.8.6 Correspondence from Stanley Bitting to Ruth (Mrs. James J. Hamm) dated February 20, 1946  
*(illness, food, leisure activities, agriculture, duties)*
- 2.8.7 Correspondence from Stanley Bitting to Ruth (Mrs. James J. Hamm) dated March 13, 1946  
*(duties, gifts received)*
- 2.8.8 Correspondence from Stanley Bitting to Mom and Dad (Mr. Frank L. Bitting) dated April 30 (postmarked 1946)  
*(agriculture, automobiles)*
- 2.8.9 Correspondence from Stanley Bitting to Mom and Dad (Mr. Frank L. Bitting) dated April 26, 1946  
*(immunization, cherry blossoms)*

- 2.8.10 Correspondence from Stanley Bitting to Mom and Dad (Mr. Frank L. Bitting) dated May 8, 1946  
*(weather, leisure)*
- 2.8.11 Correspondence from Stanley Bitting to Mom and Dad (Mr. Frank L. Bitting) dated May 11, 1946  
*(living situation, leisure activities, automobiles)*
- 2.8.12 Correspondence from Stanley Bitting to Mom and Dad (Mr. Frank L. Bitting) dated May 14, 1946  
*(duties, gifts, produce, election)*
- 2.8.13 Correspondence from Stanley Bitting to Mom and Dad (Mr. Frank L. Bitting) dated May 17, 1946  
*(duties, living situation, leisure activities)*
- 2.8.14 Correspondence from Stanley Bitting to Ruth and James (Mrs. James J. Hamm) dated May 21, 1946  
*(silk, regional food, language)*
- 2.8.15 Correspondence from Stanley Bitting to Mom and Dad (Mr. Frank L. Bitting) dated May 21, 1946  
*(brown out, labor strikes, draft)*
- 2.8.16 Correspondence from Stanley Bitting to Mom and Dad (Mr. Frank L. Bitting) dated May 24, 1946  
*(duties)*
- 2.8.17 Correspondence from Stanley Bitting to Ruth and James (Mrs. James J. Hamm) dated May 25, 1946  
*(living situation, duties, breakup with Evelyn)*
- 2.8.16 Correspondence from Stanley Bitting to Mom and Dad (Mr. Frank L. Bitting) dated May 26, 1946  
*(weather, duties, living situation)*

**Folder 9: Miscellaneous Correspondence (22 items)**

- 2.9.1 Correspondence from James J. Ham to unknown dated June 21, 1863  
*(health, labor strike, draft, agriculture)*
- 2.9.2 Correspondence from Mary J. Krieger to Brother and Sister dated April 11, 1869  
*(illness, health, weather)*
- 2.9.3 Correspondence Claude to Friend dated November 19  
*(holiday, fruit, travel--railroad, school, livestock)*
- 2.9.4 Correspondence from Lind\_\_\_ to Edward dated December 21  
*(leisure activities, illness, holiday)*
- 2.9.5 Unsigned correspondence to Mrs. J.W. Lewis and all the rest (Catharine) dated January 2, 1890 (missing pages)  
*(travel--boat, holiday)*
- 2.9.6 Correspondence from H.O. Warner (missing first pages)  
*(leisure time, teaching, family information)*
- 2.9.7 Correspondence to Dear Sister undated (bottom half of last page missing)  
*(agriculture, marriage, household chores, death)*
- 2.9.8 Correspondence from M. L. Friske (missing first pages)  
*(health)*

- 2.9.9 Correspondence to Respected Friend dated December 11 (missing first and last pages?)  
*(health, school, weather, Illinois (the West))*
- 2.9.10 Page of correspondence  
*(living situation, livestock, business)*
- 2.9.11 Page of correspondence in pencil  
*(family information, leisure activities)*
- 2.9.12 Page of correspondence in pen  
*(weather, agriculture, wild life)*
- 2.9.13 Torn sheet of correspondence  
*(will, business)*
- 2.9.14 "This forth of what I heard in the Social Meeting at the Baptist Church on the night of the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January, 1877" notes
- 2.9.15 Lists of banks and other items
- 2.9.16 Newspaper clipping "Throng at Funeral of Accident Victim" no source
- 2.9.17 Envelope addressed to Mrs. J. Gibson postmarked at Seacombe Birkenhead June 14, 1912
- 2.9.18 Negative of two girls and a tree
- 2.9.19 Advertisement and order form for Photo postcards
- 2.9.20 Three sheets of blank paper

## LOOSE ITEMS

Record 1917-1936--account book  
*(agriculture--harvesting, threshing, planting, husking, corn, and oats, purchasing and selling crops, record of hauling crops for D.K. Merwin and F.L. Bitting)*

S.E. Ledger 1917-1927-account book  
*(agriculture--husking, planting, and harvesting oats, clover, and corn, livestock--hogs, loose papers--receipts, notes, grain scale book, dog tags and licenses)*

Account Book 1939-1949--faded green with leather library corners--J.J. Hamm  
*(personal bank records, includes names, items purchased, or purpose for withdrawal, sales, inventory or tubes, and loose items--letter from Hudson Grain Co. Co-Operative, notes)*

Account Book 1939-1941--faded green with leather library corners--J.J. Hamm  
*(alphabetized index to account balances and purchases)*

Journal 1931-1937--faded green with leather library corners--Hamm Radio and Electric account book  
*(ledger book for agricultural business and for Hamm Radio and Electric; both include names, items purchased)*

Account Book 1900-1909--brown with black design on front and back--D.K. Merwin  
*(account book for work completed, number of days worked, and cash account)*

Journal 1951-1957--black leather--Records of tenant farms and rentals  
*(ledger book with farms, tenants, and items purchased)*

#### Asher Merwin

Brown leather book with expenditures, 1867-1868  
*(ledger book including items purchased and price paid)*

Ledger account book, 1867-1885  
*(ledger book listing names, dates, purchases, and sales)*

Brown paper book, 1836, 1840, 1856, and 1863  
*(ledger book includes list of purchases and prices, and accounts)*

Dark Brown leather book, 1862  
*(journal for 1862 includes information about weather, purchases, livestock, daily activities)*

Brown Leather book, 1876  
*(lists of names and amounts of money, accounts owed)*

#### Frank L. Bitting

Corn Belt Bank account book, 1934-1949  
*(dates and account balances)*

Five Year Diary, 1940-1944--black--Frank L. Bitting  
*(agriculture--livestock and crops, daily activities, weather, visitors)*

Five Year Diary, 1945-1949--brown--Frank L. Bitting  
*(weather, daily activities, agriculture--livestock and crops)*

Red/Brown leather book, 1913-1922--Frank L. Bitting  
*(expenditures for farm and household, hours spent working, information about automobile use, photographs, also references Box 2 Folder 5 correspondence)*

Our Diamond Leader Note Book, 1924  
*(money taken in and expenditures for January through April 1924 and January 1925)*

Memorandum, 1923-1933  
*(expenditures for household and farm, newspaper clippings, and photographs)*

Memorandum Book, 1934-1944  
*(with "John Bartlow" penciled on front cover, agriculture--corn bushels, numbers of acres, and prices)*

Memorandum, 1931-1944  
*(agricultural information, bushels produced and prices)*

Farmers Pocket Ledger, 1921-1924  
*(with "Bitting and Merwin" on first page, items purchased and prices)*

Daily Ledger Books 1920-1939 (except 1926;1929; 1931)  
*(contains daily activities, weather)*

Della M. Merwin  
Della's Diary 1918

Red Notepad 1913  
*(with a few loose pages and very little writing, while living in Florida)*

Decorative notebook, David K. Merwin, 1881-1882  
*(contains goodbye messages from various people)*

The Daily Reminder, 1931  
*(red cover, unknown author, living in Florida)*

Daily Pocket Diary, 1864  
*(contains daily activities, unknown author)*

Citizens Savings, Loan and Building Association of Normal, 1958-1972  
*(Harriet M. Bitting, includes withdrawals, deposits, and dividends)*

Diary, 1929  
*(with baby and Death on cover, includes daily activities)*

Swift's Plant Food Service Pocket Book, 1948  
*(daily activities)*

Third National Bank of Bloomington, ILLS. 1899  
*(this book is really 1912, includes information about purchases, debts, crop prices)*

Germania Life New York Life Insurance Company, 1895-1906  
*(contains daily activities, accounting)*

Memorandum, 1925  
*(contains travel expenses from Illinois to Florida)*

### Obituary Cards

James Wilson (d. May 15, 1912) 2 items  
Elon Greer (d. June 20, 1893)

### Recipe Book

Book contains handwritten recipes from an unknown author, 1900, missing back cover

## Posters

King Coil 6882, an imported Clydesdale Stallion for sale by Luke Cornell at his residence in Blue Mound Township, 1890; artwork by Lou Burk.

Public Sale, Sept. 21, '94, 16 head of horses (including King Coil), 2 extra good milch cows, 7 head of nice shoats, farming implements; Luke Cornell, Blue Mound Township, Ellsworth, Illinois; Col. J. H. Kirkpatrick, auctioneer and M.G. Ellis, clerk

Public Sale, Dec. 15, 1898, 18 head horses, 4 milch cows, 32 head hogs; Frank Cornell, Ellsworth, Illinois; Col. W.H. Giese, auctioneer, Wm. Van Gundy, clerk; artwork by Lou Burk (1880)

Public Sale Dec. 27, '09, 15 head horses and mules, 17 head of cattle, 26 head of hogs, and complete line of farm implements; D.K. Merwin, Ellsworth, Illinois; Col. J. H. Kirkpatrick, auctioneer and C. A. Shinkle, clerk (9 items)

## Box 3: Genealogical Research

### Folder 1: Bitting Family Outline & Miscellaneous Census Documents

- 3.1.1 Outline of entire Bitting family, draft. 32 pages
- 3.1.2 Color coded family tree titled "Direct Descendants of Henrich (H3) Bitting
- 3.1.3 Iowa State year-by-year census outline
- 3.1.4 Chronological list of Bittings and their fathers
- 3.1.5 Index to the 1850 census for Pennsylvania
- 3.1.6 Chart marking census that have been checked
- 3.1.7 1880 census from Indiana, 2 pages

### Folder 2: Bitting Family Census- Bucks and Perry Counties, PA

- 3.2.1 Family group sheets and census records for Perry County- 1860-1880; approximately 22 pages

- 3.2.2 Family group sheets and census records for Bucks County- 1800-1880;  
approximately 25 pages

**Folder 3: Bitting Family Census- Berks County, PA**

- 3.3.1 Family group sheets and census records for Berks County- 1800-1880;  
approximately 68 pages

**Folder 4: Bitting Family Census- Montgomery County, PA**

- 3.4.1 Family group sheets and census records for Montgomery County- 1820-1880;  
approximately 100 pages

**Folder 5: Bitting Family Census- Lehigh County, PA**

- 3.5.1 Genealogical and Biographical History of Lehigh County, PA  
3.5.2 Family group sheets and census records for Lehigh County- 1800-1880;  
approximately 58 pages

**Folder 6: Bitting Family Census- Juniata, Lycoming, Dauphin, Northampton, Union, and Snyder Counties, PA**

- 3.6.1 Thomas Bitting/Biding family group sheet and census for Snyder and Union  
Counties  
3.6.2 Family group sheets and census records for Dauphin County- 1850-1880;  
approximately 14 pages  
3.6.3 Family group sheets and census records for Northampton County- 1810 and 1880;  
4 pages  
3.6.4 1850 census record for Charles Bitting of Union County  
3.6.5 Family group sheet and census record for Henry Bitting in Lycoming County  
1880  
3.6.6 Family group sheet and census record for Jacob Bitting in Juniata County 1880

**Folder 7: Philadelphia County, PA**

- 3.7.1 Family group sheets and census records for Philadelphia County- 1830-1880; 25  
pages

**Folder 8: Joseph Bitting**

- 3.8.1 Family group sheets  
3.8.2 Joseph Bitting military information: notes, certificate of pension, biographical  
sketch and revolutionary war disposition  
3.8.3 Administrative letter to Joseph Bitting  
3.8.4 Notes from deed book  
3.8.5 Correspondence to Ruth Hamm from Charlotte Walter  
(*Thank-you, DAR papers, Charles and Joseph Bitting courthouse agreement*)  
3.8.6 Disposition of Joseph Bitting Revolutionary War  
3.8.9 Disposition of Joseph Bitting Revolutionary War  
3.8.10 Typed copy of correspondence between Joseph Bitting and Charles Graff dated  
April 5, 1819.  
(*land, money, favor*)

- 3.8.11 Joseph Bitting census record 1800-1850
- 3.8.12 photocopy from Joseph Bitting Bible
- 3.8.13 Correspondence from R. F. Beckman to Mrs. James J. Hamm dated April 27, 1960 (*grave marking*)
- 3.8.14 Correspondence from Marshall R. Anspach dated October 21, 1960 (possession of records)
- 3.8.15 Census list for 1790-1850 for Joseph and Charles Bitting
- 3.8.16 Notes of records regarding Joseph Bitting
- 3.8.17 Typed notes of deed books regarding Joseph Bitting land
- 3.8.18 Notes and directions regarding Joseph Bitting land
- 3.8.19 Photocopy of pension records from 1844 for Joseph Bitting. 4 pages.
- 3.8.20 Photocopy of a sale record dated October 14 1846
- 3.8.21 Photocopy of Joseph Bitting account records dated January 8<sup>th</sup> 1848
- 3.8.22 Photocopy of Joseph Bitting land records dated April 5, 1819
- 3.8.23 Photocopy of ledger book with Joseph Bitting's name

**Folder 9: Ludwig Bitting**

- 3.9.1 Typed copy of Settlement of Estate of Ludwig Bitting
- 3.9.2 Lodowick Bitting 1771 Deed & typed copy
- 3.9.3 Warrant (no.52), Survey (volume c-155), Patent book (vol. A-14)
- 3.9.4 Warrant (no 50)
- 3.9.5 Ludwig Bitting family group sheet and census record 1810
- 3.9.6 Certification that Lewis Bitting was in the Militia 1780-1781
- 3.9.7 Notes & copy of photograph of house in Germantown Pennsylvania, 6 pages
- 3.9.8 memorandum
- 3.9.9 Typed copy of Ludwig Bitting son of Ludwig B. 1702 land contract
- 3.9.10 Typed copy of Lewis Bitting and wife Margaret land contract 1822

**Folder 10: Martin Bitting**

- 3.10.1 Copy of land contract Martin Bitting to Henry Smith 1790
- 3.10.2 Copy of Martin Bitting land contract 1742
- 3.10.3 Copy of Martin Bitting land contract 1788
- 3.10.4 Copy of Martin Bitting land contract 1742 (note attached reads "Martin Bitting This probably is NOT my Martin)
- 3.10.5 Deed John Henry Sprogel to Martin Petting
- 3.10.6 Deed John Henry Sproegel to Martin Pitting 1747
- 3.10.7 Typed copy of deed release John Henry Sprogel to Martin Pitting March 12 1738
- 3.10.8 Family group sheet

**Folder 11: Henry Bitting**

- 3.11.1 Biographical sketch titled "Henry Bitting's Pass"
- 3.11.2 Correspondence from Ruth Hamm? to Mrs. Brown dated July 20, 1982 (Henry Bitting records, land records)
- 3.11.3 Land survey record for Henry Bitting June 21, 1734
- 3.11.4 Land record for Henry Bitting June 21, 1734
- 3.11.5 Land record for Henry Bitting June 8, 1734

- 3.11.6 Patent to Martin, Lodowick & Jost Bitting February 7, 1753
- 3.11.7 Land record for Henry Bitting May 4, 1734
- 3.11.8 Land record for Henry Bitting March 1743
- 3.11.9 Translation of Henry Bitting's German passport from 1723
- 3.11.10 Family Group Sheet
- 3.11.11 Letter to Henry Bitting from Church at Freinsheim
- 3.11.12 Postcard from Freinsheim
- 3.11.13 Illegible ledger from 1699
- 3.11.14 Family group sheet Heinrich (H3) Bitting
- 3.11.15 Family chart
- 3.11.16 Passenger list from Colonial Pennsylvania Immigrants records
- 3.11.17 Land record for June 1734

#### **Folder 12: Jacob Bitting**

- 3.12.1 Settlement of Estate of Jacob Bitting 1898
- 3.12.2 Deed: Jacob Bitting to Leonard Bridinger 1859
- 3.12.3 Land Contract Jacob Bitting to Peter Buck 1859
- 3.12.4 Photographs
- 3.12.5 Notes, family group chart, census documentation
- 3.12.6 Typed copy of obituary for Lydia Bitting and Jacob Bitting

#### **Folder 13: Samuel Bitting**

- 3.13.1 Family Group Sheets, 8 pages
- 3.13.2 Photographs
- 3.13.3 Chimney rock information- burial of Samuel Bitting
- 3.13.4 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Office of County Clerk in Nebraska  
(*copy of agreement, cemetery records*)
- 3.13.5 Notes
- 3.13.6 Excerpts from a letter from Grandfather Samuel Bitting dated 1937
- 3.13.7 Printed photograph of a sign at Chimney Rock
- 3.13.8 Typed copy of land contract dated 1894

#### **Folder 14: Charles Bitting**

- 3.14.1 Photographs and negatives
- 3.14.2 Documentation of Charles Bitting being in the service 1814
- 3.14.3 Declaration of a widow for pension for Margaret Bitting
- 3.14.4 Notes
- 3.14.5 Biographical sketch

#### **Folder 15: Bitting Pedigree Charts**

- 3.15.1 Family Group Record and Pedigree Chart for Johann Jakob Fenstermacher
- 3.15.2 Pedigree Chart: Bitting and Beiber
- 3.15.3 Pedigree Chart: Boehm

#### **Folder 16: Bitting Lineage Charts**

3.16.1 Family Charts typed and hand written by Ruth Hamm

**Folder 17: Miscellaneous Bitting Documentation**

3.17.1 Includes census notes, lists of sources. Approximately 60 pages.

**Folder 18: Miscellaneous Bitting Family Group Sheets**

3.18.1 Bitting family group sheets; approximately 65 pages

3.18.2 Family group sheets with corresponding photographs

**Folder 19: Wills and Probate Court Papers**

3.19.1 Last Will and Testament, Ludwig Bitting; dated 1771

3.19.2 Last Will and Testament, James Wilson of Hudson, Illinois. Dated May 31<sup>st</sup>, 1912

3.19.3 Last Will and Testament, Martha J. Wilson, dated August 10, 1925.

3.1.4 Last Will and Testament, Probate of Will and Proof of Heirship, Martha J. Wilson, August 10, 1925

3.19.5 Last Will and Testament, Julia Hamm of Hudson, Illinois. Dated May 21, 1930

3.19.6 Probate Court papers for the Estate of Martin Bitting

3.19.7 Probate Court papers for the Estate of Henry Bisbing

3.19.8 Probate Court papers for the Estate of Lewis Bisbing

3.19.9 Probate Court papers for the Estate of Henry Bitting

**Folder 20: Hamm Notes**

3.20.1 List of Members of Ham Family Serving in Revolution

3.20.2 Typed list of enlisted Ham family members from New York in the Revolution by Roberts

3.20.3 Typed notes of enlisted Ham family members from New York in the Revolution by Roberts

3.20.4 List of Hamm family members in Evergreen Cemetery

3.20.5 Census information for Ham in Columbia County, NY 1790, 1800, 1810; 2 pgs

3.20.6 Census information for Ham in Dutchess County, NY 1790, 1800, 1810.

3.20.7 Census information for Ham in New York 1790

3.20.8 Census information for Ham in Columbia County 1800-1850; 2 pages

3.20.9 List of Ham research

3.20.10 Typed notes from Poukeepsie, Dutchess County, New York Courthouse Deeds

3.20.11 List of Ham family members from Genealogical and Biographical Library NY; 2 pgs

3.20.12 List of Ham family members from multiple New York Church Records. Dated 1974, Salt Lake City; 2 pgs

3.20.13 List of Ham family members baptized at Reformed Dutch Church 1639-1730. Retrieved 7-10-1973

- 3.20.14 List of Hamm family baptisms and marriages from First Reformed Church, Germantown NY. Accessed at DAR library January 1971; 2 pg
- 3.20.15 Typed list of Ham wills; 2 pgs
- 3.20.16 Typed notes of Public Papers of George Clinton
- 3.20.17 Biographical sketch of Charles Conrad and Joseph T. Ham.
- 3.20.18 Description of Jacob Ham, as found in Revolutionary War Records in the National Archives
- 3.20.19 Typed excerpt of Minna Schafer Hanson's (Ham descendent) DAR application; 3 pgs
- 3.20.20 4 handwritten Ham family charts
- 3.20.21 Typed chart of text from 12 Ham gravestones at Washington Hollow Cemetery, Dutchess County, NY
- 3.20.22 List of Hamm gravestones at Windham Cemetery, Green County, NY
- 3.20.23 Land contract for Jacob C. Ham and Thomas Ham, dated May 3, 1826
- 3.20.24 Biographical sketch of Coenradt/Conrad Ham/Hamm, an unknown Ham/Hamm, and Martin Ham.
- 3.20.25 Typed (with handwritten notes) family group sheet of Jacob J. Ham, Jacob C. Ham, Conrad I. Ham, and Jacob Ham; 2 pgs
- 3.20.26 Ham pedigree charts (2)

**Folder 21: John, Martin, and Daniel Webster**

- 3.21.1 Photocopy of Lebanon town meeting book; 1771
- 3.21.2 John Webster land records (2)
- 3.21.3 Pictures of Gov. John Webster's residence, tombstone, and soldier monument (photocopy)
- 3.21.4 Certificate of Service: John Webster—War of the Revolution 1775
- 3.21.5 Martin Webster's Certificate of Death
- 3.21.6 Daniel Webster American poster
- 3.21.7 Governor John Webster Genealogy; 3 pgs

**Folder 22: Webster Notes**

- 3.22.1 General index to land records Lebanon Connecticut
- 3.22.2 Description of two cemetery monuments bearing John Webster's name
- 3.22.3 Typed census information for Webster in NY 1790-1870; 3 pgs
- 3.22.4 Biographical sketches of Marcus Webster
- 3.22.5 Notes on "History and Genealogy of the Governor John Webster Family of Connecticut." Notes dated December 29, 1958; 3 pgs
- 3.22.6 Typed biographical sketch of John Webster; 4 pgs
- 3.22.7 List of cemeteries where Webster's are buried
- 3.22.8 List of sources and Webster family information
- 3.22.9 Court records; 3 pages

**Folder 23: Bacon Notes**

- 3.23.1 Research chart for Bradford County Historical Society
- 3.23.2 List of sources and Bacon family information

- 3.23.3 1790-1840 Bacon census notes
- 3.23.4 1790 New York and Connecticut census notes
- 3.23.5 Bacon military notes
- 3.23.6 Bacon notes from Salt Lake City; 6 pages
- 3.23.7 More typed notes; 8 pages

**Folder 24: Baxter Notes**

- 3.24.1 Census information, cemetery lists, and biographical sketches. 16 pages

**Folder 25: Foland Notes**

- 3.25.1 Notes on Henry Foland's Will
- 3.25.2 Census information Folandt-Volant

**Folder 26: Taft Notes**

- 3.26.1 List of Taft's in 1790 1875 census; 9 pages
- 3.26.2 Taft notes; 6 pages
- 3.26.3 Taft records from Vital Records of Rhode Island 1636-1850; 3 pages
- 3.26.4 Taft notes: birth records, deeds, cemeteries. 9 pages
- 3.26.5 Notes titled "Civil War Index on Microfilm at National Archives" 2 pages
- 3.26.6 Taft notes; 6 pages

**Folder 27: Taft Family Records**

- 3.27.1 Marriage certificate of Marcus Webster and Sally Ann Taft (photocopy)
- 3.27.2 Land record
- 3.27.3 Taft Tree Talk newsletter November 1993
- 3.27.4 Taft Tree Talk newsletter May 1994
- 3.27.5 Taft Tree Talk newsletter November 2001
- 3.27.6 Taft family bulletin
- 3.27.7 Documentation of marriage between Benedict and Lydia Taft
- 3.27.8 Documentation of marriage between Nathan Taft and Sarah Casper

**Folder 28: Graeff Family Records**

- 3.28.1 Graeff family biographical sketch
- 3.28.2 Bible record photocopies 2 pgs
- 3.28.3 Book photocopies about Graff family
- 3.28.4 Book photocopy about market street property owned by Graff
- 3.28.5 Deed: Jacob Graff to Jacob Hillsheimer (photocopy of original)
- 3.28.6 Deed: Jacob Graff to Jacob Hillsheimer (typed version)
- 3.28.7 Graeff family group sheet
- 3.28.8 Sentence from diary of Jacob Graff
- 3.28.9 Bible and census notes; 2 pgs
- 3.28.10 Estate of Jacob Graff notes; 3 pgs
- 3.28.11 Graef-Bitting family chart

**Folder 29: Benjamin Family**

- 3.29.1 Invitation to Benjamin family reunion 1987. Letter attached from Edith Benjamin dated September 28, 1987
- 3.29.2 Invitation to Benjamin family reunion 1988.
- 3.29.3 List of those pictured at 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of Sarah Beaver and John R. Benjamin
- 3.29.4 Letitia Green Stevenson Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution: Ancestry of Martha (Rogers) Benjamin
- 3.29.5 Letitia Green Stevenson Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution: Ancestry of Benjamin Brothers Sons of Darius and Martha Benjamin
- 3.29.6 Biographical sketch of Benedict Benjamin and Daniel Benjamin

**Folder 30: Graham Family Records**

- 3.30.1 Miscellaneous Graham notes (census, deeds)
- 3.30.2 James Graham land record dated 1789
- 3.30.3 James Graham land record dated 1790
- 3.30.4 James Graham land record dated 1803
- 3.30.5 James Graham land record dated 1839
- 3.30.6 James Graham land record dated 1839

**Folder 31: Bear Family Research**

- 3.31.1 Miscellaneous Bear notes and biographical sketches (7 pages)
- 3.31.2 Hand-written pedigree charts
- 3.31.3 Bear family group sheets (approx. 17 pages)
- 3.31.4 Bear census information 1810-1840

**Folder 32: Schreiter Family**

- 3.32.1 Schreiter family group chart
- 3.32.2 Photographs
- 3.32.3 Photocopies of newspaper clippings
- 3.32.4 Family group sheet for Otto Magnum Schreiter and Ferne Irene Bitting
- 3.32.5 Advertisement by Otto M. Schreiter for two burial spaces
- 3.32.6 WWII memories of Otto M. Schreiter
- 3.32.7 Letter from Fern Bitting to Grandma Merwin
- 3.32.8 Biographical sketch of Fern Bitting Schreiter
- 3.32.9 Family group sheet for Spencer Louis Schreiter and Sandra Lynn Chutz
- 3.32.10 Photograph
- 3.32.11 Biographical sketch for Spencer Louis Schreiter and Sandra Handcock
- 3.32.12 Photocopies of newspaper clippings
- 3.32.13 Family group sheet for Jason Kohler and Michelle Nicole Hancock (daughter of Sandra Belle Schreiter)
- 3.32.14 Photographs
- 3.32.15 Biographical sketch of Sandra Schreiter Hancock

- 3.32.16 Correspondence from Sandy (Sandra Schreiter Hancock) to Aunt Ruth (Ruth Bitting Hamm) dated April 8, 2000  
*(biographical sketch, catching up)*
- 3.32.17 Letter updating the family on life from Dave, Sandy, and Brad
- 3.32.18 Photographs
- 3.32.19 Invitation to wedding of Michelle Hancock and Jason Kohler
- 3.32.20 Correspondence from Sandy to Aunt Ruth dated October 12, 2003  
*(remodeling, birthdays, blessings)*

## **BOX 4: Genealogical Research II**

### **Folder 1: Biographical Sketches**

- 4.1.1 Thomas Bitting
- 4.1.2 Florence Louise Bitting and James Edward Sutton: family group sheets, biographical sketches, newspaper clippings, photographs
- 4.1.3 James J. Hamm: misc. cards, The Marconi Station paper, biographical sketch and photographs
- 4.1.4 Barbara Eileen Bitting and Homer Gene Gurtler: family group sheet, photographs, biographical sketch, newspaper clippings
- 4.1.5 Donald L. McAlister and Marjorie Armilda Bitting: Family group sheets, newspaper clippings, photographs, poems, biographical sketch
- 4.1.6 Stanley Murrell, Evelyn Kuehling Bitting, and their children: biographical sketch and photographs

### **Folder 2: Biographical Sketches 2**

- 4.2.1 George Alvin Collins, Jr. and Debra Ann Bitting: family group sheet, correspondence regarding family addresses, biographical sketch
- 4.2.2 Gerome Peter May and Karen Sue Gurtler: family group sheet, biographical sketch, photographs
- 4.2.3 Gail McAlister: biographical sketch
- 4.2.4 Katherine Peterson: biographical sketch and family group sheet
- 4.2.5 Gary Eldon Gurtler: photographs, biographical sketch
- 4.2.6 Thomas Barnard Bitting: family group sheet, photographs, biographical sketch

### **Folder 3: Miscellaneous Family Group Sheets**

- 4.3.1 Printed out family group sheets from Family Tree Maker. Approximately 80 pages.
- 4.3.2 Family group sheets with photographs attached

### **Folder 4: Daughters of the American Revolution Applications**

- 4.4.1 DAR application: Nancy Lewis Lundeen descendent of Henry Van Dyke
- 4.4.2 DAR application: H. Anne Adams descendent of Peter Van Dyke (photocopy)
- 4.4.3 DAR application: Ruth Bitting Hamm descendent of Jacob Graeff Jr.

- 4.4.4 DAR application: Ruth Bitting Hamm descendent of John Webster
- 4.4.5 DAR application: Ruth Bitting Hamm descendent of Peter Van Dyck
- 4.4.6 DAR application: Ruth Bitting Hamm descendent of Aaron Baxter
- 4.4.7 DAR application: Ruth Bitting Hamm descendent of Michael Beiber
- 4.4.8 DAR application: Ruth Bitting Hamm descendent of Cornelius Van Dyck
- 4.4.9 DAR application: Ruth Bitting Hamm descendent of Lewis (Ludwig) Bitting
- 4.4.10 DAR application: Ruth Bitting Hamm descendent of Sergeant Joseph Bitting
- 4.4.11 Lineage worksheet: "Hereditary Order of Descendents of Colonial Governors"  
James Hamm's ancestral claim to John Webster
- 4.4.12 Webster Genealogy; 3 pgs
- 4.4.13 Photocopy of the personal Journal of Lt. Colonel Daniel Clymer; 3 pgs
- 4.4.14 References for lineage; 2 pgs
- 4.4.15 Personal information about applicant

#### **Folder 5: Miscellaneous Newspaper Clippings**

- 4.5.1 James J. Hamm to Michael E. O'Grady, property, May 16, 1997
- 4.5.2 Frank Leslie Bitting obituary
- 4.5.3 William Arthur Bitting obituary
- 4.5.4 Clarence R. Bitting article
- 4.5.5 "All dead Iowans to become Mormons" October 1979
- 4.5.6 Ruth Bitting Hamm article "special lady" honored"
- 4.5.7 Don Bitting photograph in *Pantagraph* May 1965
- 4.5.8 W. C. Bitting obituary January 11, 1931
- 4.5.9 Internet print out of church photo by Richard Bitting

#### **Folder 6: Miscellaneous Sources**

- 4.6.1 Jacob J. Ham biographical sketch, photocopy from book. 2 pages
- 4.6.2 Revolutionary war soldiers buried in Illinois internet print-out. 3 pages
- 4.6.3 Photocopy from the *Genealogical Helper* December 1964. 5 pages
- 4.6.4 Photocopy of *The Abridged Compendium of American Genealogy*
- 4.6.5 Photocopy of McLean County records locations
- 4.6.6 "First to Bear the Name" magazine article
- 4.6.7 Photocopy of *History of Lehigh County*
- 4.6.8 Photocopy of *The Perkiomen Region* by Henry S. Dotterer
- 4.6.9 Photocopy of *Biographical Sketches: Issac Bear*
- 4.6.10 Photocopy of *History of Berks County, Pennsylvania*
- 4.6.11 Photocopy of *Notes and Queries Historical and Genealogical*

#### **Folder 7: Bear Correspondence**

- 4.7.1 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Mr. Clayton E. Bear dated January 5, 1957  
(seeking family information)
- 4.7.2 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Pearl and Cora dated January 5, 1957

- (catching up, family bible, plans to visit)*
- 4.7.3 Correspondence from Ruth B. Hamm to Probate Clerk dated November 18, 1958  
*(cost of copy)*, reply from Marietta Workman *(answer to question)*,  
correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm dated November 22, 1958  
*(requesting a photocopy of the Statement of Heirs)*
- 4.7.4 Correspondence from Walter S. Bear to Mr. Charles B. Bear dated October 14,  
1957  
*(family historian, genealogy work, handwriting)*
- 4.7.5 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Mrs. Herberger dated June 13,  
1963  
*(Bear genealogy, Lydia Bear, Gideon Bear, Jacob Bitting, asking for help)*
- 4.7.6 Correspondence from Margaret Herberger to Mrs. Hamm dated June 15, 1963  
*(Sitler family, Bear line)*
- 4.7.7 Correspondence from Ruth B. Hamm to The De Moines Public Library August  
12, 1970  
*(copy of the Washington County History, biography of Gideon Bear)*
- 4.7.8 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to State Historical Society dated  
August 19, 1970  
*(request for information regarding Gideon Bear)*
- 4.7.9 Correspondence from Altamae Briden to Mrs. James J. Hamm dated August 22,  
1970  
*(no material on Gideon Bear)*
- 4.7.10 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Wilson Memorial Library dated  
September 2, 1970  
*(request for information regarding Gideon Bear)*
- 4.7.11 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Mrs. Todd dated September 23,  
1968 *(Bear/Bare family line)*, Correspondence from Mary Todd to Mrs. James  
Hamm *(sharing Bare information)*
- 4.7.12 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Mrs. Nelle Brown at Washington  
Public Library dated September 25, 1970 *(locating Gideon Bear's biography)*
- 4.7.13 Correspondence from Mrs. Brown to Mrs. Hamm dated September 30, 1970  
*(biography located)*
- 4.7.14 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Mrs. Brown dated October 4 1970  
*(thank-you for locating biography)*
- 4.7.15 Correspondence from Mrs. Cora Bitting to Mrs. Hamm dated April 8, 1971  
*(Lydia Bear, loss, unable to help)*
- 4.7.16 Correspondence from Carl R. Oldfield to Mrs. Hamm postmarked May 19, 1971  
*(contacting Bear family, unable to find information)*
- 4.7.18 Correspondence from Ruth Hamm to Leslie Dunlap dated March 30, 1971  
*(search for obituary, any information regarding Bear family)*
- 4.7.19 Correspondence from Clara to Ruth Hamm dated November 4  
*(health, obituary of Lydia Bear Bitting, passing)*
- 4.7.20 Correspondence from Ruth B. Hamm to County Clerk dated January 28, 1972  
*(requesting copy of marriage license, check included)*
- 4.7.21 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Mrs. William H. Hawthorne dated  
October 30, 1972

- (Jacob Baer, asking for family records)*
- 4.7.22 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Mrs. Virgil V. Ivers dated November 25, 1972  
*(requesting any information on Bear line)*
- 4.7.23 Correspondence from Doris D. Hawthorne to Mrs. James J. Hamm dated November 17, 1972  
*(address for Baer family information)*
- 4.7.24 Correspondence from Dorothy D. Ivers to Mrs. Hamm dated February 5, 1973  
*(car accident, genealogy notes)*
- 4.7.25 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Mr. Charles Bear dated November 7, 1973 *(trip to Washington, records in Lehigh County)*
- 4.7.26 Correspondence from Charles Bear to Mrs. Hamm dated November 12, 1973  
*(Bear family information, family bible)*
- 4.7.26 Correspondence from Charles Benson Bear to Mrs. James J. Hamm dated November 27, 1973  
*(bible entries)*
- 4.7.27 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Mr. Charles Bear dated December 6, 1973  
*(thank-you, response to previous letter)*

#### **Folder 8: Myrtle Donley Correspondence**

- 4.8.1 Correspondence from Aunt Myrtle and Mrs. Bert Donley to Ruth and James (Hamm) postmarked December 27 1954  
*(Bitting family, Bear family, list of family members births, towns, ages as of 1954)*
- 4.8.2 Correspondence from Aunt Myrtle postmarked May 11 1955  
*(Crocheting, Jacob Bitting, illness, family pictures)*
- 4.8.3 Correspondence from Aunt Myrtle postmarked September 11, 1955  
*(family information, burial)*
- 4.8.4 Correspondence from Myrtle Donley to Harriet Bitting postmarked January 30 1957  
*(Travel, health, family bible)*
- 4.8.5 Correspondence from Aunt Myrtle to Ruth and James (Hamm) dated February 10, 1957  
*(family information, travel)*
- 4.8.6 Correspondence from Myrtle Donley to Harriet (last pages missing) dated January 2<sup>nd</sup> 1958  
*(New year, thank you, letters, death)*
- 4.8.7 Correspondence from Myrtle Donley to niece and nephew dated August 19 1958  
*(visit, family information)*
- 4.8.8 Correspondence from Myrtle Donley to Ruth and James (Hamm) dated December 13<sup>th</sup> 1958  
*(visits, weather, grave)*
- 4.8.9 Correspondence from Myrtle Donley to Ruth and James (Hamm) dated September 27<sup>th</sup> 1959  
*(family visit, weather, cooking) (missing last pages?)*

- 4.8.10 Correspondence from Fern to Myrtle dated October 4 1966 (first half illegible, birth and death dates)
- 4.8.11 Correspondence from Myrtle Donley to Ruth James dated October 9, 1966  
*(family information, trips)*
- 4.8.12 Correspondence from Myrtle Donley to Ruth and James dated November 22<sup>nd</sup> 1966  
*(Thanksgiving, birthday, neighbors)*
- 4.8.13 Correspondence from Myrtle Donley to Ruth and James dated June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1964  
*(garden, family information)*

### **Folder 9: Ruth Hamm Correspondence**

- 4.9.1 Correspondence from Ms. Tim Leytham to Mrs. Hamm postmarked December 13 1938  
*(Bitting family births and deaths, family bible, grandchildren)*
- 4.9.2 Correspondence from Ruth Strum to Mrs. Hamm postmarked August 27, 1955  
*(Bitting family, grandchildren)*
- 4.9.3 Correspondence from Lydia White to Mrs. Hamm dated September 22, 1955  
*(pictures of Great-Grandma Bitting)*
- 4.9.4 Correspondence from Ruth Strum to Mrs. Hamm postmarked October 20, 1955  
*(health, newspaper add for family information)*
- 4.9.5 Correspondence from Mrs. Brown to Mrs. Hamm postmarked October 8, 1970  
*(Washington Public Library, 1880 death records)*
- 4.9.6 Correspondence from Marian Spratt to Ruth Hamm dated September 2, 1974  
*(family information, township plots, national records)*
- 4.9.7 Correspondence from Ward J. Childs to Mrs. James J. Hamm dated September 24, 1974  
*(deed book)*
- 4.9.8 Correspondence from Mrs. James Hamm to Mrs. John Palmer dated August 16, 1976  
*(Baxter cemetery records, Graham, Taft, Webster)*
- 4.9.9 Return letter September 12, 1976  
*(unable to find requested record)*
- 4.9.10 Correspondence to Ruth from Ruth March 23, 1977  
*(family trees, health, membership)*
- 4.9.11 Correspondence to Ruth from Margaret Barber dated May 12, 1978  
*(Connecticut Society of Genealogists, health)*
- 4.9.12 Correspondence from ? to Mrs. Hamm (last pages missing) dated October 29, 1987  
*(Webster, Green River Cemetery)*
- 4.9.13 Correspondence from Mrs. Charlie (Katie) Bitting to "Friend or Kin if we are" (Ruth Hamm) dated January 2 1961. Photograph and article enclosed.  
*(family bible, family members)*

- 4.9.14 Correspondence from William H. Work of Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission-Public Records Division to Whom it May Concern (Ruth Hamm) dated April 12, 1962  
*(certification that Lewis Bitting was enrolled as a Private in Philadelphia City Militia)*
- 4.9.15 Correspondence from Ruth Hamm? (unsigned) to Mrs. Rundell dated June 12, 1963  
*(records, Webster, marriage)*
- 4.9.16 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Northern Ireland Tourist Board dated November 11, 1963  
*(requesting copy of a booklet)*
- 4.9.17 Correspondence from Mrs. Jefferson O. Rawson to Mrs. Hamm postmarked June 3, 1964  
*(board meeting, Taft family members)*
- 4.9.18 Correspondence from Shirley D. Thurman to Mrs. James J. Hamm dated January 23, 1980  
*(search records regarding bitting settlement, cost for copies)*
- 4.9.19 Correspondence from Ruth Hamm to Southwest Pennsylvania Genealogical Services dated May 3, 1980  
*(computer search for Ham and Hamm in early colonial records)*
- 4.9.20 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Mr. Ward J. Childs dated May 9, 1980  
*(deed, Jacob Graff Jr.)*
- 4.9.21 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to The Bradford County Historical Society dated May 20, 1980  
*(records regarding Roxanna Baxter Bacon)*
- 4.9.22 Correspondence from Leslie A. Bryan to Ruth Hamm dated October 8, 1980  
*(John Webster information)*
- 4.9.23 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Alberta T. Roman dated January 23, 1982  
*(Taft family information).*  
Attached is correspondence from Alberta T. Roman to Mrs. Hamm dated January 14, 1982
- 4.9.24 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Mrs. Taft dated January 23, 1982  
*(Taft family research).*  
Attached is correspondence from Marcy Taft to Mrs. Hamm dated February 2, 1981  
*(questions about Taft family)*
- 4.9.25 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Mr. Richard T. Messinger dated August 17, 1982  
*(Taft Tree Talk)*
- 4.9.26 Correspondence from Ann to Ruth (Hamm) dated July 15, 1982  
*(Hampshire County records)*
- 4.9.27 Correspondence from Lois and family to Ruth and James dated December 17, 1983  
*(Christmas, Taft family, health)*

- 4.9.28 Correspondence from Ruth Hamm? To Mrs. Leonard Krieg dated January 28, 1984
- 4.9.29 Correspondence from Mrs. James Justin Hamm to Mrs. Spedden dated January 2, 1985  
*(Bacon family information)*
- 4.9.30 Correspondence from Mrs. James Justin Hamm to Albert K. Stebbins Jr. dated January 2, 1985  
*(Bacon family information)*
- 4.9.31 Correspondence from Ruth Hamm? To Milton A. Taft dated January 2, 1985  
*(Taft family information, deeds, census)*
- 4.9.32 Correspondence from Ervin R. (Dick) Taft to Mrs. Hamm dated December 5, 1993  
*(Taft family information)*
- 4.9.33 Correspondence from Ruth B. Hamm to Ervin R. (Dick) Taft dated January 3, 1994  
*(DAR, Taft family information)*
- 4.9.34 Correspondence from Ruth B. Hamm to Lester G. Taft, Jr. dated January 3, 1994  
*(Taft family information, dues)*
- 4.9.35 Correspondence from Richard Taft Messinger (Dick) to Ruth B. Hamm dated January 21 1994  
*(Taft family information)*
- 4.9.36 Correspondence from Neil Taft To Cousin Ruth dated May 28 1996  
*(Nathan Taft)*
- 4.9.37 Correspondence from Ruth to Neil Taft dated November 26, 1996  
*(Taft family information, Mijamin)*
- 4.9.38 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Cousin Berneta dated January 20, 2002  
*(Taft family information, Nathan Taft burial site, Uxbridge, DAR)*
- 4.9.39 Correspondence from Berneta M.DeVries to Cousin Ruth dated February 7, 2002  
*(Death of Richard T. Messinger)*, correspondence from "B" to Cousin Ruth undated (finding family information), correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Cousin Berneta (Berneta M. DeVries) dated February 26, 2002 *(Taft family line genealogy)*
- 4.9.40 Correspondence from Patricia A. Allen to Mrs. James J. Hamm dated February 20, 2002 *(death of Richard Taft Messinger, Nathan Taft's burial)*, correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Patricia A. Allen dated February 26, 2002 *(Nathan Taft information, Taft family line)*
- 4.9.41 Correspondence (hand written) from Milton Taft to Ruth *(Nathan Taft, Howard Taft, Walton Taft)* Correspondence (typed) from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Milton Taft dated April 1, 2006 *(Taft genealogy)*
- 4.9.42 Correspondence from Berneta M. DeVries to Mrs. Ruth Hamm dated July 20, 2002  
*(cemetery, Nathan Taft)*
- 4.9.43 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Rhode Island Archives dated August 17 2002  
*(cemetery records, Nathan Taft)*

- 4.9.44 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Berneta M. DeVries dated August 18 2002  
*(Nathan Taft)*
- 4.9.45 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Berneta M. DeVries dated August 19  
*(Taft family information)*
- 4.9.46 Correspondence Mrs. Warren Shuck to "Folks" undated  
*(thank- you, wedding anniversary, Roy Bitting)*
- 4.9.47 Correspondence from Sally A. Weikel at Pennsylvania State Library to Mrs. Hamm, undated  
*(genealogy files for Bitting)*

**Folder 10: Bitting Family Correspondence**

- 4.10.1 Correspondence from Rebecca Bitting? to Ruth Bitting Hamm dated 1939  
*(holidays, food, family information)*
- 4.10.2 Correspondence from Pearl Bitting to Cousin (Mrs. James Hamm) postmarked September 6, 1955  
*(family photographs, visits)*
- 4.10.3 Correspondence between Lycoming County and Mrs. James J. Hamm dated January-September 1955  
*(information regarding Bitting family)*
- 4.10.4 Correspondence from Ruth Bitting Hamm to James J. Hamm dated November 25, 1955  
*(Thanksgiving, pictures, burials)*
- 4.10.5 Correspondence from Ruth Bitting Hamm to James J. Hamm dated November 3, 1958  
*(bills, marriage license, weather, dog bite)*
- 4.10.6 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Joseph A. Bitting dated April 19, 1960  
*(requesting information on Bitting family)*
- 4.10.7 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Mrs. White dated May 9, 1960  
*(weather, visit, information on Bitting family)*
- 4.10.8 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Pearl and Cora dated May 18, 1960  
*(search for family information, family bible)*
- 4.10.9 Correspondence between Dorothy W. Ewers and Mrs. James J. Hamm October 7, 1964-May 15, 1965  
*(locating Bitting family information)*
- 4.10.10 Correspondence from Mrs. James J. Hamm to Aunt Myrtle dated October 14 1966  
*(census, Taft family information, mother, DAR)*
- 4.10.11 Correspondence between Mrs. James J. Hamm to Mrs. Peck dated September 28-October 5, 1970  
*(Bitting family information, catching up, obituary)*
- 4.10.12 Correspondence between Mary Ethel Bitting and Ruth Bitting Hamm dated July 24, 1971-January 19, 1972  
*(family information)*

**Folder 11: Harriet Merwin Bitting Diary**

- 4.11.1 Original diary of Harriet Merwin Bitting 1903, 1904, 1905
- 4.11.2 Photocopy of Harriet Merwin Bitting's diary 1903, 1904, 1905. Approximately 66 pages

**Folder 12: Miscellaneous Items**

- 4.12.1 Wedding invitation to Mr. and Mrs. Roy Milton Ekstam
- 4.12.2 Wedding invitation for wedding of Susan Foltz and James Sutton
- 4.12.3 Christmas card
- 4.12.4 Genealogy pamphlet
- 4.12.5 Remembrance card for death of Melvin Harvey Donley
- 4.12.6 Presbyterian Meeting House pamphlet
- 4.12.7 Letter for Stanley Bitting from the Selective Service postmarked December 27, 1944  
*(direction to report for physical examination)*
- 4.12.8 Letter for Stanley Bitting from Selective Service postmarked January 11, 1945  
*(Certificate of Fitness)*
- 4.12.9 Correspondence from Ida Jane Tilghtman to Aunt and Uncle dated Thursday Evening 188\_
- 4.12.10 Family Group Sheet for Frank Leslie Bitting
- 4.12.11 Wedding invitation for the wedding of Jill McAlister and Robert Sekola
- 4.12.12 Letter from Jill Sekola, poetry from Rachel Sekola, and homework from another family member

**LOOSE ITEMS**

Abstract of Title for Ida Humphrey and James Hamm  
Family index cards