

**A2380**

**Hewitt-Neff Family Papers, 1867-1925**

5 folders

Processed by Dennis Northcott, December 2009

**REPOSITORY**

Missouri History Museum Archives

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**DONOR INFORMATION**

Donor information is not available.

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Mrs. Cynthia Neff (nee Gillespie) married Manlius Hewitt July 1, 1868, in St. Louis, Missouri. Cynthia A. Hewitt died November 2, 1896, in St. Louis; Manlius Hewitt died in July 1912 in St. Louis.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The collection consists primarily of personal correspondence of the Hewitt-Neff family, including several letters sent to Mrs. Cynthia A. Hewitt and several letters of Frank Adam Neff to his mother. The collection also includes business cards and invitations.

**Folder 1**

- 1867 Jan 18[?] Letter signed J. King Gillespie, Ballston Spa, New York, to "My dear Widowed Sister" (Mrs. Cynthia A. Neff), St. Louis, Missouri. Informs his sister of the death of his wife.
- 1868 Sept 29 Letter signed W.E. Munsey[?], Embreeville, Tennessee, to his sister Annie. Mentions family members and a servant who are sick with typhoid fever. Invites her to travel with him to Baltimore.
- 1870 Jan 20 Handwritten note: Miss Onie[?] Aglar's Compliments to Mr. Mudge for Thursday evening, January 20th 70."
- 1870 July 28 Letter signed Will, Saint Louis, to his sister Cynthia. Mentions that there have been many deaths from sun stroke, and that he has made a strike for higher wages.
- 1870 Nov 30 Note signed Clara Seavey to Mrs. Hewitt; "I will call and see you to morrow after-noon if it will be convenient for you. answer soon my cousin will call for the answer this evening after school, and oblige as ever Friend."
- 1871 Apr 30 Letter signed Geo. Mudge to Mrs. Hewitt. Thanks Mrs. Hewitt for her kindness, and mentions that he expects to start up the Missouri River next week.
- 1871 June 21 Letter signed Will H. Parsons, Ironton, to his sister Cynthia. ". . . We are nicely Settled in our new Home. . . Meats are Cheaper here than in St Louis the best is 10 cts per Lb. wood \$3 [or \$5] per Cord. . . ."
- 1871 July 21[?] Letter signed Willie Neff, Jefferson City, to his brother. Willie, a young boy, describes a picnic he went on with Maggie Rice. Mentions that "Mrs. Rice took Harvey[?] the Colered boy."
- 1871 Aug 28 Letter signed P. Bardin, Ironton, to Mr. & Mrs. Hewett. Informs them of the sickness and eventual death of Will, and that "Willie lies also at the point of death & no hopes of his recovery."
- 1872 Jan 16 Letter signed J.H. Hill, San Jose, [California], to "My Dear Hewetts." Mentions the ruins of "desolated Chicago" in the wake of the fire. Describes his train trip from Chicago to San Francisco, including an account of being blockaded by snow in the Rocky Mountains.
- 1875 Aug 14 Printed invitation to the marriage of Don Turner and Josephine Eckert at the residence of H.C. Talbott, Waterloo, Illinois. Invitation is in envelope addressed to Mr. and Mrs. Hewett, Belleville, Ills. (Hinckley House).
- 1877 June 5 Letter signed George, Post No. 1, Tongue River, Montana, to "Dear Mother

& Brother.” He writes that he expects to go up to the Big Horn on the next train, an area that is believed to have rich mines. (The envelope that appears to accompany this letter is addressed to Mrs. C.A. Hewett, Hinkley House, Belleville, Ill.)

- 1877 June 25 Letter signed Geo. Neff, cantonment on Tongue River, Montana, to mother and brother. “. . . I have turned over a new leaf since I left St. Louis, and I feel like there was something to live for and hope I will never be Broke again. . . .” Mentions that Indians jumped the mail carrier and stole the mail.
- 1877 July 18 Letter signed Geo., Tongue River, to “Dear Mother & Bro.” He writes that he hopes to get over his bad habits; military law is in effect where he is residing; whisky is forbidden; and everyone must be in bed by 9. Also mentions the recent visit of Gen. Sherman.
- 1877 Sept 22 Letter signed Pearce, Fargo, to his mother. Mentions that “we have sold out all the beef cattle.” Provides an account of the death of George Neff, who was found laying by the side of the railroad track about 25 miles from Fargo with his neck and back broken. It is supposed that he fell off a railroad car while attempting to steal a ride.
- 1880 Jan 11 Letter signed Annie, Clinton, to Willie. Discusses family news.
- 1880 Nov 14 Letter signed Sarah, Harrison, to her sister. Discusses family news. Mentions that the grain is all in the bins and the potatoes have been placed in the cellar. Mentions dresses and pants that she has made for her children. Mentions Clara Masters.
- 1881 Feb 4 Letter signed J. King Gillespie, Auburn, New York, to “My Dear Sister” [Mrs. Cynthia Hewitt]. Gillespie writes that it is unlikely that he will be able to come to St. Louis in March, due to work demands. He also notes that he is on crutches.
- 1881 Apr 7 Letter signed Sarah, Harrison, to her sister. Asks her sister to buy some cloth for her for a dress she plans to make.
- 1885 July 20 Note signed A.B. Covey, St. Louis, Mo., to Mrs. Hewitt. Mentions that Belle has had a baby named “A.B.C. Jr.”
- Circa 1886 July 8 Account regarding balance due from M. Hewett to O.F. Greer [or Green].

## **Folder 2**

- 1887 Feb 21 Letter signed [name unclear], Auburn, N.Y., to “My Dearest pet Sister” (envelope is addressed to Mrs. Cynthia Hewitt, 3507 St. Louis Ave., St. Louis, Mo.). Invites sister and mother to visit.

- 1887 Oct 30 Letter signed Amanda, Racine, to her friend (envelope is addressed to Mrs. Manlius Hewitt, 3507 St. Louis Ave., St. Louis, Mo.). Thanks her for entertaining her children in St. Louis.
- 1887 Nov 17 Letter signed Rho[?], Harrison, to her sister (envelope is addressed to Mrs. C.A. Hewitt, 3507 St. Louis Ave., St. Louis, Mo.). Discusses family news. Includes note signed Addie, wishing her sister a happy birthday.
- 189- Handwritten notes of names and addresses of family members, written on stationery of W.B. Neff, representative for central and southern Arkansas, Mansur & Tebbetts Implement Co. and Mansur & Tebbetts Carriage Manufacturing Co.
- 189- Oct 14 Letter signed "Mother and Grandmother" to "My Dear Children." Discusses family news. Letter is written on stationery of Mansur & Tebbetts Implement Co., St. Louis, Mo., and includes an engraved illustration of the company's building at the corner of 10th and Spruce Streets. (Printed envelope is addressed to W.B. Neff, representing Mansur & Tebbetts Imp. Co. and Mansur & Tebbetts Carriage Mfg. Co., Little Rock, Arkansas.)
- 1891 June 11 Printed invitation to the commencement exercises of the St. Louis Central High School. Includes calling card of Miss Mary Johnson.
- 1891 June 25 Printed invitation of Mrs. E. Suydam to the marriage of her daughter Mamie Suydam to Louis Harris at the residence of Mrs. J.D. Harris in Harrison, Minnesota.
- Circa 1893 Aug 16 Account of Manlius Hewitt, 3509 St. Louis Ave., St. Louis, Mo., with the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. (Printed envelope is addressed to A.P. Waterman, care of M.S. Bennett, 422 & 424 North 2nd St., St. Louis, Mo., at office of Collins Bros. Drug Co.)
- Circa 1894 Aug 16 Account of Manlius Hewitt, St. Louis, Mo., with the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Enclosed promissory note signed Manlius Hewitt to the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, August 16, 1875. (Printed envelope is addressed to A.P. Waterman, care of M.S. Bennett, 422 & 424 North 2nd St., St. Louis, Mo., at office of Collins Bros. Drug Co.)
- Circa 1895 Aug 16 Account of Manlius Hewitt, St. Louis, Mo., with the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. (Printed envelope is addressed to A.P. Waterman, care of M.S. Bennett, 422 & 424 North 2nd St., St. Louis, Mo., at office of Collins Bros. Drug Co.)

### **Folder 3**

- 1896 Oct 13 Letter signed "Mother & Father" to "My Dear Children And Grand

Children.” Discusses family news. (Letter is written on stationery of Mansur & Tebbetts Implement Co., St. Louis, Mo., and includes an engraved illustration of the company’s building at the corner of 10th and Spruce Streets.)

- 1896 Oct 17 Letter signed “Mother” to “My Dear Children And Grand Children.” Discusses family news. Letter is written on stationery of Mansur & Tebbetts Implement Co., St. Louis, Mo., and includes an engraved illustration of the company’s building at the corner of 10th and Spruce Streets. (Printed envelope is addressed to W.B. Neff, representing Mansur & Tebbetts Imp. Co. and Mansur & Tebbetts Carriage Mfg. Co., Little Rock, Arkansas.)
- 1896 Nov 1 Letter signed F.A. Neff to “Dear Grandpa and Grandma.” Mentions that he is going to school. Discusses family news. (Letter is written on stationery of Mansur & Tebbetts Implement Co., St. Louis, Mo., and includes an engraved illustration of the company’s building at the corner of 10th and Spruce Streets. Envelope is addressed to Mrs. C.A. Hewitt, 2901 Spring Ave., St. Louis, Mo.).
- 1918 Sept 18 Typescript letter signed Frank to his mother. Discusses the difficulty in running his business due to many of his workers being drafted to serve in World War I. Mentions that his attorney has begun divorce proceedings for him, and is negotiating with a lawyer named Luke Hart. Mentions that he saw John Dickinson of Little Rock. (Letter is written on stationery of The Fisk Rubber Company, Quincy, Illinois.) Encloses copy of typescript letter of Frank Adam Neff, 5900 Clemens Ave., St. Louis, Mo., to Local Board for Division No. 27, 1902 North Union Ave., St. Louis, Mo. States that he is registered as residing at 5812 Romaine Place, but asks that any mail from the board be sent to 5900 Clemens Ave. (Envelope is addressed to Mrs. S. Neff, 5900 Clemens Ave., St. Louis, Mo.)
- 1918 Dec 8 Typescript letter signed Frank to his mother. Discusses his job and his divorce case. (Letter is written on stationery of The Fisk Rubber Company, Quincy, Illinois. Envelope is addressed to Mrs. S. Neff, 5900 Clemens Ave., St. Louis, Mo.)
- 1918 Dec 21 Letter signed Frank to “My Dear Mother and All.” Discusses his job. (Letter is written on stationery of The Fisk Rubber Company, Quincy, Illinois. Envelope is addressed to Mrs. S. Neff, 5900 Clemens Ave., St. Louis, Mo.)
- 1919 Jan 21 Typescript letter signed Frank to “My Dear Mother and All.” Discusses his divorce proceedings, and mentions that he may want Dr. Smith and Vic Allan to be character witnesses. (Letter is written on stationery of The Fisk Rubber Company, Quincy, Illinois. Envelope is addressed to Mrs. S. Neff, 5900 Clemens Ave., St. Louis, Mo.)

- 1919 Jan 30      Typescript letter signed Frank to “My Dear Mother and All.” Informs them that his wife’s mother has died, and thus the divorce trial has been postponed. (Letter is written on stationery of The Fisk Rubber Company, Quincy, Illinois. Envelope is addressed to Mrs. S. Neff, 5900 Clemens Ave., St. Louis, Mo.)
- 1919 Feb 16      Typescript letter signed Frank to “My Dear Mother and All.” Describes Quincy and briefly discusses the progress of his divorce trial. (Letter is written on stationery of The Fisk Rubber Company, Quincy, Illinois. Envelope is addressed to Mrs. S. Neff, 5900 Clemens Ave., St. Louis, Mo.)
- 1919 Feb 20      Typescript letter signed Frank to “My Dear Mother and Tracy and All.” Discusses his divorce proceedings. Hopes Vic Allan can influence the judge. (Letter is written on stationery of The Fisk Rubber Company, Quincy, Illinois. Envelope is addressed to Mrs. S. Neff, 5900 Clemens Ave., St. Louis, Mo.)
- Folder 4**
- 1919 Mar 20      Typescript letter signed Frank to “My Dear Mother and All.” Briefly discusses his divorce case and his job. (Letter is written on stationery of The Fisk Rubber Company, Quincy, Illinois. Envelope is addressed to Mrs. S. Neff, 5900 Clemens Ave., St. Louis, Mo.)
- 1919 Apr 13      Typescript letter signed Frank to “My Dear Mother and All.” Discusses his divorce case. Mentions that he received a letter from Louis Merz who holds the deed of trust on the property at 5812 Romaine. (Letter is written on stationery of The Fisk Rubber Company, Quincy, Illinois. Envelope is addressed to Mrs. S. Neff, 5900 Clemens Ave., St. Louis, Mo.)
- 1919 June 10      Typescript letter signed Frank to “My Dear Mother and All.” Briefly discusses his divorce case and affairs in Quincy. (Letter is written on stationery of The Fisk Rubber Company, Quincy, Illinois. Envelope is addressed to Mrs. S. Neff, 5900 Clemens Ave., St. Louis, Mo.)
- 1919 July 14      Typescript letter signed Frank to “My Dear Mother and All.” Contains lengthy discussion of his divorce case. Also discusses his job. (Letter is written on stationery of The Fisk Rubber Company, Quincy, Illinois. Envelope is addressed to Mrs. S. Neff, 5900 Clemens Ave., St. Louis, Mo.)
- 1919 July 18      Typescript letter signed Frank to “My Dear Mother and All.” Mentions his job and his upcoming trip to St. Louis. (Letter is written on stationery of The Fisk Rubber Company, Quincy, Illinois. Envelope is addressed to Mrs. S. Neff, 5900 Clemens Ave., St. Louis, Mo.)
- 1919 July 24      Typescript letter signed Frank to “My Dear Mother and All.” Mentions meetings with Bob Hall and Mr. Meckel regarding a property loan..

- 1919 Aug 10      Typescript letter signed Frank to “My Dear Mother and All.” Discusses property loan and his divorce case. (Letter is written on stationery of The Fisk Rubber Company. Envelope is addressed to Mrs. S. Neff, 5900 Clemens Ave., St. Louis, Mo.)
- 1919 Sept 10     Typescript letter signed Frank to “My Dear Mother and All.” Discusses his divorce case. Mentions that he has “been expecting some more news about Mark Boundy going away with his Cashier.” (Letter is written on stationery of The Fisk Rubber Company. Envelope is addressed to Mrs. S. Neff, 5900 Clemens Ave., St. Louis, Mo.)
- 1919 Oct 23      Typescript letter signed Frank to “My Dear Mother and All.” Discusses his divorce case. (Letter is written on stationery of The Fisk Rubber Company, Quincy, Illinois. Envelope is addressed to Mrs. S. Neff, 5900 Clemens Ave., St. Louis, Mo.)
- 1919 Dec 20      Typescript letter signed Frank to “My Dear Mother and All.” Discusses treatment for a carbuncle on his neck. (Letter is written on stationery of The Fisk Rubber Company, Quincy, Illinois. Envelope is addressed to Mrs. S. Neff, 5900 Clemens Ave., St. Louis, Mo.)
- 1919 Dec 23      Typescript letter signed Frank to “My Dear Mother and All.” Discusses the pain that the carbuncle is giving him and the treatment he has received. (Letter is written on stationery of The Fisk Rubber Company, Quincy, Illinois. Envelope is addressed to Mrs. S. Neff, 5900 Clemens Ave., St. Louis, Mo.)
- 1919 Dec 25      Typescript letter signed Frank to “My Dear Mother and All.” Discusses treatment for his carbuncle. (Letter is written on stationery of The Fisk Rubber Company, Quincy, Illinois. Envelope is addressed to Mrs. S. Neff, 5900 Clemens Ave., St. Louis, Mo.)
- Folder 5**
- 1920 Jan 16      Typescript letter signed Frank to “My Dear Mother and All.” Discusses sickness among his workers and a new worker he is training. (Letter is written on stationery of The Fisk Rubber Company, Quincy, Illinois. Envelope is addressed to Mrs. S. Neff, 5900 Clemens Ave., St. Louis, Mo.)
- 1920 Feb 21      Typescript letter signed Frank to “My Dear Mother and All.” Discusses difficulties with his work force. (Letter is written on stationery of The Fisk Rubber Company, Quincy, Illinois. Envelope is addressed to Mrs. S. Neff, 5900 Clemens Ave., St. Louis, Mo.)
- 1925 June        Typescript commencement exercises of the Hempstead School, including a list of graduates.

- 1925 June 9 Printed invitation to the closing exercises of for the graduating class of the Hempstead School, signed Virginia A. Neff.
- No date Letter signed Geo. Neff to "Dear Aunty." Writes while on a steamboat trip up the Missouri River beyond Nebraska City.
- No date Calling card of Emma A. Heald, in envelope addressed to Mrs. C.A. Neff.
- No date Business card of L.W. Peters, contractor and builder, St. Louis. Office, 787 North Euclid Ave.; residence, 5347 Devonshire Ave. Presented by A.H. Peters, 2849A Pestalozzi St.
- No date Business card of Commodore Foote, miniature specialist artist, with Will L. Smith's Bell Ringers & Comic Concert Co.
- No date Business card of C.A.B. Emanuel, president & general manager, Cole Pacific Motor Co., San Francisco.
- No date Business card of M. Hewitt, with Spannagel & Kuhleman, manufacturers of and dealers in agricultural implements, St. Louis, Mo.
- No date Printed card of Mr. & Mrs. Charles Fuess. Includes calling card of Dora McQuigg.
- No date Calling card of Chauncey D. Newton, professor "of penmanship" card, writing, etc., Rockton, Illinois. Two calling cards of Mrs. C.A. Neff.
- No date Handwritten note: "Whipping the devil around the Stump! Old Nick, If we must have a short life let us have a merry one cod. Hight toned Shobby genteel who glories in having seen better days. Gosp Tamarind."
- No date Handwritten note: "In my cool and sober moments of Solitude and reflection I 'know to be at heart' selfish and calculating, yet whose fascinations of [unclear word] will compel me, and even fill me with remorse for ever having thought evil."
- No date Handwritten note: "Alpha and omega, the beginning and the end, optical illusion."
- No date Parable titled "The Precious Stone" by F.A. Krummacher; transcribed by Wilhelm Neff. (in German, with translation)