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MICHEL THOMASSIN ANDRY AND FAMILY PAPERS

(Ms. 1318)

Inventory

Compiled by

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

Revised 2009

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SUMMARY

- Size.** 0.3 linear foot.
- Geographic Locations.** Louisiana; Paris, France.
- Inclusive Dates.** 1840-1882.
- Bulk Dates.** 1858-1879.
- Languages.** English, French.
- Summary.** Personal and business correspondence, legal and financial documents pertaining to Michel Thomassin Andry (1811-ca. 1871), a sugar plantation owner of St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana, and to his wife, Marie Rosa (Haydel) Andry (1833-ca. 1877).
- Related Collections.** Landry-Pedesclaux Family Papers, Mss. 3566
- Arrangement.** Series I, Correspondence and Printed Materials, 1849-1882
Series II, Legal Documents, 1840-1870
Series III, Business and Financial Papers, 1852-1879
- Access.** No restrictions.
- Copyright.** Physical rights are retained by the LSU Libraries. Copyright of the original materials is retained by descendants of the writers of the materials in accordance with U.S. copyright law.
- Citation.** Michel Thomassin Andry and Family Papers, Mss. 1318, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge.
- Stacks Designations.** UU:66.
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BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Michel Thomassin Andry (1811-ca. 1871) owned and operated a sugar plantation in St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana, and a plantation in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana. Andry was a son of Gilbert Thomassin Andry (dates unknown) and Marie Marcelite Deslonde (dates unknown). He wed his niece Martha Henriette Boudousquie, daughter of Marguerite Sophie Andry, Michel's sister, and Antoine Boudousquie. They had four children--Marie Thérèse Héloïse (b. September 26, 1839), Charles (b. 1840), Louis (b. 1842), and Gustave (b. 1844). Andry's wife and daughter died between 1840 and 1850. On June 10, 1851, Michel Thomassin Andry married Marie Rosa Haydel (1833-ca. 1877). They had a daughter named Marie (b. 1853), whose nickname was "Gouny."

Andry sold his sugar plantation in St. Charles Parish around 1855 or 1856. Three years later he sold his plantation in St. John the Baptist Parish. This latter sale resulted in a lawsuit between the Andry family and the purchasers, Thomas S. and Samuel N. Burbank, who reportedly did not pay the Andry family in full. The Burbanks were given immunity from mortgage foreclosure per Major General Nathaniel P. Banks' Special Order No. 15.

In 1863, Andry appealed to General Banks and the U.S. Provisional Court of New Orleans to suspend the order and require the Burbanks to pay him or forfeit their claim on the plantation. General Banks complied, and Andry subsequently seized, advertised, and sold the plantation to himself at a marshal's sale. However, Major General Stephen A. Hurlbut of the Department of the Gulf Headquarters in New Orleans rescinded the order and reinstated the Burbanks as owners of the plantation. Andry returned to the U.S. Provisional Court over the matter, but the papers do not indicate who ultimately received possession of the plantation. After Andry sold his plantations, he moved to New Orleans, where he and his wife lived the remainder of their lives.

Marie Rosa Haydel had two brothers with whom she corresponded throughout her adult life. Amelius (b. 1837) and Edouard (1835-1875) Haydel both attended St. Xavier College in Cincinnati, Ohio, during the 1840s.

Both Amelius and Edouard fought as officers in the Civil War. While a Sergeant Major Sergeant in Watson's Battery of the Louisiana Artillery, Amelius was captured by enemy troops and paroled at Port Hudson, Louisiana, on July 10, 1863. Subsequently, he was ordered to report to Hudson's Battery from Watson's Battery by Lt. Col. Polk. Amelius was again captured and paroled at Gainesville, Alabama, on May 12, 1865.

Edouard Haydel was a 2nd Junior Lieutenant in Company K, 20th Regiment of the Louisiana Infantry. He joined General Leonidas Polk's Orleans Light Horse Cavalry in 1863. During the post-war years, Edouard taught school in New Orleans and subsequently became an attorney. He

died in 1875 as a result of complications from bites inflicted by a rabid dog and pneumonia.

Charles and Gustave Andry were also veterans of the Civil War. Charles and his family moved to New Orleans after the war, where he became a partner in the notary public firm of Andry and Grima.

Attorney Charles Andrew Johnson was a close friend of the Andry family. He corresponded frequently with M. T. Andry regarding business and personal affairs. During his travels in 1864 and 1865, Johnson wrote Marie ("Gouny") and her father often, describing his activities in Niagara, New York; Quebec; Montreal; and Paris, France, his final destination. Although a native of New Haven, Connecticut, Johnson was a resident of New Orleans for 55 years.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Most of the correspondence (in both French and English) is from Edouard and Amelius Haydel to their sister Marie Rosa Andry, wife of Michel Thomassin. Letters written during her brothers' participation in the Civil War describe, among other things, Confederate military units, maneuvers, fortifications, casualties, daily events, and personal hardships. In particular, the Battle of Shiloh, skirmishes at Camp Beauregard (Feliciana Parish), and the Kentucky campaign are mentioned.

A friend ("Abilile") writing to Charles G. Andry describes his experiences in Hudson's and Morton's batteries. Correspondence from Charles G. Andry to Rosa, his stepmother, reveals the privation suffered by his family during the latter years of the Civil War.

There are a number of letters from Charles Andrew Johnson to Michel Thomassin Andry regarding business, and to Marie ("Gouny"), Andry's daughter, describing the former's travels to New York, Canada, and Paris. Correspondence from Anna Roman to Marie Rosa Andry relates personal and financial difficulties associated with post-war life in Assumption and St. James Parishes.

Legal papers include documentation of Marie Thérèse Héloïse Andry's baptism (January 18, 1840), a passport for chambermaid Clementine Marquery (October 1841), the will of Marguerite Sophie Andry (Michel Thomassin's mother), a petition to sell slaves inherited by Haydel family members through the succession of Emilie Troxler Haydel (wife of George Haydel), and oaths of allegiance signed by M.T. Andry and his wife, Marie. Legal documents regarding *M.T. Andry vs. Thomas and Samuel Burbank* in their dispute over Andry's plantation in St. John the Baptist Parish are contained herein, as are plat maps and a printed advertisement of the sale of Valance Plantation in Assumption Parish.

Business papers include tax receipts, service and goods receipts, cancelled checks, promissory notes, and lists of travel expenses. There are no papers describing Andry's management or operation of his sugar plantations.

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

Series I, Correspondence and Printed Materials, 1849-1882 (75 items). Includes personal and business correspondence. Manuscript materials include a verse written in English and French and an acceptance speech for a flag made for the Orleans Guard. Printed materials include a calling card and a personal ticket to Varieties Theatre.

Series II, Legal Documents, 1840-1870 (18 items). Includes baptismal records, petition for sale of slaves, a will, documentation of a lawsuit (*M.T. Andry vs. Thomas and Samuel Burbank*), oaths of allegiance, survey plats, and an advertisement for the sale of Valance Plantation.

Series III, Business and Financial Papers, 1852-1879 (106 items). Includes receipts for goods and services, tax receipts, promissory notes, lists of travel expenses, and cancelled checks.

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CONTAINER LIST

<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folders</u>	<u>Contents</u>
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		4	Series II, Legal documents, 1840-1841, 1843, 1857, 1862, 1865, 1870, undated.
		5-6	Series III, Business and financial papers, 1852, 1857-1865, 1869-1879, undated.
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