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ACCESSION SHEET

Accession # *85 M 105

Location 26-N-5/6 Annex

Title Johnson, Rossiter. Papers

Approximate inclusive dates 1851-1929; bulk dates 1883-1900 (6 unbound.)

Date of receipt 1935

Received from - - - ?

Purchase - unknown

Volume on arrival 2 cartons

Number of boxes (after reboxing) 14 Boxes

Condition

Restrictions none

Description

545 Rossiter Johnson, author, editor and anti-feminist, was born in Rochester, NY Jan. 27, 1840. A graduate of the University of Rochester in 1863, he received an LLD in 1893. Johnson edited works include the Rochester "Democrat", a Republican newspaper (1863-1864), the Concord, New Hampshire "Statesman" (1869-1872) and the "American Encyclopedia" (1879-1880).

#6 Johnson, a strong anti-feminist included among his memberships, "The National Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage" and "The New York State Association Opposed to Women Suffrage". Twice married, first to Helen Kendrick Johnson, an author (1869). They had a daughter Florence. Widowed, he remarried to Mary Agnes Keyes in 1924. Johnson died on Oct. 3, 1931.

545 Helen Kendrick Johnson, was an author, editor and shared the same anti-feminist views as her husband Rossiter Johnson. She was born Jan. 4, 1844 in Hamilton, NY and was educated at the Oread Institute. H.K. Johnson's edited works include the "American Woman's Journal" (1893-1894), "The Nutshell Series", "Poems and Songs for Young People" and "Woman and the Republic" (authored). She founded the Meridian, a woman's club and "The Guidon", an anti-Suffrage organization for men and women. He died in 1914 and was survived by her husband Rossiter and her daughter Florence.

The papers consists of 2 main series 1) Rossiter Johnson's papers 2) Helen Kendrick Johnson's papers.

520 Rossiter Johnson's papers consists mainly of incoming correspondence from family members and literary, social and political contacts.

Special Formats ☒ Photographs ☐ Maps ☐ Audio Tapes ☐ Films ☐ Graphics
☐ Artifacts ☐ Machine-readable records
☐ Other (list) _____

Temporary catalog card added entries

see attached sheets

Accessioned by Valerie Wingfield

Date 1/36

The main correspondents are Helen Kendrick Johnson, Florence Johnson and his sister Eva Johnson. The letters from his wife and daughter are mainly as a result of the long separations between his family during the long summer months, when one or the other might be in New York City or their ocean-side house at Amagansett, Long Island.

The correspondents, A-Y, consists of authors, editors, political individuals especially those hostile to women suffrage; publishing Co. etc. Correspondents include Elizabeth Akers Allen; Authors Club, New York; Francis Fisher Browne; Educational Society; Lillie Hamilton French; Henry Holt & Co.; Mary G. Kilbreth; Henry M. Leipziger; The National Association Opposed to Women Suffrage and the New York State Association Opposed to Women Suffrage.

The remaining material consists of accounts, speeches, notes and printed material.

The 2nd major series is Helen Kendrick Johnson. This series consists mainly of incoming correspondence, from her daughter Florence and her sisters Caroline Kendrick Cooper; Florence Kendrick Cooper and Anne Kendrick Benedict. There is also some correspondence from her aunt Georgia Avery Cooper. Other correspondents include New York State Opposed to Women Suffrage, Mary L. Stebbens; Fredericka B. Gilchrist and Myra H. Avery.

Her remaining papers are accounts, writings and records of the "Meridian Club", 1886-1902. These records are printed announcements of monthly meetings held in New York.

The photographs include photos of Rossiter, Helen and Kendrick Johnson. Some of the other photographs include a house which may be Rossiter Johnson's house on Long Island.

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 Corres., 1873-1916;n.d. with Florence Kendrick Johnson
2. Corres., 1883-1929;n.d. with Eva Johnson
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10. Album of Clippings
 Catalogue of library books
11. Printed Material
 Photographs
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ROSSITER JOHNSON - Brief Biography

- 1840, Jan. 27 Born in Rochester, New York. He is the son of Reuben Johnson, a teacher and Almira Alexander.
186. Member of Delta Upsilon Fraternity
1863. Graduated at University of Rochester, New York.
- 1864-1868 On editorial staff of the Rochester Democrat.
- 1869, May 20 Married Helen Kendrick Johnson, daughter of Professor Asahel Clark Kendrick of the University of Rochester.
- 1869-1872 Editor of the Concord, N.H. Statesman.
- 1873-1877 Relocated to New York City and became an associate editor with George Ripley and Charles A. Dana during the revision of the American Cyclopaedia.
- 1877 Toured Europe with his wife and he sailed in August on the White Star liner "Germanic".
- 1878 Edited with Clarence King the "Report of King's Survey of the Fortieth Parallel".
- 1879 Relocated to Staten Island to assist Sydney Howard Gay with the preparation of Volume 3 and 4 of the Bryant and Gay "History of the United States".
- 1881 Returned to Manhattan and worked on a revision of the "American Cyclopaedia" which had to be discontinued because the census of 1880 had been so overloaded that its statistics were not promptly available.
- 1883-1902 Succeeded William J. Tenney as editor of "Appleton's Annual Cyclopaedia".
- 1884 Spent the Summer in Monmouth, Maine, staying with Mr. & Mrs. Loretta S. Metcalf.
- 1886, May - 1889. Managing editor of "Appleton's Cyclopaedia of American Biography". 6 vols.
- 1887-1888 Spent summers at Oak Ridge, New Jersey
- 1889 Toured the West with his wife and daughter.
- 1890 (?) Brought an ocean-side house at Amangansett, Long Island.
- 1892-1893 Secretary of the Author's Club.
- 1897-1900
- 1898 Founded, with J. Eugene Whitney, "The People's University Extension Society." Served as President 1898--?
Associate editor of the "Standard Dictionary"

- 1899 President of "The Society of the Genesee"
- 1902 Revised the "Universal Cyclopaedia" and "Atlas".
- 1904-1917 Treasurer of the "Author's Club, New York"
- 1904, Jul 23. Notified by the President of D. Appleton and Company, that his services are no longer necessary. the reason was that the firm was being reorganized. "There is in no way any implication in this that you personally or your work are unsatisfactory"
- 1906-1907 Edited with Dora Knowlton Ranous "The Literature of Italy". 16 vols.
- 1908 ----- for The Authors Press "The Authors Digest: The
"World's Great Stories in Brief". 1908 20 vols.
- Treasurer of "The Guidon Club," opposed to Woman Suffrage.
- 1924~~g~~ May 21. Married Mary Agnes Keys at Amangansett, Long Island.
- 1931, Oct. 3 Passed away

Rossiter Johnson: list of his correspondents
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 John S. 1893 (1)
- Whiting, Charles Goodrich see Springfield Republican
 Whitney, Eugene 1898-1916 (3)
- Whittaker, Frederick 1888 (2)
 Whittlesey, Louise W. 1887 (1)
 Who's Who Publications, Inc. 1914 (1)
 Wiley, Louis see also New York Times
- Willcox, Mary Otis 1930 (1)
 Williams, Alice L. 1888-1893 (4)
 Willing, W.R. 1916 (1)
 Wisconsin-State Historical Society 1893 (1)

Women Patriot see Milbreth, Mary G.

Wood, Frances B. see Vassar College

" John S. n.y. (1)

World's Congress Auxiliary of the World's Columbian Exposition 1893 (1)

Writers Press Association 1902 (1)

Worstell, Mary V. 1914 (3)

Yancy, Benjamin Cudworth 1888 (1)

Young, John H. 1892 (1)

Unidentified (7)

Rossiter Johnson: Writings

Box 6

- 1904, Oct. 1. In the light of history. (Speech delivered in N.Y.C.; clipping from The Post Express, 18 Oct.)
- 1912 The sources of our fundamental law. (clipping from the American Leader 25 April)
- 1915, Nov. 25. Diogenes in Dreamland. (written for Andrew Carnegie by his friend and fellow member, Rossiter Johnson) ADS 3 pp.
- [1915?] Letter to the editor of The Sun. A.D. 6 pp.
- 1916-1917 Authors Club, Watch-Night. A.D. 12 pp.
- 1917 Helen Kendrick Johnson. The story of her varied activities. page proof .
- 1921 Sept. The Starless Flag of the Future. ADS 6 pp.
--revised copy entitled: The Starless Flagg. AD 6 pp.
- 1924, Nov. Letter to the New York Herald Tribune. AL. 5 pp.

[Article written in response to a request of the Atlantic Monthly Press that he name a book which had influenced him between the ages of 8 and 14 years] ADS 2 pp.
- 1925, Jan. 22/27 Address at the dinner of the Authors Club, given in honor of Mr. Johnson on his birthday. typewritten. 7 pp.
- Feb. 7 A Humble Inventor. ADS 4 pp.
- May 5. The Art of Editing. ADS 10 pp.
- 1926, Jan. 8 Letter to The NY Herald Tribune on diction. ALS 3 pp.
- 1927 Apr. 18 Ultimate Liberty. ADS 5 pp.
- 1928 Auto biography? typed 9 pp.
- [1928] Curiosities of the Campaign:
I. Dangers of the Platform. ADS 6 pp.
II. Liberty Poles. ADS 6 pp. III. Sorrows ADS 8 pp.
- N.D. Accused Innocence Defended. ADS 4 pp.
Africa typed carbon. 10 pp.
[article on President Wilson] AD 7 pp.
[article on privateering]. typed carbon. pp3-4. incomplete
[article on Woman Suffrage] AD 4 pp. incomplete.

- N.D. The Beginnings of History. A.D. 27 pp.
 Bolossy. AD 3 pp.
 Echoes from the Future. A.D. 4 pp.
 ---pg. 1 in revised form.
- Factitious history. Clipping from North American Review.
 vol. 133, No. 298 with ms. corrections. 13 pp.
- The Frankfort Boys. (typed with ms. emendations) 66 pp.
- Genius. (copy by Helen Kendrick Johnson) 3 pp.
- Half-told Tales. A.D. 12 pp.
- The Isle of Haws. (proof with ms. emendations and corrections) 1 p.
- A letter to a Friend. (typed, signed) 5 pp.
- Letter to the New York Herald. A.D.S. 6 pp.
- " " Tribune relative to the proposed
 monument to Jesse James. A.D.S. 5 pp.
- Letter to the New York Herald Tribune on the appeal of the
 American Christian Fund for Jewish Relief. A.D.S. 3 pp.
- A literary guide of the future. (galley-proof with ms. note by R. Johnson) 6 pp.
- Memorandum (recommending a collection of elegies for publication)
 A.D. 2 pp.
- New Zealand. (galley proof) 2 pp.
- No Mean City. (with ms. emendations) A.D. 12 pp.
- An Old New Year's Custom. A.D.S. 9 pp.
- Problems in Detection. A.D.S. 11 pp.
 see Under the Cherry Tree. A Mystery solved.
- Siste, Viator; 10 pp. (pgs. 8-10 are in R. Johnson's hand)
- Incipit: Travellers who visit Rochester... A.D.S. 14 pp.
- Under the Cherry Tree. A mystery solved. A.D. 22 pp.
 see: Problems in Detection.
- The Wheel of Fortune. A.D.S. 7 pp.

POETRY

- 1888, June 17 Cushing. A.D.S. 13 pp.
- 1914 ? The Rolling World. Opening song, Watch-Nights at the Author's Club.
 (printed) 1 p.
- 1927, June 12 Over, Through and Under-A rule of the primitive ball-game.
 A.D.S. 2 pp. (accompanied by a facsimile)

- 1927, Aug 23 To Miss Rose Jackson. A.D.S. 1 p. (2)
- Nov 27 Lines written for house-warming night at the Author's Club.
A.D.S. 5 pp.
- Dec 25 Lines "Written in answer to a card sent to me by the three little daughters of Mr. and Mrs. John Day Jackson, New Haven". A.D.S. 1 p.
- 1928, Feb. Advice for February. 14. A.D.S. 1 p.
- 1929, May 31. For Louis Wiley's 60th birthday. A.D.S. 1 p.
- N.D. In the dim watches of the silent night..." A.D.S. 1 p. (2)
- The Kid. A.D. 4 pp. (with typed carbon)
- Love's Images. What the young man said in his heart.
(typed carbon) 2 pp.
- My golden chariot. (page proof) 4 pp.
- On a photograh. A.D.S. 1 p.
- Our Orbits. A.D.S. 1 p.
- The Eternal Orbits. A.D.S. 1 p. (2)
- (same) no title. A.D. 1 p.
- To a Bird that sings outside my Window at Midnight. A.D. 5 pp.
- We Ask no More. A.D.S. 1 p. (3)
- Same. A.D. 1 p.

Helen Kendrick Johnson: list of her correspondents

Box 8

Alexander, M.W. 1916 (1)
 Allen, Elizabeth Akers 1886-1907 (5)
 Hallie O. 1892-1893 (2)
 Avery, Myra H. 1892-1906 (6)
 see also Rossiter Johnson's list of correspondants

A-unidentified

Backus, Helen H. (Mrs. Truman J. Backus) 1886-1890 (2)
 Baker, Hattie L. (Mrs. George Baker) 1890-1893 (3)
 Dr. Mercy N. 1886 (1)
 Bellemy, Blanche (Mrs. F.P. Bellemy) 1892 (1)
 Benedict, Stanley 1911 (1)
 Bissell, Dr. Mary Taylor 1886 (1)
 Black, Viola Elliot 1905 (1)
 Borchertling, Mary R. (Mrs. Charles Borchertling) 1886-1911 (2)
 Brace, Maria Porter 1886-1888 (3)
 Breen, John Miller 1909 (1)
 Brigg, M.B. 1888 (1)
 Brown, Helen D. [1893] (1)
 Bruce, Mary B. n.d. (3)
 see also Rossiter Johnson's list of correspondants
 Carter, Susan N. 1890 (1)
 Church, Jessie P. n.d. (1)
 Mary E. 1907 (1)
 Clark, Irene Woodbridge 1906 (2)
 Kate Upson 1886-[1901] (5)
 Coe, Edith K. 1909 (1)
 Conant, Cornelia W. 1905 (3)
 Crannell, Elizabeth K.S. 1909 (2)
 Creevey, Caroline A. 1906 (1)
 Crompton, Maude M. 1905 (1)
 Cushier, Carrie L. 1909 (1)
 Cutting, Mary D. 1886-1908 (7)
 Denison, D.T.S. 1914 (1)
 Ditson, Oliver Co. 1911 (1)
 Dodd, Emma A. 1905 (1)
 Dodge, Josephine 1908 (1)
 Doolittle, Mary A. 1906 (2)
 Douglas, Naomi 1911-1912 (7)
 Doyle, T.J. 1910 (1)
 Duffield, Katherine Nash 1900-1909 (2)
 Dunning, D.A. n.d. (1)

Johnson, R.

Ensign, Sarah J. 1909 (2)
 Fairchild, H.M. 1903 (1)
 Farragut, Gertrude M. 1887 (1)
 Felsing, Caroline 1908 (1)
 Folger, Emily 1906 (1)
 Forum (The) n.d. (1)
 Fox, Harriet 1886-1910 (4)
 Helen 1909 (1)

Box 9

George, Alice N. [1908] (1)
 Gibbons? Rose n.d. (2) **
 Gilchrist, Fredericka B. 1886-1908 (9) **
 Goodall, Frances A. 1893 (1) **
 Goodspeed, Mrs. C.H. 1909 (1) **
 ** see also Rossiter Johnson's list of correspondants

Gray, H.W. & Co. 1911 (1)
 Grout, Mabel Aurilla 1909-1910 (2)

Habberton, Alice L. n.d. (1)
 Hall-Brown, De Lucy M. 1893 (1)
 Hamersly, L.R. & Co. 1908 (1)
 Hand, P.E. 1893 (1)
 Hazard, A.B. n.d. (2)

Heath, Jennie Dewey 1891-1911 (4)
 see also Rossiter Johnson's list of correspondants

Herrick & Losey 1891 (1)
 Hillman, Amy 1916 (1)
 Holland, Robert A. 1909 (1)
 Hopkins, Edith R. 1909 (5)
 Timothy 1908 (1)

Houghton, Loris S. 1895 (1)
 see also Rossiter Johnson's list of correspondants

Humphrey, Nannie n.d. (1)
 Hunt, Josephine R. 1890 (1)
 Hyde, Ellen Williams 1905 (2)

International Who's Who 1909 (1)
 Johnson, Emily A. 1891 (1)

Kellogg, Mela C. 1893 (1)
 Kelsey, William Sr. 1909 (1)
 Kendrick, Asahel Clark 1871-1891 (7)
 see also Rossiter Johnson's list of correspondants

Box 9

Kimble, Celia n.d. (1)
 Kingsland, Harriet n.d. (1)
 Kuichling, Sarah L. 1905-1908;n.d. (4)
 Larned, Augusta 1888;n.d. (2)
 Lewis, Sallie Dickinson 1909 (1)
 Lisburg, George 1905;1910 (2)
 Lord & Taylor 1910 (1)
 Love, Lucy P. 1886 (1)
 Low, Annie W.S. (Mrs. Seth Low) n.d. (1)
 Mackall, Leonard L. 1911 (1)
 McKibbin, J.C. 1910 (1)
 Mather, Susan P. 1910 (1)
 Merrill, Mary E. 1906 (3)
 Metcalf, Amanda L. 1892;1906 (2)
 Middleton, Mrs. 1911 (1)
 Miller, Dr. James D. 1909 (1)
 Miller, N.M. 1890 (2)
 Morgan, Caroline S. n.d. (1)
 Morrison, Elizabeth Kemp 1915 (1)
 National League for the Civic Education of Women 1909-1910 (3) **
 National League for Opposing "omen Suffrage 1914 (1)
 National Society for "aintaining American Institutions 1911 (1)
 New York State Association Opposed to Women Suffrage 1908-15 (4)
 New York Peace Society 1911 (1)
 Northrup, Mr. n.d. (1).
 Norton, E.M. n.d. (1)
 O'Connor, Evangeline "Eva" Maria (Mrs. Joseph O'Connor) 1909 (2)
 Evelyn n.d. (1)
 Osgood, James R. & Co. 1883 (1)
 Penny, Virginia 1889 (1)
 Perry, Clara J. 1910 (2)
 Phillips, Eleanor (Mrs. George Phillips) n.d. (1)
 Marguerite 1912 (1)
 Press Portrait Bureau 1910 (1)
 Putnam's G.P. & Sons 1890 (1)
 Rancus, Dora Knowlton 1910;n.d. (2)
 Reed, Laura D. North 1910-1912 (3)
 Robinson, Helen M. 1911 (1)
 Russell, N.E. 1900 (1)

** see also Rossiter Johnson's list of correspondants

Sangster, Margaret Elizabeth 1893 (1)
Sawyer, Caroline M. n.d. (2)
Schlapp, M.G. 1915 (1)
Short, William H. see NY Peace Society
Smith, Erminnie A. 1886 (1)
Mary Reiley 1886-1908 (3)
Starr, George H. 1905 (1)
Stebbins, Mary L. 1911;n.d. (8)

Taylor, Marie (Mrs. Bayard Taylor) 1901 (1)
Terhune, Mary Virginia (Howes) 1891;n.d. (2)
Torrey, Sarah P. 1886-1892 (3)

Van Patten, Emily Adams 1911 (3)
Wallace, C.PP 1905 (1)
Waller, Eliza R. 1912 (1)
Warren, Marion E. 1908 (1)
Waterbury Clock Co. 1910 (1)
Wessels & Bissell Co. 1911 (1)
Wheaton Seminary, Norton Mass. 1893 (2) see also Johnson, Florence K.

Wilbur, Alice Heustis see NYS Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage
Wilkinson, Hattie R. 1890;1893 (3)
Williams, Alice L. see World's Congress Auxiliary of the World's
Columbian Exposition

Williams, Robert Leslie see International Who's Who
Wilson, T.H. 1910 (1)
Woodbridge, C.C. 1893-1905 (2)
World's Congress Auxiliary of the World's Columbian Exposition 1893 (1)

Worstell, Mary V. 1910 (1)
Worthington, Frances T. 1911 (1)
Valerie n.d. (2)
Wright, Mary Katherine 1908 (1)

Unidentified

Notes