3-1-1890

Donation Correspondence

Lucinda Cornell

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RESTRICTIONS ON DIARIES:

1. All copyrights remain with Mrs. Merriss (Carol K.) Cornell and family.

2. Family members of Lucinda Lenore Merriss Cornell and Mrs. Merriss (Carol K.) Cornell will be allowed to view the original diaries in the Otterbein College Archives during normal operating hours. The archives reserves the right to deny service to any family member who does not follow the rules and regulations of the Otterbein College Archives for handling archival materials.

3. Regular patrons of the archives will have unrestricted access to the diary transcripts, but must be able to prove a need for the original diaries before access will be granted.

4. The Lucinda Lenore Merriss Cornell diaries, accompanying family letters and envelopes, and related family materials may not be deaccessioned or sold by the archives.

5. The original diaries will be loaned to Mrs. Merriss (Carol K.) Cornell for the purposes of their appraisal or display during lectures and/or presentations about the author or the Cornell family.
August 11, 1993

Mrs. Merriss Cornell
201 S. State St.
Westerville, OH 43081

Dear Mrs. Cornell,

I would like to express my appreciation for your generous gift of the 1885 diary of Alice Blanche (Blanche) Cornell, to be included in her mother's collection of diaries.

As you know, this diary adds significantly to the collection, as there is not a diary in existence from Lucinda Cornell during that time period. Blanche's writings not only allow us to know what the family was experiencing at the time (during the illness of John Cornell, her father), but are a suprisingly wonderful perspective on the family which Lucinda's diaries cannot provide. Blanche sees the world through the eyes of a seventeen year old student, and provides us with a new way to interpret the events she describes.

Once again, thank you for your generosity in presenting the archives with this volume, it will be treasured.

Sincerely,

Melinda Gilpin
College Archivist

Courtright Memorial Library
Westerville Ohio 43081
614 - 898 - 1215
December 9, 1994

Mrs. Carol K. Cornell
201 S. State St.
Westerville, OH 43081

Dear Carol,

Thank you for the donation of the Civil War and other family letters to the Otterbein Archives. As you are well aware, they make a tremendous addition to the Lucinda Lenore Merriss Cornell diaries and other collection materials we hold. The college truly appreciates your generosity with these wonderful family materials.

As we discussed during my visit and the transfer of custody of these materials, you will receive 2 xerox copies of each letter as soon as we can make them. (I will also make sure you receive all the copies of the diary transcripts which are complete as well.) The conservation work on these materials will begin today, and as soon as the diary transcripts are complete, we will begin transcribing these letters (if not before). I will also make sure that Oberlin Archives receives a copy of the letter we discussed.

Enclosed please find a copy of your donation form for your records, along with a typed inventory of the letters and other materials that have been added to the Cornell Collection.

Once again, thank you for your generosity in sharing these remarkable and unique family materials with the research community, I am sure they will prove to be a valuable resource.

Sincerely,

Melinda Gilpin
College Archivist
OTTERBEIN COLLEGE
COURTRIGHT MEMORIAL LIBRARY
OTTERBEIN ROOM HISTORICAL COLLECTION

Westerville, Ohio 43081  614/898-1215 or 614/898-1761

The Otterbein Room Historical Collection has received from:

Carol K. Cornell  

201 S. State St.  

Westerville  

14 letters 1843-1927
14 misc. documents (news clippings, etc.)

Detailed list will be sent when inventory is complete 12/7/94

Property Rights: Upon transfer to the Otterbein Room Historical Collection the above described property is granted irrevocably and absolutely to Otterbein College.

Copyrights: Any copyrights the donor may possess in this property or any other property in the custody of the Otterbein Room Historical Collection are hereby granted to Otterbein College.

These items are accepted with appreciation and with the understanding that the Archives may use full discretionary powers, both immediately and in the future, in deciding the retention and use of these items. Items which are not usable will be returned to the donor, if so desired.

Any restrictions are described as follows:

Donor  

Mellie A. Gilpin  

O.C. Representative/Title  

Date  

12/7/94
The Otterbein Room Historical Collection has received from:

Mrs. Merrisa (Carol K.) Cornell

201 S. State St.

Westerville, OH 43081

(614) 882-2515

the following materials: Otterbein College Tuition Receipts for Angeline Catherine Bishop Cornell:

- Nov. 19, 1847
- Dec. 27, 1851
- Jan. 25, 1848
- Jul. 21, 1848
- Mar. 2, 1849
- Feb. 23, 1850

Blended school tuition for Alice Jane Cornell:

- April 8, 1847

Property Rights: Upon transfer to the Otterbein Room Historical Collection the above described property is granted irrevocably and absolutely to Otterbein College.

Copyrights: Any copyrights the donor may possess in this property or any other property in the custody of the Otterbein Room Historical Collection are hereby granted to Otterbein College.

These items are accepted with appreciation and with the understanding that the Archives may use full discretionary powers, both immediately and in the future, in deciding the retention and use of these items. Items which are not usable will be returned to the donor, if so desired.

Any restrictions are described as follows: will be photographed and framed and displayed.

Mrs. Merrisa Cornell (Carol K.)

May 28, 1993

Date
The Otterbein Room Historical Collection has received from:

Mrs. Merriss (Carol K.) Cornell

(Name)

201 S. State St.

(Address)

Westerville, OH 43081 (614) 882-2515

(City, State, Zip) (Telephone number)

the following materials:

Otterbein College Tuition Receipts for Angeline Catherine Bishop Cornell

Nov. 19, 1847; Jan. 25, 1848; July 21, 1848; March 2, 1849

Feb. 23, 1850; Dec. 27, 1851

Blendon School Tuition Receipt for Alice Jane Cornell

April 8, 1847

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Any restrictions are described as follows:

Donor

Carol K. Cornell

Date

June 8, 1993

O.C. Representative/Title

Melinda Gilpin/College Archivist

Date

June 8, 1993
Lucinda L. Merriss Cornell Diaries
Preservation and Storage Needs
Cost Estimate

Storage

Firesafe Chest (2 x $44.99 each)  $ 89.98

Preservation

Option 1 - In-house work

Materials:
- Heavy Weight Folder Stock (1 pkg) $140.95
- Natural White Adhesive (quart) $ 23.55
- Dispensing Bottle $  7.85
- Lead Weight $  28.75

Total (excluding 52 lbs. S&H) $201.10

Plus Storage Boxes $291.08

Option 2 - Contract Work (BGSU estimate)

Materials (.75 per box)  $ 41.25
Labor (14 hrs @ $25 per) $350.00
Transportation $  65.00

Total $456.25

Plus Storage Boxes $546.23
Preliminary Inventory
Lucinda Lenore Merriss-Cornell Materials
Otterbein College Archives Project

Diaries

1855 - 1864  Hilliard residence
Married Dec. 27, 1864

1865 - 1911  Westerville residence
1872 - missing
1885 and 1888 written by Blanche Cornell (daughter)
1889 - diary and ledger
1890 - two volumes

Total of 58 individual books in all.

Letters

Total of 53 letters and postcards dating from the mid-1800's. Most are either to or from:

John B. Cornell
Lucinda L. M. Cornell
Geneva Cornell

There are other authors or recipients of one or two letters each.

The Otterbein College Archives Project will include the above materials during the proofreading and transcription process.
MEMO

TO: President DeVore, c/o Barbara Rutherford
FROM: Melinda Gilpin, College Archivist
DATE: June 1, 1993

Enclosed you will find materials relating to the donation of two major collections to the archives. Both collections came from the same donor, Mrs. Merriss (Carol K.) Cornell of 201 S. State St. in Westerville.

The Lucinda Lenore Merriss Cornell Diaries are significant records of Westerville and Otterbein events between 1864 and 1911. These diaries were the subject of a book by Dr. Harold Hancock - From the Cornell Diaries - published in 1979. There have been several organizations (including the Ohio Historical Society and the Westerville Historical Center) which have attempted to acquire the original materials for their collections and failed in recent years. At the time of Dr. Hancock's publication, there was an attempt made to acquire the materials for Otterbein as well, which was also unsuccessful. I am pleased to state that we do have the collection in our possession, acquired Fri. May 28.

The Otterbein College Tuition Receipts donated by Mrs. Cornell are also significant additions to the archives, as they are the oldest original receipts known to exist. They show tuition paid for a middle-aged widow during the first term Otterbein was open in 1847, and provide further proof to Otterbein's commitment to diversity and open admission for both genders. They also document the earliest non-traditional student at Otterbein we have found. Also acquired Fri., May 28.

Would it be possible for you to write a letter of thanks to Mrs. Cornell for the two collections of materials? It would mean a great deal to her, as recognition and publicity are very important to her in this matter. The negotiation process for this collection has been a long and complicated one, and it was well worth the wait in consideration of the significance of these collections to Otterbein and prestige they will bring to the archives and library.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

enc: 3
MEMO

TO: Patti Kennedy, Staff Writer

FROM: Melinda Gilpin, College Archivist

DATE: June 1, 1993

Enclosed you will find the information for a press release on the donation of two collections to the Archives. Although they were both donated by the same person, please be sure to treat them as separate donations and collections. Please send me a copy of the final press releases, and include the information in any college publication (such as On Campus and Towers) which would be appropriate. As to outside news agencies, please release the information to the Public Opinion, Columbus Dispatch, and anyone else you can think of. I would appreciate copies of any and all articles on this subject that you or your clipping service find, as the donor has requested them. Please make sure to emphasize the significance of these materials to the College and the Archive's collections.

Call if you have any questions. Thanks a bunch, Patti!!