THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION ACCESSION SHEET

Biographical Sketch

Thomas Allibone Janvier, journalist and author, was born in Philadelphia on July 16, 1849. He began his career in editorial work for various Philadelphia newspapers, and in 1878 he married Catherine Ann Drinker. Drinker, a painter and author, was born in Philadelphia in 1841. The daughter of sea captain Sandwith Drinker, she lived in Hong Kong from an early age until 1857 when Capt. Drinker died and the family returned to the United States.

The Janviers travelled extensively in Mexico, England and France and much of their work was inspired by their experiences in these countries. Thomas Janvier wrote a guide book to Mexico (The Mexican Guide, 1886) and several fictional works related to Mexico. The Janviers lived in New York when they were in the country but in 1883 they left the United States for a seven-year visit to England and France. While living in Provence the Janviers became interested in Provencal culture and acquainted with the Provencal writers Felix Gras and Mistral, among others. Thomas Janvier wrote several studies of the region and its people including Embassy to Provence, 1893 and Christmas Kalends of Provence, 1902. Catherine Janvier translated several works by Gras, thereby introducing American readers to the Provencal literary tradition.

The Janviers wrote frequently for <u>Harper's</u> and Thomas Janvier also wrote several works on New York history. During their travels, the Janviers collected manuscripts, pamphlets and other printed works related to Provence and to Mexico. They donated many of these works to the New York Public Library.

Thomas Janvier died in 1913 and Catherine Ann Drinker Janvier died in 1922.

Scope & Content

The Janvier Papers consist of correspondence, papers related to the Provencal movement and to Mexico, miscellaneous papers and Spanish & Mexican manuscripts.

The <u>correspondence</u> (1877-1908) is divided into general correspondence and subject correspondence. The general correspondence includes letters to and from the <u>Janviers</u> regarding publishing arrangements and social matters. Also included are ten letters (1856-1862) from Townsend Harris, first U.S. diplomatic representative to Japan, to Catherine Ann Drinker (Mrs. Thomas Janvier), relating

his experiences and observations. There are also several letters from Claude M. Thomas of the U.S. Consulate at Marseilles. Subject correspondence relates to Provens and to Mexica and is filed in those subject files.

Papers relating to the <u>Provencal movement</u> (1894-1908) include notes, printed matter and, most notably, correspondence with Provencal authors and poets. These include letters from Frederic Mistral, Felix Gras, Gaston Jourdanne, and one letter from Jules Ronjat.

Material relating to Mexico (1886-1895) includes correspondence, notes, printed matter and two votive paintings on tin(undated). Correspondents include A.F.A. Bandelier (2 letters) and Don Joaquin Garcia Icazbalceta. Correspondence between Thomas Janvier and Don Joaquin Icazbalceta, Mexican historian, publisher and collector, dates from 1891 to 1893. It is located in a slipcase which also inclues Garcia Icazbalceta's autograph introduction (incomplete) to his "Nueva Collecton de Documentos para La Historia de Mexico". Thomas Janvier's notebooks of material collected for his guide to Mexico are also located in a separate slipcase.

<u>Miscellaneous</u> papers include notes and printed matter. Notes taken by Janvier for his New York histories make up the bulk of these papers.

The <u>Spanish and Mexican manuscripts</u> collected by the Janviers date from the 17th and 18th centuries. They include tax lists and estate papers, but have not been fully cataloged. A list of "titles" appears in the attached box list.

 ${ {\hbox{{\tt NOTE}} \over \hbox{in our collections} }}$ Please consult the survey file for additional Catherine D. Janvier letters

Thomas A. & Catherine D. Janvier Papers

Box List

Box Number

Contents

1

Correspondence *
Provencal Movement

Mexico

Miscellaneous Papers

Oversize folder

Correspondence (Townsend Harris letters only)

2

Spanish & Mexican Manuscripts

Juisdiz de Zamora...Mexico-List of Taxes, 1737 Mexico - Papers re: Estate of Bishop Francisco

Pablo Matheo, 1744

Spain - Ordenanzas: vol.1, 1674-1683 vol.2, 1708-1713

3 (1/2 Lje box

Mexico - Instrucciones... 1794

Relacion General du Producto y Valor... ordered by

the Marques de Casa Fuerte, Mexico

Slipcases (in a AB)

Seven Mexican Notebooks (in one slipcase)

Icazbalceta

NOTE: For all of the Townsend Harris letters, please order Box 1 and the Oversize folder.