

January 25th, 2018

**Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board 2017 Grant Program
Final Report**

Worthington Historical Society

Providing Digital Access to the Johnson Sessions Collection on Worthington Memory

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Project Activities & Accomplishments

- For this project, the following 93 items from the Johnson/Sessions Collection were made digitally available to the public on the website, Worthington Memory: These items occupy less than one cubic foot in storage.
- 1. *Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.03
Certificate 6/28/1846-10/21/1846, Francis C. Sessions completing requirements for membership in Columbus, Ohio chapter, Sons of Temperance
- 2. *Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.05
1820 Tax receipt from Jacob Keller to N.J. Root
- 3. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.09
Letter, 2/20/1847, from Chester K. Johnson, Tiffin, Ohio to Mary Johnson
Subject: Family news from her cousin, death of Aunt Maynard, provisions for large wedding in Tiffin
- 4. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.11
Letter, 8/5/1839, Samuel Griffith, Fayette Co., IL to Orange Johnson
Subject: Business affairs, Johnson apparently collecting debts for him in Ohio, Griffith describes home and grocery business on National Road
- 5. *Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.20
3/15/1821 Tax receipt for \$.35 to Orange Johnson for town lots owned by Nathaniel Root
- 6. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.23
Letter, 1/5/1855, from Ethan Hawthorne, Sag Harbor to F.C. Sessions, Columbus
Subject: Rejects article for publication
- 7. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.24
Letter 5/16, 1848 from Martha Cary to Achsa Johnson
Subject: Teaching school for summer rather than returning to Worthington, requests her to send her clothes and promises to pay soon [former boarder?]
- 8. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.34
Letter 6/28/1837 from M.A. Moptiff, Mansfield, Connecticut to Mary Johnson, Worthington, Ohio
Subject-Writer wants Mary to visit Connecticut; Orange had visited, roots promised, Aunt Norton and Cousin Mary E Waldon mentioned
- 9. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.35
Letter 1/22/1837 from Emily Beckwith, Somerset, Ohio to Mary Johnson, Worthington, Ohio
Subject –School mate of Mary's tells why she left Miss Marsh's Academy
- 10. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.36
Letter 1/20/1845 from Rachel S Connell, Columbus, Ohio to Mary Johnson, Worthington, Ohio
Subject- Parties in Columbus, beaux, Mary is well loved by everyone, Mr Pinney is a pleasant gentleman
- 11. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.37a & b
Envelope and Letter 6/1890 from Paul Peel Paris to F.C. Sessions Columbus Ohio

Subject: Mr Peel thanks Francis for encouragement. He has won a medal, and is working on other paintings including *After the Bath*

12. Johnson/Sessions 2015.0005.38
Letter 7/26 [no year] from Elizabeth Beckwith , Somerset, Ohio to Mary Johnson and Caroline Griswold Worthington, Ohio
Subject: A school friend of Mary's and Cal (Caroline) Griswold wants them both to visit her in Somerset; Miss Tucker still in Somerset
13. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.39
Letter [no date] from Elizabeth Beckwith Somerset Ohio to Mary Johnson Worthington Ohio
Subject: Elizabeth inquires about school friends; Elizabeth will never forget Achsa's kindness; Elizabeth wants Mary and Cal to visit Somerset
14. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.40
Letter 2/12/1839 from William Johnson, Milan, Ohio to Achsa Johnson Worthington, Ohio
Subject: William is writing to his mother from school about his health and his need for "drawers" and "collars"
15. *Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.41
Valentine [no date] from unknown writer to Mary Johnson Worthington
To Miss Mary Johnson May heaven to love Thy hearts incline
16. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.42
Letter 3/17/1839 from Orange Johnson Worthington Ohio to William Johnson Milan, Huron County Ohio and letter from Achsa Johnson Worthington Ohio to William Johnson Milan, Huron County Ohio
Subject: Advice from both parents to William about trouble at school
17. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.43
Letter 1/3/1839 from William Johnson, Milan, Ohio to his sister Mary Johnson, Worthington, Ohio
Subjects: William's adventures to find good food at school and general information about his studies.
18. Johnson/Sessions 2102.0005.44
Letter 2/ 4/1839 from William Johnson Milan, Ohio to Orange Johnson Worthington Ohio
Subject: William tells about his recent health problems and asks for money to continue his studies
19. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.45
Letter 11/17/1838 from Mary Johnson Worthington Ohio to William M Johnson Milan, Ohio
Subject: News of home; wedding of Eliza Sherman and Potter?; Mary has been introduced to a new gentleman named Jim; spat between Miss Marsh and Miss Bishop; Ema Case boarding with Johnsons
20. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.46
Letter 3/6/1839 from William Johnson, Milan, Ohio to Orange Johnson, Worthington, Ohio
Subject: William writes to his father to explain his trouble in school and asks for advice on whether to stay in school
21. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.50b
Letter [no date] from Mrs E McElvaine Columbus Ohio to Mary Johnson Sessions
Subject: Mrs. McElvaine is sending Mary a note written by Longfellow [Henry maybe] because Mary is hosting the "Club" that evening and they would be interested in Longfellow.
22. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.52
Letter[no date] from H.G. Burr to Achsa Johnson
Subject: A request to buy lard
23. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.58a
Letter 5/10/ [1847?] from Mary Johnson, Worthington to Francis Sessions, Columbus, Ohio
Subject: Mary is very happy about events that transpired on the previous Saturday evening which seem to indicate that she and Francis are engaged-she hopes she will be worthy of him—and he relates news and gossip
24. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.58b
Letter 5/11/ [1847] from Mary Johnson Worthington Ohio to Frank Sessions
Subject: Another draft of letter 2012.0005.58a. In this letter Mary relates her happiness and bright hope for the future as a result of her meeting with Frank on the previous Saturday evening in which he may have proposed. This draft was probably written after 58a since 58a was begun on May 10 and continued into May 11 after an interruption of a visit from Dr Cramer and Miss Shields. The interruption is not mentioned in this draft.
25. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.59
Letter[no date] to Mary? (My Dear Friend) Worthington? From Miss Demaris R. Solomon, Lockbourn

Subject: Belated reply to Mary's letter, Demaris has not forgotten her and is hoping she will visit soon as examinations will be taking place

26. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.60
Letter 7/1/1844 from C.R. Smithe, Trenton, New Jersey to Mary Johnson Worthington Ohio
Subject: Mr Smithe traveled with Orange and Achsa recently and he wants to keep in touch with Mary with her and others from Worthington
27. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.61
Letter[no date] from Molly A [no last name] 2130 E. Broad Street Columbus Ohio to Mary D. Johnson Worthington Ohio
Subject: Molly is disappointed that Mary has not come to visit during Mary's father's frequent visits; specific friends are mentioned including Miss Griswold Smith
28. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.63
Letter 5/2/184? from Ellen Smith, Delaware, Ohio to Mary Johnson, Worthington, Ohio
Subject: Description of dress Miss Smith had made for the occasion she and Mary are "officiating"
29. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.66
2 Letters 3/3/1845 from Matilda E. Stern and Emeline Stern Green Springs Ohio to Mary Johnson Worthington Ohio
Subject: Letter to Mary following a visit to Worthington by Matilda & Emeline Stern. Matilda is married to a Mr Stern and Emeline is her sister-in-law. Matilda is living at present in her father-in-law's house but will be "going to housekeeping soon" in Tiffin, Ohio. They both hope Mary will come and visit and hope her mother can come too.
30. Johnson/Sessions 2102.0005.67
Letter 12/21/1846 from. C.K.P. Johnson [Chester Knox Johnson] Tiffin Ohio to Mary Johnson Worthington Ohio
Subject: Mary's cousin, C.K.P., who is living in Tiffin Ohio. He describes poetically the winter and then goes on to promise to be with the people in Worthington soon. He laments that Cousin William has not answered any of his letters.
31. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.68
Letter [no date] Ohio from Mat [Martha ?] Newark Ohio to Mary Johnson Worthington
Subject: Letter giving Mary details concerning her upcoming visit to Newark and the hope that if Mat will "send a beaux" to get Mary that she and E. Wetmore will come to visit during the Fair that the Ladies of the Church will be having.
32. Johnson /Sessions 2012.0005.69
Letter 12/ 29/1838 from Mary Johnson Worthington Ohio to William M Johnson in Milan Huron County
Subject: Mary relates to her brother, at school, pranks being played around town especially around the Johnson home and also she is sarcastic about his not answering her letters. While telling her brother about the pranks she provides some fascinating details about everyday life at the Johnson home including her Pa reading politics with other men.
33. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.70
Letter 10/11/1839 from Emily Beckwith, Somerset, Ohio to Mary Johnson, Worthington, Ohio
Subject: Emily is a friend of Mary's from school now living in Somerset. She is asking about friends from school: Isabella Miller, Miss McNeal, Emily Griswold, Emeline Lathrop and Cal [Caroline Griswold] and lamenting Mary's failure to write to her and she mentions that Mary generally is long in answering her letters.
34. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.71
Letter 5/ 5/1846 from Ellen [no last name] Dayton, Ohio to Mary D. Johnson, Worthington, Ohio
Subject: Ellen is perturbed because Mary seems to have forgotten her even though they are old friends. Mary visited Dayton and did not tell Ellen she was there. She relates that Sarah Jane [no last name] has been in ill health and has moved and that Josephine and Augusta [no last name] are both well. Ellen may be Parrott because there is a Josephine Parrott from Dayton Ohio who is a student at the Female Seminary in the 1841 roster and she refers to Josephine as you would a sister.
35. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.72
Letter 1/14/1844 from Jane E Rogers Bucyrus Ohio to Mary Johnson Worthington Ohio
Subject: Jane writes to Mary to tell her about a New Years Eve party at the Temperance Hotel attended by a gentleman Mary may be interested in Mr. Merryman. Jane also tells Mary about a certain Mr. H. who frequently visits Columbus. Jane is waiting for snow so she can visit Worthington, perhaps by sleigh.
36. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.73
Letter 10/20/1841 from Charles B. Stickney Republic, Seneca County Ohio to Mary Johnson Worthington Ohio
Subject: Mr Stickney is writing to Mary wanting their acquaintance to develop into more than just that. They apparently met on a trip by stage. Mr Stickney refers to Mary being quite ill when he came to visit her.
37. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.77

Poem to Mary, no date, no signature

38. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.78b
Letter, no date, from E.A. Leonard to Achsa Johnson
Subject: Description of illness [perhaps consumption], medical treatment, religious beliefs when confronting death
39. *Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.84
8/25/1824 Note from Wm. McFarland to Orange Johnson ordering 1 gal. whiskey
40. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.86
Letter 10/11/1838 from M. L. M. O'Neil, Worthington to Mrs. Martha Cooke, Sandusky, Ohio
Subject: Introducing Misses Tucker and Johnson and asking her to give "any attention you can pay to them" [perhaps changing stages en route to Milan to visit Mary's brother William?]
41. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.93
Letter 4/21/1845 from Damaris Soloman, Reynoldsburg [Ohio] to Mary Johnson, Worthington, Ohio
Subject - teaching school, making wax flowers, Columbus to Cincinnati stage
42. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.94
Letter 2/28/1845 from Mary Johnson, Quiet Home [Worthington, Ohio] to James Moreland, Henderson, Ky. No. 5
Subject -- Reflections on brother William's death, invitation to visit Worthington
43. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.95
Letter 2/12/1844 from E. Bailey, North Fork, Mason Co., Kentucky to Mary Johnson, Worthington, Ohio
Subject - Prospective suitor wishes to correspond
44. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.96
Letter 10/11/1843, from Damaris Solomon, Lockbourne, [Ohio] to Mary Johnson, Worthington, Ohio
Subject -- Teaching at Lockbourne, suggests Edwin Webster as possible suitor, asks about suitor "Mr. Joy"
45. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.97
1841-42 Report from C.L. Parsons, Principal, Worthington Female Seminary to Orange Johnson, Worthington, Ohio
Subject: Courses taken and grades received by Mary Johnson
46. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.98
Letter 12/19/1845, from Jeannette Ridgway, Columbus, Ohio to Mary Johnson, Worthington, Ohio
Subject: Postponing Mary's visit to Columbus until after New Years
47. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.99
Letter 4/12/1840; from Thomas S. Fuller, Milan, Erie Co., Ohio to Mary Johnson, Worthington, Ohio
Subject: Death of her brother William
48. Johnson/Sessions; 2012.0005.100
Letter 12/09/1844. from Mary Johnson, Worthington [Ohio] to James M. Moreland, Henderson, Kentucky
Subject: Response to suitor, mother is concerned but agrees to the correspondence, Mary regrets distance separating them, anticipates Whig inaugural ball in Columbus
49. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.102
Letter 2/6/1844, from Havens Cowles, Columbus [Ohio] to Miss Mary Johnson, Worthington [Ohio]
Subject: Transportation to Columbus
50. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.103
Letter 2/2/1842 from D.M. [Damaris] Solomon, Werts Grove, Lockbourne, [Ohio] to Mary D. Johnson, Worthington, [Ohio]
Subject: Classmate at Worthington Female Seminary, describes Lockbourne, discusses possible suitors, criticizes Methodists
51. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.104
Letter 1/17/1842, from John R. Worman, Zanesville, Ohio to Mary Johnson, Worthington, Ohio
Subject: Potential suitor, wanting to correspond and visit her [see 2012.0005.121]
52. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.105
Letter 3/21/1847, from Mary Johnson, Worthington, Ohio to James Moreland, Cincinnati, Ohio
Subject: Parents disapprove of relationship, Mary reacts to something he wrote about her parents and ends relationship, requests return of her letters
53. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.106
Letter 8/31/1846, from D.R. Solomon, Werts Grove to Mary Johnson, Worthington
Subject: Speaks of Mary's broken engagement, plans to visit Worthington
54. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.107
Letter 6/25/1844, from C.A. Weaver, Columbus to Mary Johnson, Worthington
Subject: Encloses sample of silk fabric, bought shoes for Mary

55. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.108
Letter 11/30/1846, from L.S. Holmes, Marion to Mary Johnson
Subject -- Hopeful suitor hearing of her engagement but pressing his suit
56. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.109
Letter 5/6/1844, from Mary Johnson, Worthington to Orange & Achsa Johnson, visiting Mansfield, CT
Subject: enjoys being mistress of the household, entertaining company, servant girl Julia having breakfast ready by 6 AM, cousin William managing the "Manor" corn planting, lambing season, and worms in apple orchard
57. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.110
Letter 1/6/1847, from Leander Holmes, Fremont House, Chicago to Mary Johnson
Subject: Prospective suitor, misunderstanding -- he heard she was to be married, she thought he was courting another girl
58. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.111
Letter 3/5/1841, from J. [Congressman Joseph] Ridgway, Washington City to Mrs. O. Johnson, Worthington
Subject: Reports on Orange & Mary attending President Harrison's inauguration and taking them to the train station
59. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.113
Letter 8/23/1847 from Mary Johnson Sessions, Niagara Falls, N.Y. to Mrs. Achsa Johnson, Worthington
Subject: Honeymoon with Francis Sessions, travel from Worthington to Niagara Falls via Sandusky, Cleveland & Buffalo, sightseeing at the falls, going on to Montreal
60. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.114
Letter 2/25/1841, from Mary Johnson, Washington City to Achsa Johnson, Worthington
Subject: Describes stagecoach travel from Worthington to Washington
61. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.115
Letter 5/29/1845, from Mary Johnson to John M. Christian, Columbus
Subject: Mary rejects his marriage proposal because her father disapproves
62. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.116
Letter 8/1/1842, from Lydia Ann Weaver, Boonsboro, KY to Mary Johnson, Worthington
Subject: Friend from seminary now teaching school describes trip from Columbus to Boonsboro and shares gossip about mutual friends
63. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.117
Letter 9/8/1841, from Charles Stickney, Republic, Ohio to Mary Johnson, Worthington
Subject: Would like to correspond, chastises her for not responding to his first letter [see 2012.0005.120]
64. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.118
Letter 5/11/1845, from Mary Johnson, Worthington to James M. Moreland, Henderson, Ky
Subject: Explains delay in answering his letters due to illness of friend and preparing to be bridesmaid for another, invites him to visit her at Worthington
65. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.119
1841-42, Report from Hamilton Smith, Principal to Orange Johnson
Subject: First term Female Seminary grade report for Mary Johnson
66. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.120
Letter 4/28/1841, Letter from Charles Stickney, Republic, Ohio to Mary Johnson, Worthington
Subject: Met Mary on coach from Columbus to Worthington as she and Orange were returning from the east, would like to correspond
67. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.121
Letter 5/7/1841, from John R. Worman, Zanesville to Mary Johnson, Worthington
Subject: Met on stage when Orange and Mary were going to Washington, sorry he didn't see them on return trip, hopes to call on his way to Delaware
68. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.122
Letter 09/01/1847, Mary Johnson, New York city, to Achsa Johnson, Worthington
Subject: Mary's honeymoon
69. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.123
Letter 12/23/1841, from Demaris Soloman, Columbus to Mary Johnson, Worthington
Subject: Friend from Worthington Female Seminary would like to visit, sounds melancholy for antagonizing Worthington friends
70. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.124
Letter 5/8/1840, from S.M. Tucker, Parkersburg, Va to Mary Johnson, Worthington

Subject: Friend from Female Seminary describes trip from Columbus to Parkersburg via stage and steamboat, teaching at seminary and suggests Mary come for summer term, remarks on black slaves

71. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.125
Letter 5/15/1845, from John Christian, Columbus to Mary Johnson
Subject -- Love letter, Mary visiting in Delaware, chides her for not writing, anxious to hear her father's decision [see #115]
72. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.126
Letter 9/8/1856, from Francis Sessions, Exeter, New Hampshire to Achsa Johnson
Subject: Francis and Mary are visiting Sessions relatives in New England, hear a prospective minister for Columbus
73. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.127
Letter 3/1/1840, from H.J.H., Worthington to Orange Johnson
Subject: Cautions against attentions by H.N. Cells to his daughter
74. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.128
Draft of letter 12/6/1846, Mary is writing to Leander Holmes [see #108 and #110]
Subject: Their future relationship as friends based upon his letters and his calling upon her
75. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.129
Part of 12/11/[1847 ?] letter from Mary to her mother
Subject: Homesick and complaining about her hired girl
76. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.130
Letter 12/20/1846, from Norman K. Johnson, West Hartford, Conn. to Mary
Subject: Her cousin writing news of various New England relatives
77. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.131
Unsigned draft of [partial?] letter 11/14/1846, from Mary Johnson to Leander Holmes, Chicago, IL
Subject: Surprise at request from a stranger to correspond, does not consider that proper but invites him to call at her home in Worthington
78. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.132
Letter 5/2/47, from Leander Holmes, Kirkersville to Mary [see also 108, 110, 128, 131]
Subject: Has been ill but now well and would like to call on Mary
79. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.133
Partial draft of letter Nov. 27th, 1845/6? - Note of payment for newspaper - Poem about tree in forest [different handwriting, perhaps cousin William Johnson who was living with Orange Johnson?]
80. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.134
Unfinished and unsigned draft letter 3/13/1843, from Mary to Martha [no last name or address, friend from Worthington Female Seminary?]
Subject: Girlish local news
81. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.136a
Unfinished draft of letter 8/15/1842, from Mary to Martha [no last name but apparently a seminary classmate from Newark, Ohio]
Subject: Accepts invitation to visit during Whig convention and speech by Governor
82. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.136b
Draft letter Sept. [1843? see also 2012.0005.137a] from Mary to Mr. Blank
Subject: Response to his request to correspond, wishes only friendship
83. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.137a
Draft letter 8/10/1843 from Mary to Mr. Blank [see also 2012.0005.136b]
Subject: Response to request to correspond, offers only friendship
84. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.137b
[no name or date but apparent draft of letter from Mary to John Worman in the summer of 1841 - see 2012.0005.121]
Subject: Apologizes for illness delaying her response, describes steamboat journey from Pittsburg to Portsmouth
85. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.143
Letter [draft] 9/19/1892 probably written by Mary Johnson Sessions Columbus to an unknown friend
Subject: The writer of the letter is very upset and hurt due to finding out that her husband changed his will and did not tell her. He changed his will to leave money to a church but not "our church" and she suspects the recipient of the letter influenced him to do so. [will left \$2000 to Hampden, MA church and bequests to his cousins Mary, Harriet, and Frances Sessions there, but he left all the residue of his estate to the Columbus Congregational Church]
86. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.144
Letter [no date] from "CP" to Mrs Johnson [Achsa]

Subject: CP is reporting to Achsa concerning the behavior of C.L. and that fact that William was seen at Mr Skinner's near the girl. CP calls the girl a "snake in the grass." William may be the William Johnson or Cousin William who worked on

87. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.145 [see also #149]

Letter 4/21/1844 from Orange Johnson, Pittsburgh to Mary Johnson Worthington

Subject: Orange is attending a Whig meeting in Pittsburgh [? perhaps enroute to Whig nominating convention in Baltimore 5/1/1844] & wishes to tell Mary that they had a pleasant journey. He tells her also that she needs to see to chores at home.

88. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.147

Letter 1/7/1900 from B. Steinfeld (for Mary Johnson Sessions) to Mr. L. Steinfeld Columbus Ohio

Subject: A proposition for changes to be made on the storefront of a drug store at 116 N High St. [Johnson Building] The storefront is owned by Mary.

89. Johnson/ Sessions 2012.0005.148

Letter 10/2 [no year] from Mary Johnson Newark, Ohio to her parents, Orange and Achsa Johnson, Worthington Ohio

Subject: Mary is visiting a friend in Newark (probably Martha H.) and needs articles of clothing brought to her so she can stay longer

90. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.149 [see also #145]

Letter 4/28/1844 from Orange Johnson Washington D.C. to Mary Johnson Worthington Ohio

Subject: Orange is relating his journey from Pittsburgh to Washington DC. He attended a Whig meeting in Pittsburgh and may have been meeting with Whigs in Washington.

91. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.151 a & b

Letter 1/19/1890 from Elizabeth Gardner Paris France to Francis Sessions Columbus Ohio

Subject: Elizabeth Gardner, an artist, is telling Francis that a painting he desired was sold before the artist could be notified that he wanted it. Ms Gardner mentions a Miss McCabe from Columbus who is a correspondent for Associated Press saying she has spent the winter in Paris. Elizabeth mentions a flu epidemic in Paris

92. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.155

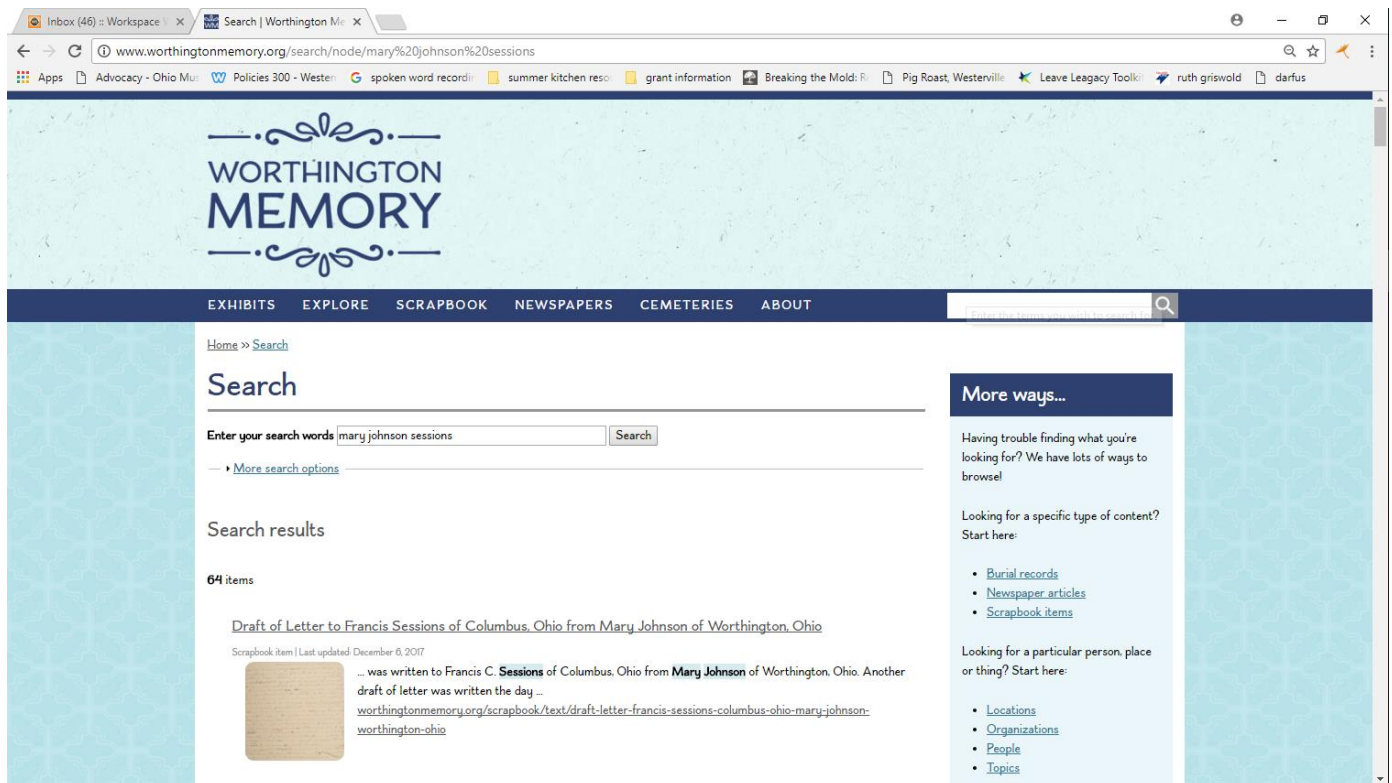
Subject: Mary receives a letter from Emily Beckwith, describing the illness that has been spread over Somerset. She also reveals that she is tired from caring for the sick. She asks Mary about Miss Tucker, and if Mary knows why she left teaching in Worthington. The letter continues with Emily asking about all of her friends from Worthington, and requesting Mary and mutual friend Cal, Caroline Griswold, visit. 1838 from Emily Beckwith to Mary Johnson Worthington, Ohio

93. Johnson/Sessions 2012.0005.156

Letter 10/29/1838 from William Johnson Milan, Ohio to Achsa Johnson Worthington, Ohio

Subject: William writes to his mother about his journey to school: though Sandusky, Cleveland, Huron, and finally to Milan. He then tells of the little town of Milan and reveals that he is pleased with his situation and the few acquaintances that he has made. William describes the school in which he is studying, the Huron Institute, and the faculty and staff that work there. Finally, he asks his mother to send him the Bucyrus paper as often as she can, and gives his respects to the family.

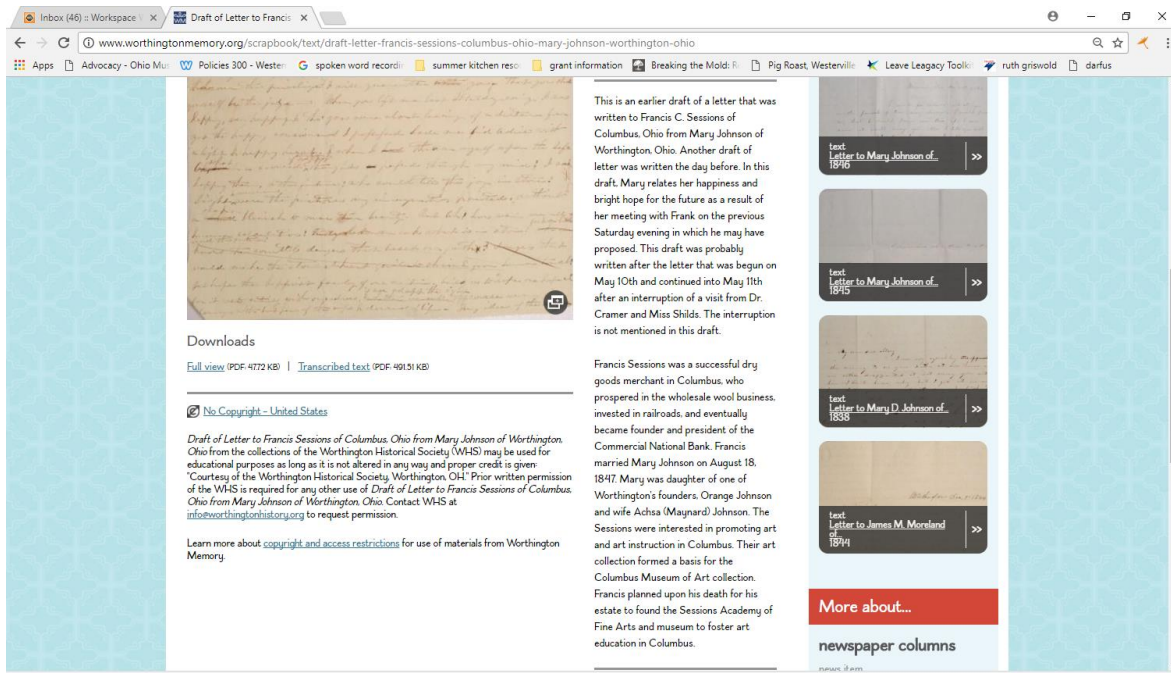
- The following screen shots of *Worthington Memory* are from record 2012.005.58b illustrate how these items are available to researchers on the website.



Upon searching using keywords, a list of items will appear with a thumbnail image and an abstract. Here, our search for “Mary Johnson Sessions” gave 64 results, the first of which will be illustrated here.

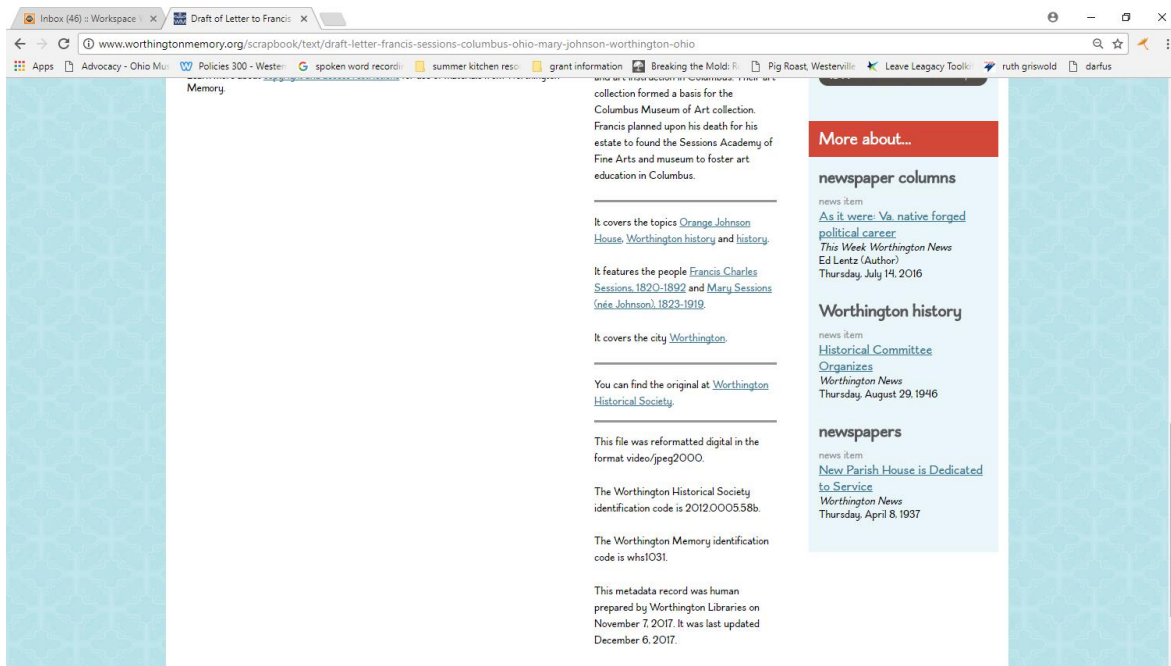


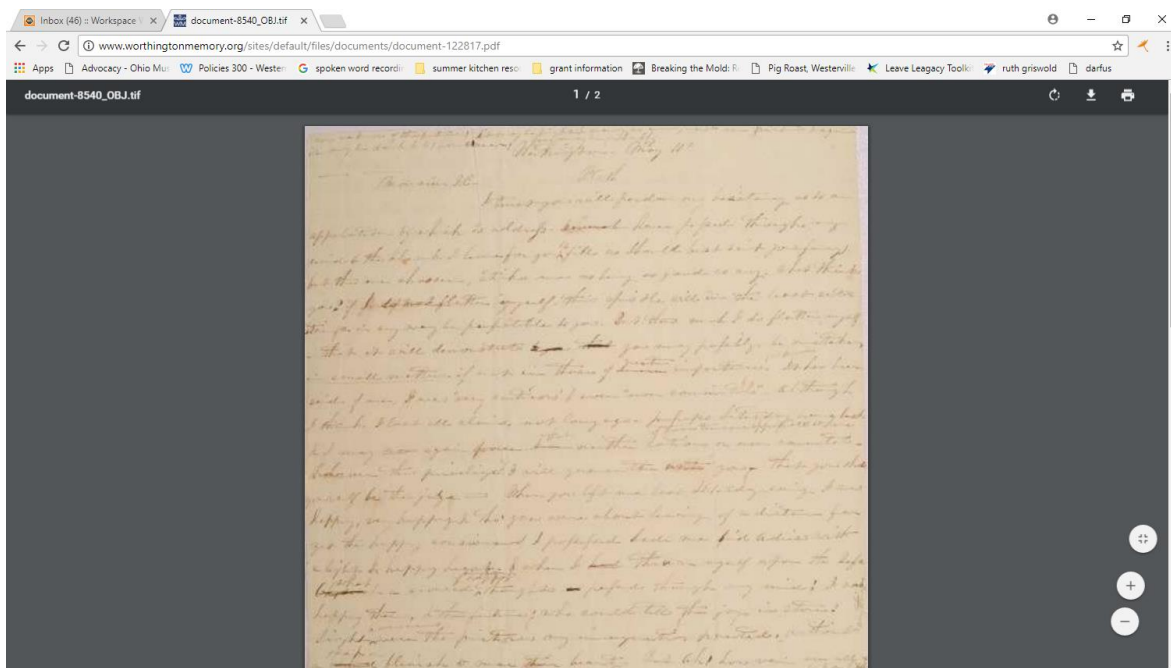
One can locate the title of the letter, the author, the creation date, and that the Worthington Historical Society is the contributor of the item.



Scrolling down this page finds a summary of the contents of the item. An image of the document is visible on this page, along with other related items in the column on the right.

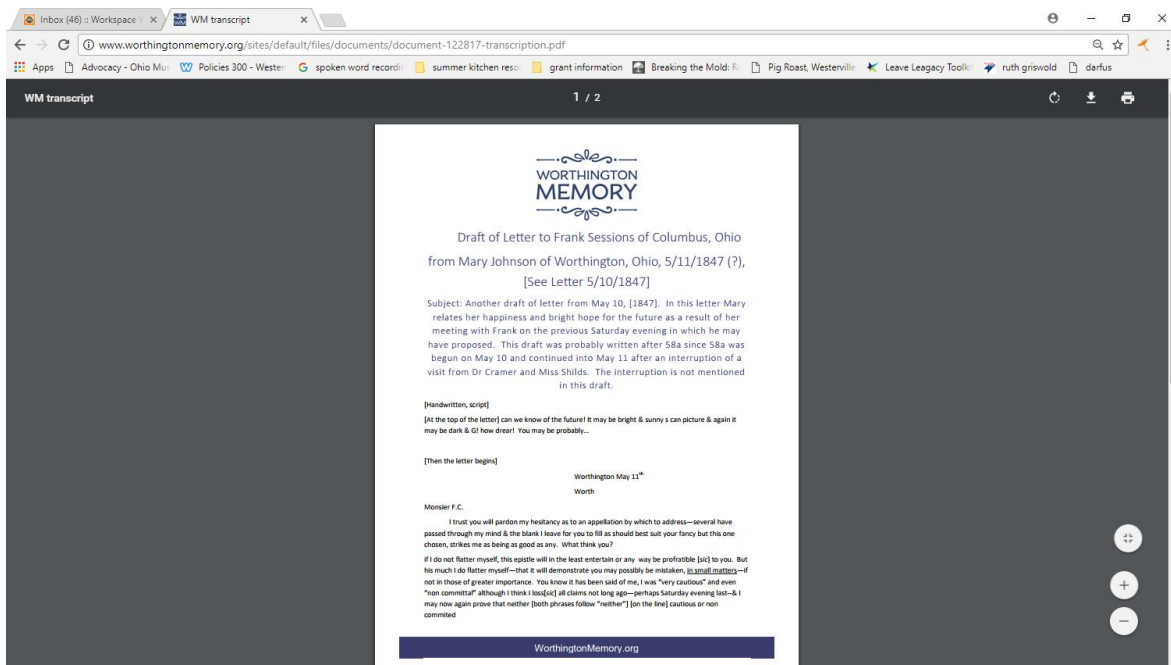
At the bottom of this screen, one can find tags for the people, topics and places covered in the item, as well as the identification numbers and information regarding the preparation of the metadata.





By clicking on the image, one will find a viewer that can be used to zoom in and out, and look at all of the pages, should the item be a multi-page document.

One can also click on the “transcribed text” link, and be directed to a pdf where the item has been transcribed, for ease of reading.

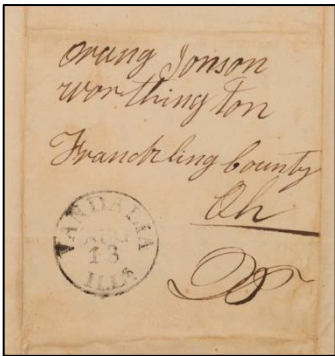


Articles & Social Media

- This project was publicized in the Society's newsletter, "The Intelligencer" at the time the grant was awarded. (see below)

From the May 2017 Intelligencer:

Society Awarded Two Grants in April



The **Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board** has awarded the WHS with a \$600 matching grant to digitize archival records and put them on the Worthington Library's website, "Worthington Memory". The Worthington Library and the Worthington Historical Society will partner to match the grant money, and Megan Stypinski, who has been working in our archives, will be working on preparing and uploading records, particularly those in the Johnson-Sessions collection that were donated to the Society in 2012. It is wonderful to be able to make our collections digitally available to both Worthington residents and researchers farther afield with this grant in partnership with the Worthington Library.


The **National Society Daughters of the American Revolution** has awarded the WHS a \$2365 grant to for the Society's Orange Johnson House Interior Storm Window Replacement project. Upon completion of the window replacement, new inside storm windows with UV protection will be custom fitted to each of the thirteen openings. The Society would like to thank the entire Worthington DAR chapter, and especially **Joyce Brand** (Chapter President) and **Susan Plaisted**, for their grant sponsorship and their letter of support.



Joyce Brand, Kate LaLonde & Susan Plaisted

The additions of items to Worthington Memory as a result of this grant have also been publicized on the Worthington Historical Society's facebook page in a number of posts of the course of the grant project.

Dec 29, 2017



Worthington Historical Society
@WorthingtonHistoricalSociety

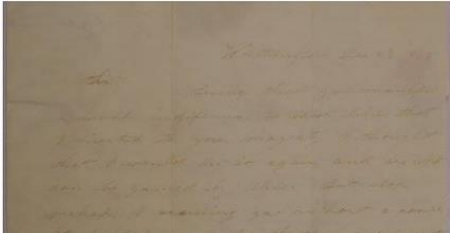
- Home
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- Notes
- Offers
- Jobs
- Community

Worthington Historical Society
Published by Kate LaLonde · December 29, 2017 ·

Today in 1839, Mary Johnson wrote the following letter to her brother William, while he was away at the Huron Institute in Milan. While telling the stories, she provides some details about everyday life at the Johnson home (The Orange Johnson House), such as: her father reading politics with other men, and paring apples.

This letter, along with other letters from the Society's Johnson-Sessions collection are available on the Worthington Libraries website worthingtonmemory.org as part of a project supported in part by an award from the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board, through funding from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), National Archives and Records Administration.

<http://www.worthingtonmemory.org/.../letter-william-m-johnson...>



Letter to William M. Johnson of Milan, Ohio from Mary Johnson of Worthington, Ohio

This letter was written to William M. Johnson in Milan, Ohio from Mary Johnson, his sister, of Worthington, Ohio. Johnson begins the letter by teasing her brother for...

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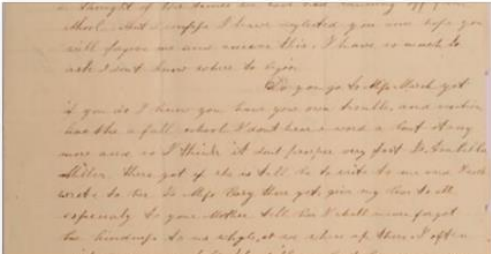
Dec 21, 2017

Worthington Historical Society
Published by Kate LaLonde · December 21, 2017 ·

Today in History! On December 21, 1839 Mary Johnson's friend Elizabeth Beckwith of Somerset, Ohio writes to her. You can look at images of the original letter as well as transcripts on the Worthington Libraries website worthingtonmemory.org.

Letters from the Johnson-Sessions collection are continually being added to the site and the project is supported in part by an award from the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board, through funding from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), National Archives and Records Administration.

<http://www.worthingtonmemory.org/.../letter-mary-johnson-wor...>



Letter to Mary Johnson of Worthington, Ohio from Elizabeth Beckwith of Somerset, Ohio

This letter was written to Mary Johnson of Worthington, Ohio from Elizabeth Beckwith of Somerset, Ohio. Beckwith was a friend and classmate of Johnson's at...

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Worthington Historical Society
Published by Kate LaLonde · August 23, 2017 ·

Check out a letter written from Mary Johnson Sessions to her mother Achsa from her honeymoon on this date 170 years ago, August 23rd, in 1847. The letter from the Society's collections has recently been added to the Worthington Libraries website worthingtonmemory.org as part of a project funded in part by the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board. The Johnson-Sessions Collection is being added to "Worthington Memory" over the next few months, and visitors to the site can read transcripts and see images of the original records and interact with the website to learn about the related people and places.

<http://www.worthingtonmemory.org/.../letter-mrs-achsa-johnson...>



Letter to Mrs. Achsa Johnson of Worthington, Ohio from Mrs. Mary Johnson Sessions in Niagara Falls, New York

This is a letter written to Achsa Johnson from her daughter, Mary Johnson Sessions, while on her honeymoon at Niagara Falls in New York. In the letter, Mary describes...

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Narrative of self-assessment about how the project met the objectives in the application

The purpose of this project was to improve access to the Worthington Historical Society archives through digitizing documents in the Johnson/Sessions Collection. The project involved creating digital scrapbook entries for the *Worthington Memory* database that is owned and maintained by the Worthington Libraries. The Johnson/ Sessions collection is an important group of documents that records the daily life and activities of an early Worthington family, that of Orange Johnson. Not only did the Johnson family play a prominent part in early Worthington life, but the family was also involved in politics and development across the state of Ohio. The marriage of daughter Mary Johnson to Francis C. Sessions and their influence in Columbus later in life are also evident in this collection of documents.

The Johnson/Sessions collection is comprised of approximately 150 items ranging from letters, receipts, pamphlets, and other miscellaneous documents. There are approximately 30 items that do not fit the objectives of the *Worthington Memory* database, as they are only tangentially related to people and/or topics from the Worthington area. From the remaining documents, the main focus was to create scrapbook entries for the letters and drafts of letters which make up the majority of the file.

The estimated goal was 100 items in 100 hours. The final numbers were 93 completed scrapbook entries in approximately 109 hours. At the beginning of the project, Adult Services Librarian, Meredith Southard, who specializes in local history, trained Worthington Historical Society Director Kate LaLonde and Megan Stypinski, who was selected to work on the project, on how to ingest items into the database. Creating a scrapbook entry has several components: adding descriptive metadata about each item; making and uploading a transcript of the item; cropping photographs of the item; and then compressing the photographs into zip files and uploading them to the entry. The overall process was more time consuming than initially described during the training. Also, because the library is in the process of working with DPLA to add the Worthington Memory database to their website, several changes were made to the ingestion process that required Megan to revisit some complete entries. Additionally, because Worthington Historical Society was not the only source adding to the database and throughout the duration of the project, the database suffered several viruses and other glitches that caused the site to crash, in turn delaying progress.

Ultimately, scrapbook entries were created for all relevant letters and drafts, two report cards, and a few receipts. These items help to paint a picture of life in Worthington, Ohio in the 1800's. From these documents, one can learn about the scenery in Ohio and surrounding states, women's clothing, social life, everyday needs, schooling, and courtship. We hope that making these documents digitally accessible through Worthington Memory will increase the visibility of the Worthington Historical Society's collections; in particular the Johnson/Sessions collection.

Itemized list of expenditures – Project Cost Match

For this project, Megan Stypinski was paid a total of \$1200 in two installments, one at the midpoint of the project and one at the end of the grant period.

The OHRAB grant provided \$600, the Worthington Public Library contributed \$300 to the match, and the Worthington Historical Society provided another \$300 to the match in order to reach a total of \$1200.