

MS-213
Van Zandt Family Papers
n.d., 1838-1990
7.52 linear feet, 13 boxes

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Biographical Information

Families in this Collection

Jacob and Elizabeth Vanzant Family

This family started out in North Carolina and had moved to Kentucky and then Tennessee by the time the collection begins. Jacob and Elizabeth's children were: Henry, William, Andrew, Washington, Samuel, John, James, Jahu, Ermina, Uphamy and Mary. They also raised their son Andrew's children, John and Sarah, after his death. Henry, his wife Nancy, William, Andrew, and Andrew's family came to Iowa in 1848, and Andrew died soon after. His wife, Rody, and their children returned to Tennessee. Jahu, John and James moved to Webster County, Missouri prior to 1856. Jahu moved on to northern Arkansas, where he died of a fever prior to 1863. John and his wife (also Nancy) moved on to Texas, where he died in 1865. His wife returned to Tennessee.

The rest of the Vanzants - Jacob and Elizabeth, their daughters Ermina, Uphamy and Mary and grandchildren settled in Northern Arkansas around 1856, where sons Washington, Samuel and John were already located. Washington was killed during the Civil War by Union soldiers. Elizabeth died during the war or shortly after. Uphamy died about 1877, Ermina about 1881. Mary married Henry Breedwell. Other family members who lived in Arkansas were Uphamy Bridwell and Andrew Callahan, Sr., who may have been siblings of Elizabeth Vanzant.

Relatives of Nancy McKeown Vanzant (Henry's wife) are also represented in this section. There are letters from her brothers Thomas and J.S. McKeown and her cousins, Felix Barnhardt and Martha T. Smith.

James and Philoma Lynn Van Zandt Family

James Van Zandt was Henry and Nancy Vanzant's only surviving child. (They had lost their daughter Mary in infancy and their daughter Mattie at the age of 19). James married Philoma Lynn, whose family had come to Iowa from Indiana in 1864. They had three children, Madge, Mattie and Ralph. Madge married a Methodist minister, Charles Hankins and had two children, Pauline and Robert. Mattie married Tom Foster and they had a daughter, Martha. Ralph apparently did not marry - at least we have no evidence in the collection.

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Scott and Jessie Weir Foster Family

Scott and Jessie Weir Foster were the parents of Thomas Weir Foster, who married Mattie Van Zandt. They had another son, Carroll, and had two daughters who died in childhood, Martha and Angie. This section also includes materials of Jessie's parents, Andrew R. and Martha Huston Weir.

Tom and Mattie Van Zandt Foster Family

Tom and Mattie Van Zandt Foster had one daughter, Martha.

Martin and Martha Foster Schmitt Family

Martin and Martha Foster Schmitt had one daughter, Sallie.

The family name is spelled Vanzant or Van Zant throughout the 1800's. After the turn of the century, the "d" was added. In the material we have, its first appearance is in Mattie Van Zandt's commencement program in 1906. James and Philoma Vanzant (Ralph, Mattie and Madge's parents) were still using the original spelling at the beginning of World War I; but by the time Ralph returned, they too had adopted the "d" - but not the space between "n" and "z". For the sake of simplicity, however, we are listing all of James and Philoma's family as "Van Zandt". Later notations on pictures have both the "d" and the space.

Scope and Content Note

The primary focus of this collection is the correspondence of Henry C. Vanzant, who was born in Rutherford County, North Carolina in 1816. In 1848, newly married to Nancy McKeown, he came to Agency, Iowa with his wife, brother William, brother Andrew and wife Rody and their children. Andrew died shortly after their arrival, and Rody and the children returned to Tennessee. William moved to Kossuth, Iowa shortly after coming to the state. He lived there until joining the Union Army, August 11, 1861. Henry remained in Agency until his death in 1905.

Henry Vanzant's letters begin in 1838 and end in 1887. (There is also some legal correspondence, filed separately). It is primarily family correspondence, but there are a few letters from friends, and many years of correspondence from George Wilson, Henry's landlord, from whom he rented the 210 acre farm on which he lived from 1850 through at least 1882. The letters from Wilson are especially interesting. An intelligent

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and articulate man, he often comments on national and local events of the day, including the gold rush, emigration to the west, politics and the economy.

Other letters of particular interest are those of William Vanzant, written to Henry and others while he was with the First Iowa Battery during the Civil War. Of special note are the files 1/53, describing the battle of Pea Ridge and file 1/67 which covers General William T. Sherman's attempt and subsequent retreat at Vicksburg, December 29, 1862-January 1, 1863 and the Battle of Arkansas Post. Files 1/68 through 1/73 all concern the Vicksburg campaign and more can be found in William's diaries, files 3/31-3/33. William died of an unspecified disease in the hospital in St. Louis on February 12, 1864. His brother Henry collected his body, and apparently his effects, for there are letters to William in the collection also, from friends in Agency and Kossuth, as well as his colleagues in the First Iowa Battery.

Another significant portion of the collection is Henry Vanzant's grandson, Ralph Vanzandt's World War I correspondence. Ralph entered the Army in July of 1918 and went to Camp Pike for training. He was shipped overseas at the end of September and was wounded slightly by shrapnel on November 5, 1918. Armistice was signed before he was released from the hospital. His unit remained in Europe through the winter, and he was in the hospital again, with pleurisy, in March 1919. He was sent back to the states in May 1919. The letters from Ralph are written to his sisters, Mattie Foster and Madge Hankins, and his parents, James and Philoma Van Zandt. The letters to Ralph appear to be ones he never received while in the Army - their envelopes are covered with forwarding addresses, all finishing with James Van Zandt's address in Agency.

Additional materials in the collection come from the family of Mattie Van Zandt's husband, Tom Foster.

Arrangement

Because the collection involves so many groups, it has been arranged into nuclear family units. Thus, the correspondence of Henry Vanzant is listed under the Jacob and Elizabeth Vanzant family and the correspondence of Ralph Van Zandt is listed under the James and Philoma Lynn Vanzandt family. Additional groupings are those of the Scott and Jessie Weir Foster family, parents of Thomas Weir Foster, Mattie Van Zandt's husband; Tom and Mattie Foster themselves; and their daughter Martha Foster and her husband Martin Schmitt.

Acquisition

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The first donation was received in November 1990 (no accession number) from: Sallie Foster, 2928 S. Country Club Way, P.O. Box 24711, Tempe, AZ 85285. This donation was 3.15 linear feet, boxes 1-8. The Mr. Martin Schmitt materials received with this donation were sent to the University of Oregon per the donor's request.

The second donation was received on January 15, 1998 (Accession Number 98-0006) from: Sallie Foster, 2928 S. Country Club Way, P.O. Box 24711, Tempe, AZ 85285. This donation was 2.71 linear feet, boxes 9-12.

The third donation was received on August 17, 1998 (Accession Number 98-0102) from: Sallie Foster, P.O. Box 96, Yarnell, AZ 85362. This donation was 1.66 linear feet, box 13.

Box/File

Jacob and Elizabeth Vanzant Family

Correspondence

- 1/1 Martha T. Smith to cousin, Nancy Vanzant. Copy of a poem, "My Likeness," with a note. n.d.
- 1/2 Mrs. O. A. Tiff to Henry C. Vanzant. Regarding transportation of a horse. August 20, ?
- 1/3 John Wilson (landlord's son) to Henry C. Vanzant. Requests Henry to send a trunk that had been left behind on the farm. November 28, ?
- 1/4 Henry Giforth to Henry C. Vanzant. He has arrived safely in North Carolina, and asks Henry to take care of some business for him while he is gone. November 19, 1838.
- 1/5 John Callahan (possibly Elizabeth Vanzant's brother?) to G. P. Callahan? Lovesick letter to friend or relative. John Callahan fears he has written something offensive in a letter to Elizabeth Weir and asks G. P. Callahan to go to her and ask pardon for him. May 1, 1839.
- 1/6 Robert Smith to Henry C. Vanzant. A job offer, managing Smith's farm and hands in exchange for room, board and laundry, and Henry's choice of \$110 or one seventh part of the crop. November 25, 1841.
- 1/7 Robert Smith to Henry C. Vanzant. Letter tells of Smith's loneliness and bereavement after the death of his wife. December 13, 1843.
- 1/8 Harrison Vanzant to cousin, Henry C. Vanzant. Tells of the deaths of his father and brother, John and William Vanzant, and of his own marriage. Though he raises the "fertile field of Arkansas," where he is living, he also says "times is hard produce low money scarce." October 7, 1844.
- 1/9 Jacob Vanzant to son, Henry C. Vanzant. Henry, Nancy, Andrew, Rody and William Vanzant had moved from Tennessee to Agency, Iowa. Andrew had died and Jacob's letter is a response to this sad news. August 4,

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Box/File

- 1848.
- 1/10 John M. Vanzant to brother William Vanzant. John is anxious to know about Iowa and tells of a number of his neighbors in Tennessee that are planning to move west. August 10, 1848.
- 1/11 Joseph Walker to William Vanzant. Walker, a friend from Tennessee passes on local news. He is apparently considering a move west. September 20, 1848.
- 1/12 W. M. C. (Washington) Vanzant to brother Henry C. Vanzant. Passes on family and local news. Asks after Andrew's widow, Rody and her children, John and Sarah. Wants to hear about Iowa, but has heard that Arkansas is a better place than Iowa for a poor man to get a home." September 25, 1848.
- 1/13 J. S. McKeown to brother-in-law, Henry Vanzant. McKeown was Nancy Vanzant's brother. Sends news of friends and family, including some who had moved to Texas and Arkansas. November 23, 1848.
- 1/14 Thomas McKeown to Henry C. Vanzant. Another brother of Nancy Vanzant's, who lived in Mississippi. He urges Henry and Nancy to move to Mississippi. Tells of a new son (and seventh child) born the previous November, named Christopher Columbus: "he is as fine a child as you ever saw." March 8, 1849.
- 1/15 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. William had moved to Kossuth, Des Moines County, Iowa. He was working for a farmer, making \$45 plus his laundry done for four months labor. March 17, 1849.
- 1/16 Jacob Vanzant to son William Vanzant. It is a dry hot summer in Tennessee and prices of corn and wheat are high. Cholera and scarlet fever are prevalent. He is considering moving to Arkansas. September 10, 1854.
- 1/17 Elizabeth Vanzant to son William Vanzant. Jacob and Elizabeth Vanzant had moved to St. Luke, Webster County, Missouri. They had encountered difficulties with housing and illness, more clearly described by Jacob in file 1/18. She reports the death of two of William and Henry's uncles, John Callahan and William (last name unknown). Letter is badly damaged by mice. July 2, 1856.
- 1/18 Jacob Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Jacob informs Henry of the location of his brothers. Samuel and Washington are in Arkansas, Jahu and John are living nearby in Missouri. Andrew's children, John and Sarah, were with Jacob, their mother Rody was in Tennessee. August 4, 1856.
- 1/19 Jahu Vanzant to brother Henry C. Vanzant. Jahu, dissatisfied with Missouri, is planning to move to Arkansas. Describes it to him. May 17, 1857.
- 1/20 Sallie J. Jeff _____ to William Vanzant. Friendly letter from a woman in Yellville, Arkansas, possibly an acquaintance from Tennessee. Mouse-

Box/File

- eaten. ca.1858.
- 1/21 J. S. McKeown to Henry C. Vanzant. Reports current prices in Meigs County, Tennessee. Comments: "...thear has been right smart of sickness in this country this spring and a good many deaths.. and it apears like the peopel ain't a dying fast anuf and they try to kill one akassenly," and goes on to describe a throat slashing which took place at the grocery in Bradley. May 3, 1858.
- 1/22 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Describes his journey home after a visit to Henry and Nancy, recent rains and resulting mud. He has been building beehives and selling them for \$12 each. March 16, 1858.
- 1/23 Jacob Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Passes on the news that Andrew's wife Rody had died. Mentions prices of staples and slaves. He is planning a visit to Samuel, Jahu and Washington in Arkansas. July 1858.
- 1/24 Sarah C. Payne to William Vanzant. A friend who had just visited Kossuth and is writing to let William know how her return trip had gone - not very well. July 18, 1858.
- 1/25 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. For many years, Henry rented a farm in Agency, Iowa from George Wilson. Wilson lived in Lexington, Missouri and worked in a bank. This letter describes the farm economy in the Lexington area, mentioning hemp as "the great money item," selling for \$100 per ton. He also discusses a railroad's request for right of way through the Iowa farm. August 21, 1858.
- 1/26 J. S. McKeown to Henry C. Vanzant. Tells of some acquaintances who moved west and informs Henry and Nancy that Sary An [n] (a niece?) has a child and is not married. He wants to visit the Vanzants, but cannot leave his aging parents: "I will have to stay with them as long as they live." October 18, 1858.
- 1/27 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Wilson directs Henry to purchase 100 apple trees to expand the orchard and to put a new roof on the house. He describes the flow of men west looking for gold and comments on "gold fever." March 23, 1859.
- 1/28 George Wilson (landlord) to Henry C. Vanzant. Asks Henry's opinion about switching from corn to hay and putting up a hay press for baling. Problems had developed with the railroad right of way: "...I want to sue the company for damages if I find I can recover any thing..." Includes pointed comments on banks and railroads. September 15, 1859.
- 1/29 A. or H. V. Bradley to Henry C. Vanzant. William Vanzant's roommate, letting Henry know that William has been quite ill for a month, but was now on the mend. November 17, 1859.
- 1/30 Jacob Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Jacob and Elizabeth have moved to Mt.

Box/File

- Pleasant, Arkansas. They are living on their son Washington's land, which had been purchased with the \$1000 proceeds from the sale of a slave. May 29, 1859.
- 1/31 Washington Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Washington tells of the death of his oldest son. Reports on their parents and Aunt Uphamy Bridwell, who had moved to Arkansas from Tennessee after the death of her husband. January 22, 1860.
- 1/32 J. S. McKeown to Henry C. Vanzant. Reports on his parents failing health and tells an amusing anecdote about Aunt Patta's marriage to a widower. February 6 and 13 1860.
- 1/33 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. The barn had burned down, and Henry lost his hay, grain and implements. Wilson notes that fires were common in the Lexington area also, due to drought: "the country here is parched up." June 9, 1860.
- 1/34 W. C. Whitman to William Vanzant. Regarding agency for Lester's Sewing Machines, explaining the company's procedures. Mouse damage. March 6, 1861.
- 1/35 Release from First Presbyterian Church, Kossuth, Iowa for William Vanzant. March 31, 1861.
- 1/36 George Wilson to Henry Vanzant. Sends \$50 for Henry to use as he sees fit. Comments on the political situation in Missouri: "The people in Missouri are changing every day, and now going for secession, I am very sure; the state Convention did not speak the sentiments of the people at all, and they repudiate their action." April 16, 1861.
- 1/37 J. N. Boylan to William Vanzant. From the Erie Sewing Machine Company, informing William that three sewing machines had been shipped to him. April 16, 1861.
- 1/38 Lida _____ to William Vanzant. Letter from a friend who was visiting her sister at Leavenworth City, Kansas. Remarks on the local situation: "...there is nothing but political prevailing here now. Military companies drilling constantly in large numbers..." May 12, 1861.
- 1/39 William Workman to William Vanzant. William owed workman money and had told him that Henry would make it good - at least according to Workman. Henry was unaware of the transaction. An angry letter demanding that things be put to rights. December 12, 1861.
- 1/40 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. William had joined the 1st Iowa Artillery and was at Camp Benton, St. Louis, Missouri. He describes his trip to Missouri and says there are about 15,000 men in camp. December 13, 1861
- 1/41 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Describes Camp Benton, including a

Box/File

- sketch. Explains the situation regarding the money owed to Workman and how Henry is to handle it. December 18, 1861.
- 1/41a George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Directs Henry to add a portico to the house. Speaks of trouble in Lexington - the governor had sent in the militia to keep the peace. "If this part of the country don't get more quiet I shall leave it." December 25, 1861.
- 1/42 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. William had dinner with friends and "am invited back to eate oysters with them to nite." Mentions the death of two soldiers, "poysend by drinking whiskey." December 25, [1861].
- 1/43 William Workman to William Vanzant. Continuation of financial dispute. Though Workman insists that money is still owed him, he closes with "take care of yourself and give the secesh Thunder." December 25, 1861.
- 1/44 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. They have been drilling a great deal, and William has not yet been issued a saddle or bridle; "I was some what sore riding bare backe yesterday." December 30, 1861.
- 1/45 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Is planning to send money to Henry: "I want you to take this money and put it...whear it will make something and be safe." Directs Henry to pay Workman \$21. January 6, 1862.
- 1/46 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Sends Henry \$115 and lists to whom the money should go. Included is \$10 from Ross Rush, an Agency man. The money is to be given to Ross' mother: "...he sends this money to her don't want his father to have it." January 8?, 1862.
- 1/47 Nancy Vanzant to William Vanzant. Response regarding money sent by Ross Rush to his mother. When Nancy gave the money to Mrs. Rush, "...she wept like a child and apeard to be very thankful for it she said that she need it very bad but could not use without rush knowing where she got it...she wants him [Ross] to send his father a few dolars to keepe peace at hoam." January 1862.
- 1/48 Sarah _____ to William Vanzant. A friend from Agency, she writes of local news and the revival meeting taking place. She asks William not to play cards, saying of those soldiers who do: "I don't se[e] how men...can play cards they don't know how soon they will die and what an awful thing it is to play cards it leads to every other sin and vice it would be better to die on the field of battel than return with moral character destroyed." January 9, 1862.
- 1/49 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. In camp at Rolla, Missouri, William is to start marching south the next morning, possibly to Springfield, Missouri. "We hear that Prise [Major General Sterling Price, of the secessionist Missouri State Guardsmen] is at Springfield with 20 men and intends to make a stand thear." The 4th Iowa Regiment and an Illinois regiment

Box/File

- were marching with them. January 22, [1862].
- 1/50 C. N. Smith to William Vanzant. A friend from Agency, Smith writes: "I feel anxious that you should survive the conflicts of war and return home for I should like to sit down in the store some Sunday and talk over the war and old times and smoke as we used to." January 24, 1862.
- 1/51 Martha T. Smith to Nancy Vanzant. Martha was visiting her aunt and uncle in Birmingham, Iowa. Passes on family news, including the serious illness of her niece. January 28, 1862.
- 1/52 Martha (called Mattie) Vanzant to Mattie (probably Nancy Vanzant's cousin, Martha T. Smith). The family is temporarily staying in Ottumwa. Mattie says that Aunt Susan, suffering from smallpox, is better, and that they did not think the rest of them would catch it. February 25, 1862.
- 1/53 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Letter describes the Battle of Pea Ridge, fought in Benton County, Arkansas, March 6-8, 1862. Total casualties were 2100, including two Confederate generals. (See Appendix A for further information). William describes the set up of his battery and lists men lost and injured in battle. March 14, 1862.
- 1/54 C. N. Smith to William Vanzant. March 28, 1862.
- 1/55 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Asks Henry to send newspaper accounts of the latest battles and mentions: "We will have [to] leave hear soon and go where we can get some fareoj (forage) or let our teams starve." [Late March, 1862.]
- 1/56 Martha T. Smith to William Vanzant. Says that her brother, Alexander, is to leave for California and that "ther is a grate meny going from hear to he gold miens." April 2, 1862.
- 1/57 Henry C. Vanzant to William Vanzant. Nancy had heard from her sister (in Tennessee?) that she was alive but in terrible conditions. Henry is worried about their friends and family as "kentucky and tennessee is both in as bad confushion as Missouri." Also mentions Nancy's cousin Felix Barnhardt, who is in the Missouri Calvary. April 20, 1862.
- 1/58 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Camped on the bank of the White River at Batesville, Arkansas. Says they may be moved further east into Tennessee or to Alabama or Mississippi. May 18, 1862.
- 1/59 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. The 1st Iowa Battery is once again at Batesville, Arkansas. They had marched as far south as the Little Red River (approximately 30 miles) and then returned. William had run across Felix Barnhardt, who was an ambulance driver for General Samuel Ryan Curtis' staff. June 12, 1862.
- 1/60 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. A note sent with some money. He is still at Batesville with twenty to twenty-five thousand other "fiting men."

Box/File

- General Curtis had made a call for volunteers from Arkansas, and about forty new recruits had been outfitted on this day. June 14, 1862.
- 1/61 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. They are still at Batesville, "... as neare nothing to eat as we ever was." Asks Henry to give Dave Engoard's father \$6.75 and charge it to him - Dave had died, and his clothes had been sold for this amount. June 20, 1862.
- 1/62 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Camped near Helena, Arkansas. "We are now about five hundred miles below St. Louis by the River Whear we go when we leave heare I can't tell. Som say we go to Vixburge doune the river." Asks Henry to send postage stamps, for he "...can't get any heare at any prise." July 15, 1862.
- 1/63 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Still camped at Helena, Arkansas. It is the first anniversary of William's induction into the service. There had been sickness in camp "...but few bad cases but a grate many complaining...we lay in the shade most of the time." August 11, 1862.
- 1/64 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. William has had "chiles and fever and dyerea. Thease ar the principal diseases hear now and the principal medicine is Queynine and that is given for everything." September 4, 1862.
- 1/65 Surgeon's certificate for furlough for William Vanzant. September 8, 1862.
- 1/66 Captain N. N. Griffith to Sergeant Vanzant. Note saying that the unit would be very glad to see William as soon as he was fit. September 29, 1862.
- 1/67 William Vanzant to "Friend" (incomplete). Written on the steamship Emma, "Fleet on the Arkansas River." Describes William's view of Major General William T. Sherman's assault and subsequent retreat at Chickasaw Bayou, December 29, 1862-January 1, 1863. William comments on boarding the boats for the retreat: "...how we all fitt we was coming back with about 15 hunder less men then than we started with and hadn't got in sight of Vicksburg. We was whipt was the talk with the boys." Sherman's command was superseded by Major General John A. McClernand on January 2, 1863. McClernand decided to attach Arkansas Post, a fort about 50 miles up the Arkansas River from its junction with the Mississippi. The Union forces captured the fort on January 11, after a 3 1/2 hour battle, which is also described in the letter. At the time it was written the troops were on their way back to Vicksburg. See Appendix B for further information. January 15, 1863.
- 1/68 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Describes what was known as Grant's Canal, an attempt to build a canal across the peninsula so the river could be diverted and troops could safely by delivered to the bluffs below the city without passing the Confederate battery. The project was begun in late

Box/File

- January and abandoned in March, when the river rose, flooding the peninsula and driving the men to the levees (William speaks of being camped on a levee in his letter to Martha Vanzant of March 16, 1863). William wasn't impressed with the project: "I don't think much of the ditch thoe it may anser the purpus when the river gets high enough." Also mentions the loss of men through illness and desertion: "Well I shall never desert but my patriotism is giting well naye threadbeare." January 26-27, 1863.
- 1/69 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. They are still camped near Vicksburg. Smallpox and other diseases are prevalent among the men - William himself got sick before finishing the letter. Work was continuing on Grant's Canal and occasionally the Confederates would shell it and scatter the men. February 20 and March 5, 1863.
- 1/70 William Vanzant to niece, Martha Vanzant. They are camped by a levee along the Mississippi. "It look[s] like somebody aught to be making garden and planting corne hear on thease fine farms but no body hear but solgers and they disstroye farms in plaise of improving them." Nine men had been sent north with smallpox and Charles Parks of Agency had died from it. March 16 and 19, 1863.
- 1/71 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Written from camp at Milliken's Bend, Louisiana. They had left the old camp near Vicksburg on April 12 and the 14th they were to move on to Richmond, Louisiana. This was part of General Ulysses S. Grant's final successful operation against Vicksburg. March 29-July 4, 1863.
- 1/72 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. On April 28, 1863, William's unit was camped in Louisiana, along the Mississippi below Vicksburg. After leaving the camp opposite Vicksburg, they had been attached to a brigade in General Eugene Asa Carr's Division with the Army of Tennessee. (The Army of Tennessee was located at a spot called Hard Times, across the river from Grand Gulf, Mississippi.) The second part of the letter was written after the battle at Port Gibson, Mississippi (May 1, 1863). William describes the battle as well as the gunboat bombardment at Grand Gulf on April 29, 1863. On May 10 they had marched to within fifteen miles of Jackson, Mississippi. General Grant, in violation of orders, was attacking there. April 28, May 9 and 11, 1863.
- 1/73 James M. Vanzant to cousin, Henry C. Vanzant. James M. Vanzant, his brother Robert and cousins James W. and John G. Vanzant were with the 13th Regiment of the Kentucky Volunteers. They had seen considerable action, having been at the Battle of Shiloh, the Siege of Corinth, Suka and Chaplin Hills (Perryville). James describes the devastation caused by the

Box/File

- war and gives news of the family. May 22, 1863.
- 1/74 James H. Vanzant to brother Henry C. Vanzant. Though James is living in southern Missouri he knows nothing of the family in Arkansas, but for the information that they are all "cecesh." Washington, who had been in the Arkansas home guard was a Federal prisoner in Springfield. James had attempted to visit him, but was unsuccessful. Says that their brother Jahu had died of a fever [probably in autumn of 1861]. He describes troubles in Missouri: "...every two or three d[a]ys I hear of some citizen or a nother being shot down..." July 25, 1863.
- 1/75 E. Bridwell to William Vanzant. Written in response to a letter to Bridwell's father. E. Bridwell had been in service but had been discharged after seventeen weeks in the hospital. July 28, 1863.
- 1/76 Henry C. Vanzant to William Vanzant. Reiterates information in James H. Vanzant's letter of July 25, 1863 and passes on Agency news. August 9, 1863.
- 1/77 P. B. Bell to William Vanzant. A friend from Kossuth, who predicts the war will not end until "three great battles" are fought at Richmond, Charleston, and Mobile. Informs William of local news and tells him there is a surplus of young women: "I think you can have your choice and if you wish more than 1 wife you can get 2 or 3." August 25, 1863.
- 1/78 William to Martha E. Vanzant. "We are campt on Black River [Mississippi] near a the raileroad bridge from Vicksburg to Jackson or shear the bridge was it is burnt." As many as 80 out of 116 men have been out sick at once. September 1, 1863.
- 1/79 William Vanzant to Nancy Vanzant. Probably accompanied letter in file 1/78, as it begins "A few lines to your mother." He is sending some things by way of Ross Rush, who had met with an accident and is being sent home. [September 1, 1863?].
- 1/80 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Still camped along the Black River. William has been ill off and on for a month. There are sixty-five men on the sick list in the 1st Iowa Battery. September 14, 1863.
- 2/1 Posey Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Letter from George Wilson's son regarding improvements to the house. Posey can get no money from his uncle (who owes his father money), so ther is no money to give to Henry for siding and a porch. In fact, he asks Henry if he could lend him money until payday. September 16, 1863.
- 2/2 Kate Cartwright to William Vanzant. A friend from Kossuth, who passes on the local news. September 16, 1863.
- 2/3 Henry C. Vanzant to William Vanzant. Reports on altercation between two local

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- women - the doctor's wife and one of his patients. September 23, 1863.
- 2/4 Dan Parks to William Vanzant. A fellow member of the 1st Iowa Artillery who was ill and home in Agency on furlough. Passes on local news. October 2, 1863.
- 2/5 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Now at Camp Davis, Corinth, Mississippi: "Oure hole division is hear in camp and I hear that General Sherman is in Memphis and all his army cour is coming heare...It is the opinion of our Offisirs that we gow on the Schattanuga." This was the beginning of the Chattanooga Campaign, October-November 1863. William also says: "I am afraide I have lost my health." October 4, 1863.
- 2/6 Lida_____ to William Vanzant. She has not written before because she is busy teaching school. Gives detailed news of happenings in Kossuth. October 16, 1863.
- 2/7 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. William writes from the Iuka, Mississippi post hospital: "I am yet a live and trying to live as hard as any other man." He describes fighting going on in the area. October 27, [1863].
- 2/8 Kate Cartwright to William Vanzant. Kate was teaching at a school five miles west of Burlington, Iowa for \$25 a month. She thanks him for "your most acceptable image," possibly the photograph he had taken in Vicksburg on September 23, 1863 (see diary entry, File 3/33). October 31, 1863.
- 2/9 Joe Ware and S. M. Hamilton to William Vanzant. Friends from Kossuth who had heard that William was sick. Both pass on local news. Joe Ware says: "We all think the war will be over again next fall and perhaps sooner. I think it is time. The suffering and misery it has cost is enough, almost as much as can be borne." [ca. November 1863].
- 2/10 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. William is in Overton Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. His doctor has diagnosed his problem as chronic inflammation of the stomach and has put him on quarter rations. November 5, 1863.
- 2/11 E. Bridwell to William Vanzant. Passes on Kossuth news and comments on the election: "...the Copperheads got badly stoned." November 8, 1863.
- 2/12 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Still in Overton Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, improving very slowly and hoping for a furlough. He is unable to eat meat or drink tea or coffee. He describes the situation in Memphis - the Provost Marshall has issued orders that no one can trade with persons unknown to them, men are being pressed into service, and no one may enter or leave the city without a pass. November 19, 1863.
- 2/13 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Brief note which apparently accompanied letter of November 19. William tells Henry that Fletcher Kinge is coming home on furlough and that he owes William \$5 which Henry should collect

Box/File

- if possible. November 21, 1863.
- 2/14 Mr. and Mrs. John Hamilton to William Vanzant. Friends from Kossuth, John Hamilton discusses the draft and the reluctance of local men to enlist. William had apparently mentioned that prostitutes were visiting the hospital in earlier correspondence, for Mrs. Hamilton includes a sharp comment about "...the Ladies prominading in the Hospital." November 22, 1863.
- 2/15 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. William has been moved to the General Hospital at Benton Barracks in St. Louis, Missouri. He lost all his money on the boat coming from Memphis: "It appear that I have more troubel with what littel money I have than any body else." Asks Henry to send \$15 or \$20. [ca. November 28, 1863].
- 2/16 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. William is still in St. Louis, but expecting to be sent to the hospital in Keokuk. Asks Henry to send more money. He has heard that the 1st Iowa Battery is in eastern Tennessee near Chattanooga or between Chattanooga and Knoxville. December 8, 1863.
- 2/17 William Halstead to William Vanzant. Another member of the 1st Iowa Battery who is in the hospital in Keokuk. His health is good, but he is losing his vision. Ross Rush and Dan Parks from Agency are also there in the hospital. Halstead says: "Bill I wish you would come up here we have a very good place and I think you are like my self Broke Down and unfit for the field any more." December 30, 1863.
- 2/18 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant?. Brief Note: "My health improves slow." December 29, 1863.
- 2/19 Ross Rush to William Vanzant. Another letter from the Keokuk hospital. Ross says that are plenty of women in Keokuk and his eyes are much better. (He seems to attribute his improvement to the women). December 30, 1863.
- 2/20 Martha T. Smith to Nancy and Martha Vanzant. Discusses the locations of her brothers who are in the service. She says that her uncle has written to her father that he wished to move to Iowa: "I think he has got tired of the secesion." January 3, 1864.
- 2/21 Henry C. Vanzant to William Vanzant. Henry is anxious as he has not heard from William for a month. It has been bitterly cold in agency with a lot of snow. Postscript added that he had found a letter from William at the post office and was enclosing \$5. January 8, 1864.
- 2/22 William A. Matthews to William Vanzant. From a friend at Benton barracks, who has tried unsuccessfully to obtain a pass to visit William: "Van if you are very sick let me know and I will take a French [leave]." January 9, 1864.
- 2/23 S. C. Blancharg? to William Vanzant. Another member of the 1st Iowa Battery

Box/File

- writing from Overton Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. He hopes to rejoin the Battery soon. Also passes on some news: "George Wilson and George Dusenberg were taken Prisoner soon after the fight at Mission Ridge they were out stealing as usual." January 17, 1864.
- 2/24 William Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. William is now suffering with a sore eye. Thanks Henry for the \$5 and says, "Write to me often." January 17, 1864.
- 2/25 B. Antrobus to William Vanzant. A friend with the 1st Iowa Battery. They are camped along the Charleston and Memphis railroad at Woodville, Alabama. January 25, 1864.
- 2/26 Henry C. Vanzant to William Vanzant. Henry speaks of the prevalence of smallpox in Agency. February 7, 1864.
- 2/27 G. Bridwell to William Vanzant. Passes on the news from Kossuth. February 8, 1864.
- 2/28 Miss S. Bell to Henry C. Vanzant. Letter written for William, who is getting worse and wants Henry to come see him. [William died in St. Louis on February 12, 1864]. February 8, 1864.
- 2/29 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. "I am taking the liberty of sending my son, Robert A. Wilson to spend the spring and summer with you..." The Wilsons were living temporarily in Nebraska City, Nebraska Territory. Wilson comments on Nebraska, and the life on the plains. March 28, 1864.
- 2/30 Martha T. Smith to Nancy Vanzant. Martha had only just learned of William's death the previous day as she had been staying six weeks with an uncle who had been ill. May 1, 1864.
- 2/31 Fanny Wilson Baker to Henry C. Vanzant. From George Wilson's daughter regarding her brother's pay for the summer months. September 20, 1864.
- 2/32 Robert A. Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Robert is in Davenport, Iowa, attending Griswold College. He thanks Henry for the \$22 sent and asks how the corn crop turned out. November 5, 1864.
- 2/33 Felix Barnhardt to Henry C. Vanzant. Writing from a hospital in St. Louis, where he has been since November 3, 1864. He is hoping to get a discharge soon and plans to move to Iowa, because he no longer feels safe in Missouri. January 12, 1865.
- 2/34 Elijah Bridwell to Henry C. Vanzant. Regarding a note William had owed to Dr. Pollock of Kossuth. March 8, 1865.
- 2/35 M. W. Blair to Henry C. Vanzant. Henry had sent Blair \$10 owed to him by William. Blair sends a copy of a photograph of William and tells Henry that William's name will appear on a monument to be erected in Kossuth. March 10, 1865.
- 2/36 Elijah Bridwell to Henry C. Vanzant. Regarding note owed by William to Dr.

Van Zandt Family Papers

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7.52 linear feet, 13 boxes

Box/File

- Pollack. April 27, 1865.
- 2/37 Elijah Bridwell to Henry C. Vanzant. Acknowledgment of receipt of \$25 toward the note owed to Dr. Pollack. May 10, 1865.
- 2/38 Elijah Bridwell to Henry C. Vanzant. Acknowledgment of final payment on note owed to Dr. Pollack. May 25, 1865.
- 2/39 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. The Wilson Family had returned to Missouri, where there had been so much rain that the crops were ruined. Mrs. Wilson has suffered a fall from a second story window, broken slightly by her dress catching a shutter. July 27, 1865.
- 2/40 James Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. "Rebeldom is played out in this country." He has heard that their father is well but knows nothing of the other Arkansas relatives. November 19, 1865.
- 2/41 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Informs Henry that 55 Jennetting apple trees are being shipped to him. Mrs. Wilson's health has been poor. April 21, 1866.
- 2/42 A. (Andrew?) Callahan to cousin Henry C. Vanzant. Letter from Yellville, Arkansas. The Jacob Vanzant family is well. Henry's brother Washington had been killed (by Federal soldiers, see file 2/49). Conditions are bad in Arkansas - there has been no mail for a long time, livestock is scarce and "...our co[u]nty torn up and burnt out very bad." April 29, 1866.
- 2/43 Samuel Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Tells Henry that their brother John and John's oldest son have died and that Jacob is not well. Times are very hard in Arkansas. August 7, 1866.
- 2/44 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Wants to know how the apple trees are doing and what repairs are needed for the house. Describes an infestation of grasshoppers in Missouri. October 9, 1866.
- 2/45 Jacob Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Written for Jacob by W. S. Spring (attorney) regarding the amount due William's survivors from the government. October 320, 1866.
- 2/46 Jacob Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Fears Henry has not gotten his last letter and repeats his request that Henry send information on Williams's death and service record. January 20, 1867.
- 2/47 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. March 18, 1867.
- 2/48 J. S. McKeown to Henry C. Vanzant. Says that his father's health is not good, and both parents have been living with him for four years. He describes a recent flood and the difficult times they are having in Tennessee. March 31, 1867.
- 2/49 Jacob Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Jacob describes the rough treatment endured during the war - both Washington and Milton (a grandson?) had been killed by Union soldiers. He has heard that his son James is "a

Van Zandt Family Papers

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Box/File

- Black Republican." May 29, 1867.
- 2/50 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Wilson wants Henry to do some checking for him regarding parcels of land which had been deeded to others. May 30, 1867.
- 2/51 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. More about land discussed in File 2/50. September 23, 1867.
- 2/52 Jacob and daughter Mary Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Mary writes about the family in Arkansas. Jacob has attempted to get money owed him as William's heir and has gotten a request for more information. November 17, 1867.
- 2/53 Mary Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Says their father is not well and misses their mother (who died between 1859 and 1866). He wants to see Henry and his family. ca. 1868.
- 2/54 Mary and Jacob Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. John (Jacob's grandson) has married Miss Margaret Bird. Jacob has finally received the money due for William and has purchased some land for his daughters "...that they might have a home when I would be no more." March 11, 1868.
- 2/55 Jacob Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Jacob comments on the political situation in Arkansas, which has been readmitted to the Union (on June 22, 1868). The economy is improving and more people are moving to the area. July 4, 1868.
- 2/56 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. July 14, 1868.
- 2/57 Zachry T. Truitt to Henry C. Vanzant. From a friend who had moved to Council Bluffs. He says wages are good, but crops are poor due to a grasshopper infestation. August 3, 1868.
- 2/58 J. S. McKeown to Henry C. Vanzant. June 11, 1869.
- 2/58a George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. January 17, 1870.
- 2/59 J. S. McKeown to Henry C. Vanzant. Writes to inform the family of the death of his father and brother Thomas. January 6, 1871.
- 2/60 Thomas Cecil to the Vanzant family. Letter from a friend who moved to Texas, describing the land, weather, crops and prices. February 19, 1871.
- 2/61 J. S. McKeown to Felix Barnhardt. Speaks of the deaths in the family, including that of Nancy Vanzant on December 28, 1870. March 24, 1871.
- 2/62 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Wilson comments on the economy, which is apparently worse in Missouri than in Iowa. He tells of his family's activities and adds some words of sympathy regarding Nancy's death and that of Mattie, which occurred June 11, 1870. A kind letter. December 19, 1871.
- 2/63 Margaret Vanzant and Sarah Vanzant Chandler to Henry C. Vanzant. Jacob Vanzant died between 1868 and 1873 and Henry's sisters are having

Box/File

- trouble getting possession of the land Jacob had purchased for them. They want Henry to return - he had been to Arkansas to visit - and straighten the matter out. January 19, 1873.
- 2/64 Samuel Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Samuel had been to Springfield to purchase a thresher and had visited James and his family. One of James' sons, Taylor, had died. Sam has a lawsuit pending regarding the land belonging to his sisters, but the case will not be tried until October. July 24, 1874.
- 2/65 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Note regarding grain to be shipped to Posey Wilson. August 8, 1874.
- 2/66 James Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Tells of the death of his son on September 25, 1873. He is short of money and asks to borrow \$35-\$40. December 18, 1874.
- 2/67 James Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Still in a financial bind, he asks again for money. February 12, 1875.
- 2/68 H. R. Wagers, Agency Postmaster to Postmaster, Marshfield, Missouri. Note inquiring whether mail order sent by Henry to James had been paid. March 10, 1875.
- 2/69 James Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Letter of thanks on receipt of money. March 20, 1875.
- 2/70 Ermina Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Tells of a drought in Arkansas: "thar was nothing raised last season and the people will be bound to suffer." Sister Uphamy is in poor health. April 4, 1875.
- 2/71 Ermina Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Uphamy is not well, Mary has married Henry Breedwell. The land dispute is still not resolved - Samuel is pursuing the case in court but Ermina wants immediate action. August 18, 1875.
- 2/72 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Wilson has been in poor health and his vision is failing. He speaks of emigration to the Arkansas River Valley. People were leaving from Illinois, taking all their stock and implements on the train. February 24, 1876.
- 2/73 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Discusses improvements on the house. April 14, 1876.
- 2/74 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Writes from St. Louis, where he is visiting a sister. Comments on the Indian situation in the Black Hills. June 2, 1876.
- 2/75 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Note to let Henry know that he had been ill, delaying his planned visit. June 24, 1876.
- 2/76 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Ill again with a stomach ailment. September 15, 1876.
- 2/77 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. He is thinking of selling the farm and hopes

Box/File

- to get \$15,000 for it. December 6, 1876.
- 2/78 Mary Vanzant Breedwell to Henry C. Vanzant. "I have no good news to tell you." Mary and her husband have been staying with Ermina and Uphamy, because Uphamy has had a stroke and is paralyzed and unable to speak. January 7, 1877.
- 2/79 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Says business in Missouri is "...very dull in every direction and there prevails great discouragement." May 14, 1878.
- 2/80 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Postcard informing Henry of Wilson's planned arrival at the end of the week. June 11, 1878.
- 2/81 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Wilson's son, Posey, wants Henry to pasture eight mares for him. August 5, 1878.
- 2/82 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Has been ill. He is planning to sell the farm in the fall, so they will not continue their contract into another season. Speaks of his depression since the death of his wife. August 27, 1878.
- 2/83 George Wilson to Henry's son, James Vanzant. An answer to James' inquiry about sale or rent of the farm. February 28, 1879.
- 2/84 Columbus Chandler to Henry C. Vanzant. The husband of Henry's niece, Sarah, writes from Lassen County in northern California, where the family has moved. April 19, 1879.
- 3/1 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Business is brisk in Missouri, but he has had no luck selling the farm. July 10, 1879.
- 3/2 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Regarding the disposition of the years' wheat crop. Includes a comment: "I think one of the poorest concerns to meet the rough spots in life is an old widower." August 7, 1879.
- 3/3 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Acknowledgment of the receipt of the flour, which Henry has had ground and sent to him. August 14, 1879.
- 3/4 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Acknowledging receipt of second shipment of flour. October 4, 1879.
- 3/5 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Discussion of what is owed for pasturage, and a description of some troubles Wilson is having in business. December 27, 1879.
- 3/6 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Wilson includes a list of persons who have offered to rent or buy the farm. He wants Henry to write and inform him about each of them. December 29, 1879.
- 3/7 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Card acknowledging draft sent by Henry. January 6, 1880.
- 3/8 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Regarding selling the property. February 10, 1880.
- 3/9 George Wilson to Henry C. Vanzant. Asks Henry to sell grain and hay and apply

Van Zandt Family Papers

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Box/File

- the proceeds to taxes. February 14, 1880.
- 3/10 Elizabeth Vanzant to Henry C. Vanzant. Note from Henry's brother James' wife, letting Henry know they have received his letter. March 10, 1880.
- 3/11 George Wilson, Jr. to Henry C. Vanzant. Wilson's son, informing Henry of his father's sudden death. March 11, 1880.
- 3/12 George Wilson, Jr. to Henry C. Vanzant. Has been unable to leave the business but will be up to see Henry as soon as possible. April 16, 1880.
- 3/13 George Wilson, Jr. to Henry C. Vanzant. Note sent along with a photograph of his father. August 31, 1880.
- 3/14 George Wilson, Jr. to Henry C. Vanzant. Note regarding payment of taxes. He has made no progress toward selling the farm. January 12, 1881.
- 3/15 George Wilson, Jr. to Henry C. Vanzant. Regarding rental of another piece of land by Henry. February 18, 1881.
- 3/16 Henry and Mary Vanzant Breedwell to Henry C. Vanzant. Lists deaths in family: Ermina Vanzant, John Vanzant's wife, Margaret, Columbus Chandler and Andrew Callahan, Sr. Tells of the new health resort at Eureka Springs, Arkansas and asks if Henry would sign away his rights to Jacob's Land. February 20, 1881.
- 3/17 H. B. Hendershott to Henry C. Vanzant. Regarding rental of land by Henry. March 9, 1881.
- 3/18 George Wilson, Jr. to Henry C. Vanzant. Regarding purchase of some land. March 18, 1881.
- 3/19 George Wilson, Jr. to Henry C. Vanzant. Regarding deeds to be drawn up for land purchased by Henry at \$35 per acre. April 2, 1881.
- 3/20 George Wilson, Jr. to Henry C. Vanzant. Regarding rent payment. May 12, 1881.
- 3/21 Henry C. Vanzant to George Wilson, Jr. Marked "copy of a letter sent to Wilson," this letter concerns rent and the year's cash receipts. January 18, 1882.
- 3/22 Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Metzler to Henry C. Vanzant. Invitation to the marriage of Jennie Metzler and Will C. Williams. December 3, 1887.

Account Books and Diaries

- 3/23 Henry Vanzant's accounts of work done on George Wilson's farm. Also includes rent paid and crops sold. 1850-1860.
- 3/24 Henry Vanzant's expenses. Also includes listing by person of money paid out and items sold. 1850-1878.
- 3/25 Henry Vanzant's account of agricultural goods and livestock sold. A copy of an Iowa Democratic ticket (n.d.) 1870-1872, 1878-1879.
- 3/26 Henry Vanzant's expenses incurred on trips out of town. 1878-1879.
- 3/27 Henry Vanzant's accounts of sales, expenses and work done on the farm.

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Box/File

Includes notes which were tucked into a pocket of the book. Notes and receipts relating to Vanzant vs. Briscoe and Vanzant vs. Street have been removed to file 4/10. 1879-1883, 1885.

- 3/28 Henry Vanzant's accounts of agricultural goods sold. 1880-1881.
- 3/29 Henry Vanzant's listing of hands hired to help with harvest. 1881
- 3/30 William Vanzant's expenses. 1859-1860.
- 3/31 William Vanzant's diary. Includes description of the Battle of Pea Ridge (Arkansas), March 6-8, 1862. April 1, 1861-April 23, 1862.
- 3/32 William Vanzant's diary. Includes the beginnings of the Siege of Vicksburg (December 1863) and the Battle of Arkansas Post (January 10-11, 1863). April 29, 1862-April 18, 1863.
- 3/33 William Vanzant's diary. Includes Siege of Vicksburg and the surrender of Vicksburg (July 4, 1863). May 18, 1863-January 13, 1864.

Business Items

- 3/34 Advertisement for American Mammoth Rye. n.d.
- 3/35 Advertisement, "How to Plant and Take Care of Trees," from the Bloomington Nursery, Bloomington, Illinois. n.d.
- 3/36 Advertisement for C. B. Rogers, Seedsman. ca. 1876.
- 3/37 Bills for lumber purchased by Henry Vanzant. n.d., 1871, 1875, 18770-1878.
- 3/38 Certificate for a gold locket. n.d.
- 3/39 Receipts from the American Express Company. 1862, 1864, 1877.
- 3/40 Receipt for purchase of 407 bushels of oats from E. T. Sage and Company. 1874.
- 3/41 Receipts for subscriptions to the Ottumwa Democrat. 1875, 1878.
- 3/42 Receipts for post office box rent, registered letter and unpaid letter notice. n.d., 1875, 1879, 1882.
- 3/43 Weigh slips. 1865-1873.
- 3/44 Weigh slips. 1877-1882.

Family Items

- 3/35 Broadsides. n.d.
 - "Love and Light: or, the Mason's Daughter."
 - "On the Death of _____cina Alice."
- 3/36 Delaware Lottery Tickets. 1860.
- 4/1 Essay of Biblical allusions to Christ's betrayal. n.d.
- 4/2 Fortune or poison-pen letter. n.d.
- 4/3 Genealogical information on Henry Vanzant's family. n.d.
- 4/4 Handwritten list of the counties of Tennessee. April 13, 1848.

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Box/File

- 4/5 Locks of hair, probably of Nancy and Martha Vanzant, both of whom died in 1870. n.d.
- 4/6 Map of Iowa, with a prospectus for a proposed history of Wapello County. 1878.
- 4/7 Monthly report card for Martha Vanzant. n.d.
- 4/8 Phrenological chart (badly damaged). 1852.
- 4/9 Recipe for shampoo. n.d.

Legal Correspondence

- 4/10 Notes on expenses of lawsuit against J. O. Briscoe. n.d., ca. 1886.
- 4/11 William B. Street to Henry Vanzant. Regarding payment of a note owed to Henry. March 19, 1869.
- 4/12 William B. Street to Henry Vanzant. Regarding payment of a note owed to Henry. Partial payment enclosed. April 22, 1869.
- 4/13 William B. Street to J. Q. A. Dawson. Regarding note owed to Henry by Street and Dudley. Dudley refused to pay his half of the note. February 9, 1871.
- 4/14 William B. Street to Henry Vanzant. Regarding note owed to Henry. February 27, 1871.
- 4/15 S. W. Summers (Henry's lawyer) to Henry Vanzant. Regarding a judgement obtained for Henry against a Mr. Anderson for \$100. April 14, 1871.
- 4/16 William B. Street to Henry Vanzant. Regarding note owed to Henry. July 8, 1871.
- 4/17 T. Bedwell to Henry Vanzant. Note regarding payment of money to Henry. January 29, 1872.
- 4/18 S. W. Summers to Henry Vanzant. Note regarding lawsuit against J. O. Briscoe for money owed to Henry. January 28, 1880.
- 4/19 S. W. Summers to Henry Vanzant. Regarding lawsuit against J. O. Briscoe. March 26, 1880.
- 4/20 J. O. Briscoe to Henry Vanzant. Regarding a purchase of land. November 14, 1881.
- 4/21 S. W. Summers to Henry Vanzant. Two telegrams requesting Henry to come to Fairfield the following day. February 1, 1882.
- 4/22 J. A. L. Crookham to Henry Vanzant. Crookham is an Oskaloosa attorney, writing Henry about the old debt owed to him by Dudley and Street. August 28, 188.
- 4/23 S. W. Summers to Henry Vanzant. Regarding debt owed to Henry by J. O. Briscoe. December 25, 1882.
- 4/23a J. O. Briscoe to Henry Vanzant. Regarding debt owed to Henry. December 26, 1882.
- 4/24 S. W. Summers to Henry Vanzant. Regarding debt owed to Henry by J. O. Briscoe. December 26, 1882.

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Box/File

- 4/25 J. W. Leeper (of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad to Henry Vanzant. Regarding a deed to property that Henry is selling. Statement from National State Bank of Burlington, Iowa is included. April 21, 1885.
- 4/26 S. W. Summers to Henry Vanzant. Regarding money paid to Summers by a Mr. Hykept. May 1, 1885.
- 4/27 G. S. Rutherford to Henry Vanzant. Inquiry as to cost of abstract books which Henry owns. July 27, 1885.
- 4/28 S. W. Summers to Henry Vanzant. Summers informs Henry that he has sold the abstract books for \$650. May 3, 1886.
- 4/29 S. W. Summers to Henry Vanzant. Summers informs Henry that he is charging an additional \$100 for handling the Briscoe matter. August 5, 1886.
- 4/30 S. W. Summers to Henry Vanzant. Summers requests that Henry pay the \$50 still remaining due. November 9, 1886.

Legal Documents

- 4/31 Tax bill for William Vanzant. 1858
- 4/32 Promissory note owed by William Vanzant to W. Cartwright. January 1, 1858.
- 4/33 Materials regarding application for bounty of a deceased soldier of the Civil War. ca. 1866.
- 4/34 Notice of Affidavit to the Burlington and Missouri Railroad Company regarding a loss of a steer. March 5, 1867.
- 4/35 Judgement in the case of Henry Vanzant vs. W. B. Street. September 3, 1873.
- 4/36 Notice Regarding land sold to Henry Vanzant for back taxes. September 23, 1875.
- 4/37 List of collateral security to a note owed to Henry Vanzant by C. D. King and J. O. Briscoe. December 6, 1879.
- 4/38 Receipts from S. E. Summers for promissory note he was to collect for and for payments received. 1879-1880.
- 4/39 Subpoena requesting Henry Vanzant to testify in the case of J. O. Briscoe vs. F. T. Reynolds. November 3, 1880
- 4/40 Receipt from J. H. Rogers in return for payment of witness fee in the case of Vanzant vs. Briscoe. March 30, 1881.
- 4/41 Judgement in the case of Henry Vanzant vs. W. B. Street, with interest accrued. June 3, 1881.
- 4/42 Fee book for the case of Henry Vanzant vs. J. O. Briscoe. November 22, 1883.
- 4/43 Judgement Docket for the case of Henry Vanzant vs. J. O. Briscoe. February 2, 1884.
- 4/44 Agreement to sell a strip of land to the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad Company. April 1, 1885.

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Box/File

Photographs

- 4/45 Henry Vanzant. n.d.
4/46 William Vanzant. n.d., but possibly taken September 23, 1863, see diary in file 3/33.

James and Philoma Lynn Van Zandt Family

Correspondence

- 4/47 B. O. Worrell to James Van Zandt. Letter to James in his capacity as Secretary of the School Board regarding a performance of the Ottumwa Symphony Orchestra. April 13, 1906.

Family Items

- 4/48 Ballot for Wapello County, Iowa. James Van Zandt was running for township trustee on the Democratic ticket. November 8, 1904.
4/49 Genealogical information on the Van Zandt and Lynn Families. n.d., 1990.

Photographs - Immediate Family

- 4/49a James Van Zandt. n.d. (2 photos).
4/50 Mattie E. Van Zandt Foster. n.d., 1903 (6 photos).
4/51 Madge Lynn Van Zandt Hankins and family. n.d. (8 photos).
4/52 Mattie E. Van Zandt Foster and Madge Van Zandt Hankins as children. n.d. (1 photo).
4/53 Mattie E. Van Zandt Foster and Madge Van Zandt Hankins with children, Martha Foster and Robert Hankins. 1919. (2 photos).
4/54 Ralph Van Zandt as an infant and in Army Uniform. n.d., 1919 (3 photos).
4/55 Group photograph, including members of the Van Zandt and Hankins families as well as Jessie Foster, Mattie Van Zandt Foster's mother-in-law. [ca. 1915-1916]. (1 photo).

Photographs - Other Relatives

- 4/56 Howard Clements, cousin of Philoma Van Zandt. n.d. (1 photo).
4/57 Wib (or Web) Clements, Marked "uncle of Mattie, Ralph and Madge Van Zandt." n.d. (1 photo).

- 5/1 Unidentified, but perhaps Lynn family members. n.d. (1 photo).
5/2 James and Mary Webb Lynn, Philoma Lynn Van Zandt's parents. n.d. (3 photos).
5/3 John and Mag Lynn and John Lynn at age 88. John Lynn was Philoma Lynn Van

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Box/File

- Zandt's brother. n.d., 1939. (2 photos).
- 5/4 Roland Lynn, wife Beryl and daughters Annie and Bessie. Roland Lynn was the son of Philoma Lynn Van Zandt's brother James. n.d. (1 photo).
- 5/5 Ed and Martha Lynn Woodford, Philoma Lynn Van Zandt's sister. Another photo of Ed Woodford, taken with James Van Zandt can be found in file 4/49a. n.d. (2 photos).

Photographs - Family Friends

- 5/6 Bess Cremer, Margaret Leuppold, Hattie Menge, Hattie Menge and family, Mrs. Mercer, Lorne Parks, Lorne and Gladys Parks. n.d. (7 photos).
- 5/7 Nev Parks, Ethel Rourke, Nita and Ethel Rourke, Kate Shearer, Juanita Warner. n.d. (5 photos).

Ralph Van Zandt's World War I Correspondence

- 5/8 Fragment of a letter from someone who lived in Agency. n.d.
- 5/9 Ralph Van Zandt to parents, James and Philoma Van Zandt, and sister, Mattie Foster. Postcards sent on his way to Camp Pike, Little Rock Arkansas. July 22-23, 1918.
- 5/10 Ralph Van Zandt to parents from Camp Pike: "The negros down here ride in one car and the white folks in another." July 24, 1918.
- 5/11 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. The group is in quarantine for 14 days and has been vaccinated for smallpox and typhoid fever. July 26, 1918.
- 5/12 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. He has been classified "Class B" for health reasons. "Class A" men had been shipped out to New Jersey. Describes crowded conditions in camp. July 28, 1918.
- 5/13 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. August 2, 1918.
- 5/14 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. August 4, 1918
- 5/15 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. August 6, 1918.
- 5/16 Ralph Van Zandt to sister Mattie. [August] 7, 1918.
- 5/17 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. He describes his feelings about being put in "Class B." August 8, 1918.
- 5/18 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. Includes a news clipping, "6,500 Iowa Rookies are Fed in One Mess Hall at Camp Pike in 40 Minutes." August 8, 1918.
- 5/19 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. He has been shifted from casual company to 25th Company, 7th Training Battalion - a move of four blocks to better facilities. August 11, 1918.
- 5/20 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. August 12, 1918.
- 5/21 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. Comments that an airship had flown over camp and had performed some fancy maneuvers. August 14, 1918.
- 5/22 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. He has been moved again, and is now in 47th

Box/File

- Company, 12th Training Battalion. "This idea of living in a suit case is some different than slinging your things all over the house."
- 5/23 Ralph Van Zandt to sister, Mattie Van Zandt Foster. he explains Class B to her: "You see all over sea men are Class A men and those who are in a little off are in Class B for home guards or border work." August 17, 1918.
- 5/24 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. Describes hospital guard duty. August 19, 1918.
- 5/25 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. He is under quarantine again, due to a case of measles in his barracks. August 20, 1918.
- 5/26 Ralph Van Zandt to Mattie Van Zandt Foster. Describes his stint of hospital guard duty in more detail. In addition to normal duties, he says that they were watching for a peeping tom, and that someone had recently gotten into the nurses quarters and choked one of them. August 20, 1918.
- 5/27 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. August 21, 1918.
- 5/28 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. August 22, 1918.
- 5/29 Ralph Van Zandt to Mattie Van Zandt Foster. August 23, 1918.
- 5/30 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. August 24, 1918.
- 5/31 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. August 25, 1918.
- 5/32 Ralph Van Zandt to Mattie Van Zandt Foster. Comments on the food, which is not very well cooked, and some of the men are in the hospital as a result. A Captain had come in at suppertime and interviewed the men about the food. August 25, 1918.
- 5/33 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. Discusses officers training camp - he says he has heard that it costs \$700. "They have to buy everything there selves and pay there own board and everything. It sure is no place for a poor boy." He also mentions that the mess sergeant is to be replaced, and he is hoping for an improvement in the food. August 26, 1918.
- 5/34 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. August 27, 1918.
- 5/35 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. August 28, 1918.
- 5/36 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. August 29, 1918.
- 5/37 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. August 30, 1918.
- 5/38 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. August 31, 1918.
- 5/39 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. September 1, 1918.
- 5/40 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. "Labor Day is not a holiday in the Army by no means." September 2, [1918].
- 5/41 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. They have been told that they will be moved in two or three days. September [3], 1918.
- 5/42 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. September 4, 1918.
- 5/43 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. He has been moved again, and is now in Company C, 3rd Training Regiment. September 5, 1918.
- 5/44 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. Has been moved again and is soon to be shipped

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Box/File

- elsewhere. The men have been issued a bag for all their possessions, so he is sending all extra items home. September 7, 1918.
- 5/45 Ralph Van Zandt to sister, Mattie Van Zandt Foster. "I never have told the folks and so don't say anything about it for awhile yet but they must be figuring on sending us across as we all have over sea equipment..." September 8, 1918.
- 5/46 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. September 8, 1918.
- 5/47 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. Comments on the death of an Agency man, Fred Harper, in the war. September 12, 1918.
- 5/49 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. They are being tested on their shooting ability. Ralph says one of their company has attempted desertion three times and is being taken to Fort Leavenworth. September 14, 1918.
- 5/50 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. September 18, 1918.
- 5/51 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. "We are leaving here today." September 20, 1918.
- 5/52 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. They didn't leave after all, as so many men are being shipped out that there are not enough railroad cars to hold them. September 20, 1918.
- 5/53 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. He is writing on board train passing through Kentucky, and he comments on the farm land he has seen. They still do not know what camp they are heading for. September 22, 1918.
- 5/54 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. Postcard written on board train in upstate New York, postmarked Sidney, New York. September 24, 1918.
- 5/55 Lena McLean to Ralph Van Zandt. A friend from Agency, Lena passes on the Agency news and comments on the Spanish influenza. She says that Camp Dodge (Des Moines, Iowa) had stopped taking men until the disease was checked. September 30, 1918.
- 5/56 Ralph Van Zandt to parents and sister Mattie Van Zandt Foster. Postcards written on board ship, postmarked Port of Embarkation, Hoboken, New Jersey. Late September 1918.
- 5/57 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. Written on board ship. October 1, 1918.
- 5/58 Ralph Van Zandt to parents and sister, Mattie Van Zandt Foster. Standard postcards: "The Ship on Which I Sailed has Arrived Safely Overseas." October 1?, 1918.
- 5/59 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. He is still aboard the ship: "...I am writing this before we land in order that it will be censored in time to get started back on the first ship." He is now a member of 18th Company S.A.R.D. Camp Pike Infantry American Expeditionary Force. S.A.R.D. stood for September Automatic Replacement Draft. October 2, 1918.
- 5/60 Ralph Van Zandt to sisters Madge Van Zandt Hankins and Mattie Van Zandt Foster. October 2, 1918.

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- 5/61 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. Has arrived in France. October 4, 1918.
- 5/62 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. First censor's signature on a letter - they continue throughout Ralph Van Zandt's tour in Europe. October 8, 1918.
- 5/63 Ralph Van Zandt to sisters. "This is a great country over here for bicycles." Is now with Company H 161st Infantry American Expeditionary Forces. October 20, 1918.
- 5/64 Mattie Van Zandt Foster to Ralph Van Zandt. October 28, 1918.
- 5/65 Bernice_____ (a cousin) to Ralph Van Zandt. Passes on local news and says the theaters in Ottumwa are closed because of the flu. November 1, 1918.
- 5/66 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. Writing from the hospital: "Well I have put in my first time on the front line and got a piece of sharpnel [sic] in my left hand and am back of the lines in the hospital..." Is now with Company A, 23rd Infantry, 2nd division, American Expeditionary Forces. November 5, 1918.
- 5/67 Madge Van Zandt Hankins to Ralph Van Zandt. They had been down to Davenport the previous Saturday, where 128 new cases of flu had been reported. Says also "We saw a machine husking corn other day. Husks about 10 acres a day I guess." November 5, 1918.
- 5/68 Anna Chambers to Ralph Van Zandt. Mrs. Chambers was the Agency postmistress. She says that the Agency schools have been closed since October 10. "That terrible disease has caused more sorrow in this country in the past two months than the war has." (letter is badly damaged). November 5, 1918.
- 5/69 Philoma Van Zandt to Ralph Van Zandt. November 5, 1918.
- 5/70 Ralph Van Zandt to sisters. November 8, 1918.
- 5/71 James Van Zandt to Ralph Van Zandt. Includes descriptions of the excitement caused by a plane going over and the celebration of Armistice Day in Agency. November 10-11, 1918.
- 5/72 Philoma Van Zandt to James Van Zandt. Describes the rejoicing in Agency and Ottumwa. November 11-12, 1918.
- 6/1 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. "Well, my hand is getting pretty well healed up and in good shape." November 12, 1918.
- 6/2 Madge Van Zandt Hankins to Ralph Van Zandt. Describes the Armistice Day celebration in West Liberty. November 12, 1918.
- 6/3 Philoma Van Zandt to Ralph Van Zandt. Includes news clipping of Agency news from the Ottumwa Courier. November 15, 1918.
- 6/4 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. He is to leave the hospital shortly. "It seems quite different over here now since they have quit fighting. It seems rather odd for to not here a lot canons shooting or to see a large bunch of airships

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- going over." November 16, 1918.
- 6/5 Ralph Van Zandt to sisters. November 16, 1918.
- 6/5a Philoma Van Zandt to Ralph Van Zandt. November 22, 1918.
- 6/6 Ralph Van Zandt to sisters. November 24, 1918.
- 6/7 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. November 24, 1918.
- 6/8 Ralph Van Zandt to sister Mattie. YMCA-provided Christmas card. November 24, 1918.
- 6/9 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. YMCA-provided Christmas card. November 24, 1918.
- 6/10 Madge Van Zandt Hankins to Ralph Van Zandt. November 26, 1918.
- 6/11 Philoma Van Zandt to Ralph Van Zandt. She tells of a meeting that evening in Agency for the purpose of quarantining homes with the flu. Ther had only been five weeks of classes in the Agency schools. November 27, 1918.
- 6/12 Ralph Van Zandt to sisters on Thanksgiving Day. Comments on Germany: "It don't look like she would ever be able to get straitened up again and get on her feet with the heavy war debt she will have and the indemnity she will have to pay the Allies." November 28, 1918.
- 6/13 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. Another Thanksgiving letter. Ralph describes his impression of France and says that censorship has been relaxed. November 28, 1918.
- 6/14 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. December 1, 1918.
- 6/15 Ralph Van Zandt to sisters. He is at a rest camp, but is soon to be sent back to his company, now located in Germany. Says he has not received a letter for three months. December 5, 1918.
- 6/16 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. He is still in the rest camp. Describes the YMCA and the Knights of Columbus room, and bakery which he had toured. Asks if there has been any progress in installing electric lights in Agency. December 7, 1918.
- 6/17 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. December 9, 1918.
- 6/18 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. December 11, 1918.
- 6/19 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. December 12, 1918.
- 6/20 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. December 15, 1918.
- 6/21 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. " I see by the paper they claim a Xmas box for every boy in France and I see the K of C have 15 tons of gumdrops candy to give to the boys." December 17, 1918.
- 6/22 Ralph Van Zandt to sisters. December 18, 1918.
- 6/23 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. Describes French trains in detail. December 19, 1918.
- 6/24 Ralph Van Zandt to sisters. December 22, 1918.
- 6/25 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. December 22, 1918.

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- 6/26 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. Describes Christmas in Army. December 26, 1918.
- 6/26a Ralph Van Zandt to sisters. December 26, 1918.
- 6/27 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. December 30, 1918.
- 6/28 Ralph Van Zandt to sisters. December 30, 1918.
- 6/29 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. "When I came to France and landed at Brest I slept while there in the Old Fort's that Napoleon quartered his army in years ago and the one I am in now. I don't know as nobody has told me but I think this fort here must have been the one Caesar had his army quartered in in the year one." January 3, 1919.
- 6/30 Ralph Van Zandt to sisters. January 3, 1919.
- 6/31 Ralph Van Zandt to sisters. Has been sent back to his company, which is now in Vallander, Germany. January 3, 1919.
- 6/32 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. January 7, 1919.
- 6/33 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. He has received his first letters since he has been overseas. January 11, 1919.
- 6/34 Ralph Van Zandt to sisters. January 11, 1919.
- 6/35 Ralph Van Zandt to sisters. January 18, 1919.
- 6/36 Ralph Van Zandt to sister Mattie Van Zandt Foster (incomplete). January 20, 1919.
- 6/37 Ralph Van Zandt to sister Madge Van Zandt Hankins. January 25, 1919.
- 6/38 Ralph Van Zandt to sister Mattie Van Zandt Foster. January 25, 1919.
- 6/39 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. January 30, 1919.
- 6/40 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. February 1, 1919.
- 6/41 Ralph Van Zandt to sister Mattie Van Zandt Foster. "You spoke about me boiling my wool underclothes and them shrinking up. I think they have just one size of under clothes that they issue to us boys so you can see that a person of my size always got a suit that was plenty large." February 2, 1919.
- 6/42 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. Postcard stating that he was stationed at Vallander, and was well. February 4, 1919.
- 6/43 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. February 9, 1919.
- 6/44 Ralph Van Zandt to sister Mattie Van Zandt Foster. February 9, 1919.
- 6/45 P. C. Harris (of the War Department) to James Van Zandt. Official notification of Ralph being wounded on November 8, 1918. February 10, 1919.
- 6/46 Philoma Van Zandt to Ralph Van Zandt. February 13, 1919.
- 6/47 Philoma Van Zandt to Ralph Van Zandt. February 15?, 1919.
- 6/48 Ralph Van Zandt to sister Mattie Van Zandt Foster. February 16, 1919.
- 6/49 Madge Van Zandt Hankins to Ralph Van Zandt. February 17, 1919.
- 6/50 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. February 16, 1919.
- 6/51 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. February 24, 1919.

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- 6/52 Madge Van Zandt Hankins to Ralph Van Zandt. February 25, 1919.
- 6/53 Ralph Van Zandt to sister Mattie Van Zandt Foster. February 27, 1919.
- 6/54 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. March 2, 1919.
- 6/55 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. March 7, 1919.
- 6/56 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. He has been ill for three weeks and has been in two different hospitals, one in Vallander and one in Coblenz. At Coblenz, the doctor had drawn a half gallon of fluid from under his lung. He was feeling much better, but still in the hospital. March 9, 1919.
- 6/57 Ralph Van Zandt to sister Mattie Van Zandt Foster. March 9, 1919.
- 6/58 Ralph Van Zandt to sister Mattie Van Zandt Foster. He is still in the hospital, and says General Pershing is to inspect it on Monday (March 17 or 24?). "I see where they are talking of running him for the president of U.S. I am afraid if he depends on the soldier votes he won't get very far as there isn't many of the soldiers over here like him." March 16, 1919.
- 6/59 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. He is still in the hospital and the cause of his health troubles has been diagnose as pleurisy. March 17, 1919.
- 6/60 Mrs. Tierney? (Mattie Van Zandt Foster's neighbor) to Ralph Van Zandt. Discussed in letter of March 25, 1919. March 22, 1919.
- 6/61 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. March 23, 1919.
- 6/62 Ralph Van Zandt to sister Mattie Van Zandt Foster. March 24, 1919.
- 6/63 Mattie Van Zandt Foster to Ralph Van Zandt. March 25-26, 1919.
- 6/64 Philoma Van Zandt to Ralph Van Zandt. She had received Ralph's March 9 letter saying that he was sick. "Surely you are being watched over, as you have such narrow escapes." Includes a news clipping, "Jealousy at Home" from the Des Moines Register. March 28, 1919.
- 6/65 Mattie Van Zandt Foster to Ralph Van Zandt. Includes news clippings from the Des Moines Register regarding the discharge of men in the service. Mattie describes new ladies fashion - hobble skirts, making it difficult to get on a street car and also Des Moines bank robbery which had netted the thieves \$20,000. (Fascinating material regarding this bank robbery, which was eventually proven to be an inside job, can be found in the Iowa Bankers Association files, Manuscript Collection MS-45, Box 17, Case 603). March 28-29, 1919.
- 6/66 Ralph Van Zandt to sister Mattie Van Zandt Foster. March 29, 1918.
- 6/67 James Van Zandt to Ralph Van Zandt. Daylight Savings Time had gone into effect the night before, with the result that church members "kept coming to S.S. [Sunday school] and church untill church closed." Daylight saving had been adopted as a war measure in 1918, and was put into effect in 1919 as well. James Van Zandt did not like it: "It makes too long a day to suit me." March 30, 1919.

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- 6/68 Madge Van Zandt Hankins to Ralph Van Zandt. March 30, 1919.
- 6/69 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. March 30, 1919.
- 6/70 May Whipple to Ralph Van Zandt. A friend from Agency, her letter is filled with local news. March 31, 1919.
- 6/71 Philoma Van Zandt to Ralph Van Zandt. Includes news clippings from the Des Moines Register regarding the designation of Camp Dodge (Des Moines, Iowa) as a permanent camp and the need of Iowa farms for the release of the troops still in Europe. April 1, 1919.
- 6/72 Mattie Van Zandt Foster to Ralph Van Zandt. She mentions a strike in Des Moines by workers in the building trades. She also mentions her husband Tom's new hours: 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. He works for American Express at the railroad station. April 2, 1919.
- 6/73 Ralph Van Zandt to sister Mattie Van Zandt Foster. April 3, 1918.
- 6/74 Philoma Van Zandt to Ralph Van Zandt. Like Ralph's father, she disliked Daylight Savings Time: "Back to new time and I get disgusted with it. More complaints this year than last. War was on then, and people was willing to comply with rules." April 6, 1919.
- 6/75 Ralph Van Zandt to Madge Van Zandt Hankins. April 6, 1919.
- 6/76 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. April 6, 1919.
- 6/77 James Van Zandt to Ralph Van Zandt. April 7, 1919.
- 6/78 Ralph Van Zandt to Mattie Van Zandt Foster. April 8, 1918.
- 6/79 Philoma Van Zandt to Ralph Van Zandt. Includes news clippings on volunteers who are to be sent overseas as replacement troops. April 10, 1919.
- 6/80 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. April 13, 1919.
- 6/81 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. April 20, 1919.
- 6/82 Mattie Van Zandt Foster to Ralph Van Zandt. April 22, 1919.
- 6/83 Ralph Van Zandt to Mattie Van Zandt Foster. April 23, 1919.
- 6/84 Philoma Van Zandt to Ralph Van Zandt. April 24, 1919.
- 6/85 Philoma Van Zandt to Ralph Van Zandt. May 4, 1919.
- 7/1 Ralph Van Zandt to Harold C. Warren of Eldon, Iowa. Postcard that was not mailed. May 2, 1919.
- 7/2 Ralph Van Zandt to Mattie Van Zandt Foster. May 8, 1919.
- 7/3 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. May 8, 1919.
- 7/4 Philoma Van Zandt to Ralph Van Zandt. May 9, 1919.
- 7/5 Madge Van Zandt Hankins to Ralph Van Zandt. May 21, 1919.
- 7/6 Ralph Van Zandt to Mattie Van Zandt Foster. Postcard to let his sister know he is back in the States. ca. May 22, 1919.
- 7/7 Ralph Van Zandt to parents. He is at Camp Merritt, New Jersey. Soldiers are being held there until enough have arrived to make up a trainload for their

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Box/File

homes. Ralph had crossed the Atlantic on the steamship Manchuria, which is pictured on the Postcard in File 7/6. The trip took ten days. May 24, 1919.

- 7/8 S. D. Beedle to James Van Zandt. Letter from a Pennsylvania man who met Ralph in New York City. May 29, 1919.
- 7/9 Ralph Van Zandt to Mattie Van Zandt Foster. May 29, 1919.
- 7/10 Oscar B. Nelson Post No. 3 to Ralph Van Zandt. Invitation to join an American Legion Post in Ottumwa. September 5, 1919.

Ralph Van Zandt's Personal Items from World War I

- 7/11 Affidavit of James Van Zandt, stating that Ralph Van Zandt was needed at home. April 5, 1919.
- 7/12 Hospital identification tags. [1919]
- 7/13 Hospital orders indicating the number of wound chevrons and service chevrons Ralph was authorized to wear. April 25, 1919.
- 7/14 Individual Pay Record Book. 1918-1919.
- 7/15 Map: "The Western Theatre of the European War." 1919.
- 7/16 The Mess Kit. Publication of USA Base Hospital, Camp Merritt, New Jersey. May 1919.
- 7/17 News clippings. [1918-1919].
- 7/18 Orders for sentinals. n.d.
- 7/19 Postcards: scenes of Germany. 1919.
- 7/20 Receipts. n.d., 1919.
- 7/21 Song books. 1918.
- 7/22 War Risk Insurance: premium notice and bulletins. 1919.

Scott and Jessie Weir Foster Family

Correspondence

- 7/23 James W. Weir to brother, Andrew R. Weir. February 5, 1847.
- 7/24 S. W. Huston to daughter, Martha Huston Weir. Letter speaks of Huston's anger with Mr. Moore, Martha's employer who had treated her badly. He also says "My advice to you and Mary [another daughter] is to make a thorough acquaintance with every good precept in life and put them in practice at all costs and hazards." August 18, 1848.
- 7/25 Andrew R. Weir to his father. November 23, 1850.
- 7/26 Andrew R. Weir to wife Martha Huston Weir. He writes from Keokuk, where he is attending a series of medical lectures. December 16, 1850.
- 7/27 Andrew R. Weir to Martha Huston Weir. [December 1850].

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- 7/28 Andrew R. Weir to Martha Huston Weir. January 3, 1851.
- 7/29 Andrew R. Weir to Martha Huston Weir (incomplete). February 5, 1851.
- 7/30 James W. Weir to mother. Written while he was away in the service at New Orleans, Louisiana. November 21, 1864.
- 7/31 A. Sanbach to H. C. Sigler. A letter of reference regarding Andrew R. Weir. November 29, 1868.
- 7/32 Scott Foster to Jessie Weir. A request for the "pleasure of your company next Sabbath evening." January 27, 1874.
- 7/33 Andrew R. Weir to the Clerk of Court of Jefferson County, Iowa. Note stating that his daughter Ida had his permission to marry John D. Newell. April 25, 1876.
- 7/34 Scott Foster to Jessie Weir. Love letter written on a day too wet to visit in person. September 9, 1877.
- 7/35 Gertrude Croft to aunt, Martha Houston Weir. Gertrude Croft's husband, Stephen, was British, and they had been visiting his family home, Stillington Hall in Yorkshire. At the time the letter was written, they were staying in St. Helier's Jersey, Channel Islands. August 30, 1887.
- 7/36 Jessie Weir Foster to mother, Martha Huston Weir. April 19, 1888.
- 7/37 Jessie Weir Foster to Martha Huston Weir. April 25, 1888.
- 7/38 Ida Weir Newell to Martha Huston Weir. April 28, 1888.

Family Items

- 7/39 Appointment of A. H. Weir to Assistant Surgeon of the 56th Regiment, United States Colored Infantry. September 16, 1864.
- 7/40 Currency: Confederate 10 cent bill issued by the State of Alabama and U.S. fractional currency in the amount of 50 cents. 1863-1864.
- 7/41 Genealogical material. n.d.
- 7/42 News clippings: obituaries for Scott Foster and Martha Huston Weir and a letter from Carroll Foster printed in the paper when he was serving in Troop B, 1st Iowa Cavalry, in Doma, Texas. 1907, 1916, 1935.
- 7/43 Teacher's First Class Certificate for Jessie Weir. 1873.

Legal Documents

- 7/44 Receipt for note owed to Scott Foster. 1905.
- 7/45 Receipts for payments in the purchase of land from the George W. Ewing Estate by Thomas Foster (Scott Foster's grandfather). This land is the land concerned in files 7/46 and 7/49. 1869, 1871-1872.
- 7/46 Receipts for taxes paid on land in Wapello and Adair Counties in Iowa. 1876-1880.
- 7/47 Shares owned by Scott Foster in the Eldon Big 4 District Agricultural Association.

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Box/File

1891.

- 7/48 Summons for Benjamin Rouse issued by James Weir. James Weir was justice of the peace for Dahlonga Township, Wapello County, Iowa. November 13, 1850
- 7/49 Warranty Deeds conveying land to Scott Foster. 1882-1883.

Photographs

- 7/50 Postcards of Agency, Iowa. n.d. (6 photos).
- 7/51 Carroll A. Foster. n.d., 1918. (5 photos).
- 7/52 Gertrude Barham Foster, Carroll Foster's wife. n.d. (2 photos).
- 7/53 Jessie Weir Foster. n.d. (4 photos).
- 7/54 Jessie Weir Foster and Ida Weir Newell. Two copies one marked "Tom [Foster] carried this with him when in Navy 4 years 1906-1910." n.d. (2 photos).
- 7/55 Martha or Angie Foster. Scott and Jessie Weir Foster had two daughters who died in childhood. n.d. (1 photo).
- 7/56 Scott Foster. n.d. (3 photos).
- 7/57 Scott and Jessie Weir Foster. n.d. (3 photos).
- 7/58 Mrs. Thomas Foster, Scott Foster's mother. n.d. (1 photo).
- 7/59 Thomas W. Foster. n.d. (3 photos).
- 7/60 Thomas W. Foster and Carroll a. Foster as small Children. n.d. (1 photo).
-
- 8/1 S. W. Huston. n.d. (1 photo).
- 8/2 Ida Weir Newell. n.d. (2 photos).
- 8/2a Andrew R. Weir. n.d. (2 photos).
- 8/3 Martha Huston Weir. n.d. (2 photos).
- 8/4 Martha Huston Weir and Ida Weir Newell. n.d. (2 photos).
- 8/5 Martha Huston Weir, Ida Weir Newell and Jessie Weir Foster. n.d. (2 photos).

Tom and Mattie Van Zandt Foster Family

Correspondence

- 8/6 Thomas W. Foster to wife Mattie Van Zandt Foster. July 1913.

Family Items

- 8/7 Commencement Program for Mattie Van Zandt's graduation, Agency, Iowa High School. May 4, 1906.
- 8/8 Georgia Cracker, Vol 1, No. 2, August 1909. Edited and published by enlisted men on board the U.S.S. Georgia. From Thomas W. Foster Navy Service. August 1909.

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Van Zandt Family Papers
n.d., 1838-1990
7.52 linear feet, 13 boxes

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Box/File

Photographs

8/9 Martha Foster Schmitt, daughter of Tom and Mattie Van Zandt Foster. n.d. (5 photos).

Martin and Martha Foster Schmitt Family

Martin Schmitt Correspondence

8/10 Letter to Ralph Van Zandt regarding the Vanzant material. 1953.

**Additional Materials, 2.71 linear Feet - Boxes 9-12, received January 15, 1998
from: Sallie Foster, 2928 S. Country Club Way, P.O. Box 24711, Tempe, AZ 85285
(Accession Number 98-0006)**

Scott and Jessie Weir Foster Family

Photographs

- 9/1 Martha Huston Weir. n.d. (2 photos).
- 9/2 Grandma Foster and Great Grandma Weir. n.d. (2 photos).
- 9/3 Scott Foster. n.d., 1896. (4 photos).
- 9/4 Jessie Weir Foster and Jessie Foster with mother, Martha and Aunt Ida. n.d. (2 photos).
- 9/5 Scott and Jessie Foster. n.d. (2 photos).
- 9/6 Scott, Jessie, and Foster children. n.d. (1 photo).
- 9/7 Carroll Foster. n.d., ca. 1918, 1921, 1955. (6 photos).
- 9/8 Carroll and Tom Foster. n.d. (1 photo).

James and Philoma Lynn Van Zandt Family

Photographs

- 9/9 Philoma's childhood home, Uncle John Lynn and Mother Mary Webb Lynn. n.d., 1939. (4 photos).
- 9/10 Van Zandt home place in Agency, Iowa, where Madge, Mattie and Ralph Van Zandt were born. n.d., 1961. (10 photos).
- 9/11 James, Philoma and Ralph with Phyllis - Pauline's girl. 1939. and Tintype of Mattie Van Zandt, sister of James Van Zandt. n.d., (2 photos).

Van Zandt Family Papers
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Box/File

- 9/12 Van Zandt children, Madge, Mattie and Ralph. n.d., 1960, 1961, 1970. (13 photos).
- 9/13 Madge Van Zandt Hankins and family. n.d., 1939, 1961. (9 photos).
- 9/14 Ralph Van Zandt. n.d. 1893, ca. 1895-96, ca. 1896-97, ca. 1918-19, 1967, 1968. (16 photos).
- 9/15 James, Philoma and Ralphs' headstones in cemetery. n.d., 1961, 1970. (5 photos).

Family Items

- 9/16 Philoma Van Zandt's Religious Bookmarks (2) and Greeting Cards (2). n.d.
- 9/17 "The Rhine and Its Legends, A Souvenir of the Days of the American Army of Occupation in Germany" (2 copies). (Books brought home by Ralph Van Zandt when he returned from military service in World War I.) 1919.

Box 10: Ralph Van Zandt's World War I Mementos - (Oversize Box)

- 10/1 Honor Roll of Wapello County, Iowa, An Illustrated Historical Bibliography Compiled from Private Authentic Records, Voight and Dunaway, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. (This book was a World War I memento of Ralph D. Van Zandt.) n.d.
- 10/2 Scrapbook compiled by Ralph D. Van Zandt from World War I. The scrapbook contains black and white photographs, as well as, postcards documenting the areas where Ralph was stationed and the places he visited during his military service. ca. 1918-1919.

Tom and Mattie Van Zandt Foster Family

Family Correspondence

- 11/1 Family Correspondence and Notes: Thomas W. Foster. n.d., 1937-1940.

Family Items

- 11/2 "The Marriage Vow," a keepsake book of Mattie Van Zandt and Thomas W. Foster who were married January 15, 1913. Marriage License of Mattie Van Zandt and Thomas W. Foster issued January 15, 1913. 1913.
- 11/3 Legal documents relating to the sale and purchase of real estate. 1867-1912.

Photographs

- 11/4 Tom Foster. n.d., ca. 1889, 1905. (4 photos).
- 11/5 Tom Foster during his service in the Navy, also includes memorabilia collected during the same period of time. 1906-10. (5 photos).

Van Zandt Family Papers

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Box/File

- 11/6 Mattie Van Zandt Foster. n.d., 1906, 1954, 1960, 1964, 1968. (12 photos).
- 11/7 Tom Foster and Mattie Van Zandt Foster. n.d., 1948, 1950, 1951. (7 photos).
- 11/8 Tom Foster and Mattie Van Zandt Foster at neighborhood party on 8th Street in Des Moines, Iowa. n.d. (1 photo).
- 11/9 Tom Foster and Mattie Van Zandt Fosters' home at 3834 8th Street, Des Moines, Iowa. n.d., 1948. (2 photos).
- 11/10 Tom Foster and Mattie Van Zandt Fosters' headstone in cemetery. 1970. (1 photo).

Martin and Martha Foster Schmitt Family

Family Items

- 11/11 Martha Foster Schmitt's Scrapbook - "My Memory Book." ca. 1910's-1930's.
- 11/12 Small Photo Album of F. H. Schmitt - (Addison, [no state]). 1901.
- 11/13 Schmitt Family Photographs. n.d., 1885, 1888, ca. 1931-32.

Miscellaneous Materials - (not identifiable by family unit)

- 11/14 Catalog of Agency High School Alumni, pg. 5-6. 1928.
- 11/15 Agency Iowa Telephone Company Phonebook. n.d.
- 11/16 Photographs of unidentified woman standing by an evergreen tree. ca. 1940's. (2 photos)
- 11/17 Postcards of Agency, Iowa. ca. early 1900's. (5 postcards).

Box 12: Miniature Photograph Albums - (Shoe Box) [These Albums contain tintypes ca. 1850's to 1900's and photographs created ca. 1870's to 1900's.]

Scott and Jessie Weir Foster Family

- 12/1 Photographs of the Newell, Foster, Urer, Andrews, Weir, Ramsey, McCarroll, Reynolds and Menge Families. n.d., 1855.
- 12/2 Photographs of the Weir, Foster and Newell Families. n.d.

James and Philoma Lynn Van Zandt Family

- 12/3 Photographs of the Woodford, Clements, Meyers, Stevens, Van Zandt, Dudley and Lynn Families. n.d.
- 12/4 Photographs of the Webb, Dedendening, Van Zandt, and Smith Families. n.d., 1875.

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Box 13: Phase Box - Photographs and Artifact

Photographs:

- 1 - 16"x20" hand colored framed photograph of Ralph Van Zandt. n.d.
- 2 - 11"x14" hand colored photographs of an unidentified man and an unidentified woman. n.d.
- 1 - 4"x6.5" black and white framed photograph of Ralph Van Zandt. n.d.
- 1 - 3.5"x5" black and white photograph of an unidentified woman. n.d.

Artifact:

Cross Stitch Sampler, 9 inches by twelve inches, "WARM FRIENDSHIP LIKE THE
SETTING SUN SHEDS KINDLY LIGHT ON EVERYONE." n.d.