

Reference Code MS 119

Repository: Georgia Room, Augusta-Richmond County Public Library System, 823 Telfair St., Augusta, Ga 30901

Title: Polhill/Miller/Carswell Family Papers

Date: 1848-1909

Extent: 1 box

Scope and Content: Material contains original family letters, family photographs, business receipts, correspondence, memoirs, family history information, email correspondence from descendants, transcribed family letters (not in original).

Name of Creator: John and Linda Beck

Administrative/Biographical Information: Materials were donated in February 2012 by John and Linda Beck of Hephzibah, Georgia who discovered the papers in an "old trunk."

https://infoweb.newsbank.com/apps/news/document-view?p=WORLDNEWS&t=favorite%3A1252FEAF%21Augusta%20Chronicle%20Collection%20Historical%20and%20Current&sort=YMD_date%3AD&maxresults=20&f=advanced&nbid=M5CK4DVDMTYwMDk1NTg1Ni4zNDkyNjA6MTo4OnJmLTUwNjMy&val-base-0=polhill&fld-base-0=alltext&bln-base-1=and&val-base-1=2/2012&fld-base-1=YMD_date&docref=news/16482BCC18905C50

Conditions governing access: No restrictions

Related resources: MS 121 Carswell-Kilpatrick Family Letters. Cornelia Polhill Miller is the mother of Lavinia Miller Carswell, wife of James Alexander Carswell, brother to Anna and Sarah Carswell.

Folder 1:

- Photo #1- The home of Cornelia Polhill Miller and Lavinia Miller Carswell in Hephzibah, Georgia.
- Photo #2- Women on steps of house in Hephzibah. Top row: Cornelia Polhill Miller, Lavinia Miller Carswell (aka Big Mama). Middle row: Louise Carswell York, Orlean Carswell Walton (aka Sister), Frances Walton (aka Fannie). Bottom row: unknown. Lavinia Miller Carswell was the daughter of Cornelia and mother to Louise and Orlean. Louise Carswell York was later the mother of Gus, Orlean, Lavinia, and Marion. Orlean Carswell Walton was mother to Frances Walton (and Miller Walton who is not pictured).
- Photo #3- Group on the front steps of home in Hephzibah, Georgia. Left to right: Gus York, Louise Carswell York, Cornelia Polhill Miller, Ellet Walker, May Brabham Walker, J. Frank Carswell, Jane Pearce Carswell.

Folder 2:

- Two (2) pieces of ephemera from The Sunday School Board of Southern Baptist Convention, Nashville, Tennessee, dated 1896.
- Letter addressed to "Mrs. C. E. Miller" in Hephzibah, Georgia from the Women's Baptist Missionary Union of Georgia, dated 1917.

Folder 3:

- Postcard photograph showing Josephine Holcomb Hudson at three (3) months old. Postcard inscription: For my dear "Big Mama." Josephine Hudson was the daughter of Ethel Holcomb Hudson, daughter of Flavius Josephus Holcomb and Louisa Polhill Holcomb. "Big Mama" or Lavinia Miller Carswell was first cousin to Ethel Holcomb Hudson and first cousin once removed to Josephine Holcomb Hudson.

Folder 4:

- Six (6) business receipts made out to Cornelia E. Miller (5) and one to her husband Baldwin Miller.

Folder 5:

- Three (3) undated Christmas cards to Cornelia Polhill Miller; one from Cornelia E. Carswell, daughter of Lavinia and James Alexander Carswell, granddaughter of Cornelia Miller. Second card from unknown person expressing sympathy. Third card is unmarked.

Folder 6:

- Seven (7) various Augusta business receipts to James Alexander Carswell, husband to Lavinia Miller Carswell, daughter of Cornelia Polhill Miller. Dated 1878 – 1888.

Folder 7:

- Two (2) marriage invitations addressed to Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Carswell (Lavinia and James Carswell). Marriages of Mollie Fryer and James Bothwell (1880); and Eva Thompson and M. W. Berry.

Folder 8:

- Ten (10) birthday letters to Cornelia Polhill Miller dated January 30, 1909, her 75th birthday.

Folder 9:

- Letter addressed to “cousin” from “Connie”. The letter discusses among other family news, the marriage of “Josephine” or “Josey” and “cousins” four (4) month old infant “Robert Lee”. The letter is dated April 5th, the year unknown. The letter is postmarked New Rochelle, New York.

Folder 10:

- Letter written to Cornelia Polhill, from her brother John Polhill, from Grooverville, Georgia on September 4, 1848, dispensing brotherly advice.

Folder 11:

- Letter written to Cornelia Polhill from her mother Julia Polhill from Hawkinsville, Georgia on May 10, 1851. The letter chronicles Julia’s travels visiting friends and family members near and around the Okmulgee River. She mentions her children by name.

Folder 12:

- Letter written to Cornelia Polhill from Eveline Gilman from San Francisco, California on August 20, 1851. The letter chronicles Gilman’s world travels on the ship the Delia Maria. Places visited: the equator, Faulkland Islands; Cape Horn; Cape Deceit; Calcutta; Singapore; Liverpool; London.

Folder 13:

- Letter written to Cornelia Polhill Miller from her mother Julia Polhill, dated 5 February 1852, from Rosehill. She writes of the death of a neighbor, illnesses in the family, marriages, and news of the day.

Folder 14:

- Letter written to Cornelia Polhill Miller from her mother Julia Polhill, dated 27 March 1852, from Rosehill. She writes of family news.

Folder 15:

- Letter written to Cornelia Polhill Miller from Annie Felt, dated 6 June 1857, from Savannah, Georgia. She writes of a painful tooth extraction.

Folder 16:

- Letter to Cornelia Polhill Miller from her brother John Polhill, dated 3 June 1869, Gum Creek, Dooly Co., Ga. He speaks of his desire to be a man of God and of his wife Susan.

Folder 17:

- Letter to Cornelia Polhill Miller from a cousin in Macon, Georgia, dated 20 January 1871, detailing family news and a long absence.

Folder 18:

- Letter to Cornelia Polhill Miller from her brother John Polhill, dated 25 March 1871 from Gum Creek, Dooly Co., Ga. He writes of family news.

Folder 19:

- Letter to Cornelia Polhill Miller from her daughter Lavinia Miller, dated 8 April 1871. She writes of school events and family news.

Folder 20:

- Letter to Cornelia Polhill Miller from her daughter Lavinia Miller, dated 19 April 1871. She writes of her graduation from Lagrange Female College/Academy.

Folder 21:

- Letter from oldest daughter Elle Carswell, to her mother Lavinia Carswell, dated 19 April 1891. She writes of her reputation being ruined by a jealous gossip.

Folder 22:

- Letter from Sara Barron to Dottie Demarest, Local History Librarian (retired) dated 2 December 2013. Sara Barron is the second great granddaughter of Cornelia Polhill Miller. The letter lists a number of items Ms. Barron donated to the Polhill/Miller/Carswell Family Papers collection in 2013 after viewing the original papers.
- Copy of a photo from Mother's Day 1921 showing Cornelia Polhill Miller, Lavinia Miller Carswell, and Bertha Carswell on the back row, and James J. Carswell and son J. J. Carswell on the front row. Original with Sara Barron.
- Two (2) photocopied letters from Lavinia Miller Carswell to Ethel Holcombe from 1914 in which she invites Ethel to have her wedding at her home in Hephzibah, Georgia and one letter to Charles Hudson, Ethel's future husband. Ethel and Charles were the grandparents of Anne Philips Hill. Original with Sara Barron.
- Copy of newspaper clipping of the wedding between Ethel and Charles Hudson which took place in the home of Lavinia and James Carswell in Hephzibah, Georgia. Original with Sara Barron.

Folder 23:

- Photocopies of twenty-four (24) courtship and early marriage letters (1878-1880) between Flavius Josephus Holcomb and Louisa Polhill, sister of Cornelia Polhill Miller. Donated by Sara Barron.
- Photocopy of letter from Lavinia Miller Carswell (Aunt Vin) to Ethel Holcomb Hudson, daughter of Flavius and Louisa Polhill Holcomb. Raised by Lavinia Miller Carswell.
- Photocopy of letter from Ellet Walker to Ethel Holcomb Hudson.

Folder 24:

- Letters from Cornelia Polhill Miller's descendants.
- Polhill Reunion Event Schedule, 7 December 2008, The Magnolia House, Louisville, Georgia.