Title: Norris Family Papers

Call Number: Mss-1705

Inclusive Dates: 1801 – 1956

Bulk: 4.0 cu. ft.

Location: ER, Sh. G006
OS SM "N" (9 items)
OS LG "N" (5 items)
MV, Sh. 71 (photos)
MV, F26 (Photo album)
WHS (1 book)

Historical Note: Charles Wilkins Norris was born in Milwaukee on July 15, 1849, and died on October 12, 1916. He spent his entire life in this city and worked from the time he was eighteen at the G. D. Norris Company, ship chandlers, which his father, Greenleaf, started until he retired in 1883 to follow other pursuits. In addition to his business interests, Charles supported various humanitarian causes such as the Wisconsin Humane Society, Legal Aid Society, and Civil Service Reform Club. Charles married Fannie Wells in 1880.

Fannie Wells Norris was the daughter of Daniel Wells Jr., and was born on January 1, 1852 and attended Seventh Ward School which is where she met her husband. Fannie was respected for her many contributions to charitable causes with one of the main ones being her support and interest in the Norris Farm for boys. This was run by her son, Daniel (Niel) Wells Norris as a home for boys that needed help and a place to live. Fannie died on April 27, 1937.

Scope and Content: The bulk of this collection is made up of the correspondence and financial papers of Charles W. Norris and his wife, Fannie Wells Norris. Other family members are represented in various pieces of correspondence, documents, and clippings. They include Greenleaf Dudley Norris, Alice Brooks Norris, Charlotte Norris, Daniel (Niel) Wells Norris, and others. Some clippings, genealogy, and scrapbooks are here as well as family photos.

Administrative Note: The collection was reworked on Jan. 2009 by Steve Daily.

Charles W. Norris Correspondence	**Box #**	**Folder #**
C.W. Norris correspondence 1855	1	1
C.W. Norris correspondence 1860-1863	1	2
C.W. Norris correspondence 1864-1868	1	3
C.W. Norris correspondence 1869-1872	1	4
C.W. Norris correspondence 1873-1876	1	5
C.W. Norris correspondence 1876-1879	1	6
C.W. Norris correspondence 1876-1879	1	7
Light Horse Squadron correspondence found in music box 1880-1887	1	8
C.W. Norris correspondence 1880-1881	1	9

C.W. Norris correspondence 1882-1883	1	10
C.W. Norris correspondence 1884-1885	1	11
C.W. Norris correspondence 1886	1	12
C.W. Norris correspondence 1887	1	13
C.W. Norris correspondence 1888	1	14
C.W. Norris correspondence 1889	1	15
C.W. Norris correspondence 1890	1	16
C.W. Norris correspondence 1891	1	17
C.W. Norris correspondence 1892	1	18
C.W. Norris correspondence 1893	1	19
C.W. Norris correspondence 1894	1	20
C.W. Norris correspondence 1895	1	21
C.W. Norris correspondence 1896	1	22
C.W. Norris correspondence 1897	1	23
C.W. Norris correspondence 1898	1	24
C.W. Norris correspondence 1899	2	25
C.W. Norris correspondence 1900-01	2	26
C.W. Norris correspondence 1902	2	27
C.W. Norris correspondence 1903	2	28
C.W. Norris correspondence 1904	2	29
C.W. Norris correspondence 1905-1907	2	30
C.W. Norris correspondence 1908-1916	2	31
C.W. Norris correspondence no date	2	32
Fannie Wells Correspondence	**Box #**	**Folder #**
Fannie W. Norris correspondence 1865-1880	2	33
Fannie W. Norris correspondence 1881-1887	2	34
Fannie W. Norris correspondence 1888-1890	2	35
Fannie W. Norris correspondence 1892-1898	2	36
Fannie W. Norris correspondence 1899-1904	2	37
Fannie W. Norris correspondence 1905-1908	2	38
Fannie W. Norris correspondence 1909-1913	2	39
Fannie W. Norris correspondence 1914-1919	2	40
Fannie W. Norris correspondence 1920-1927	2	41
Fannie W. Norris correspondence 1928-1936	2	42
Fannie W. Norris correspondence no date	2	43
Fannie W. Norris sympathy cards & notes upon her death 1937	2	44
Fannie W. Norris sympathy cards & notes upon her death 1937	2	45
Misc. Norris Family Correspondence	**Box #**	**Folder #**
Alice B. Norris correspondence 1848-1899, 1902, 1930	3	46
Charlotte Norris correspondence 1825-1849	3	47
Daniel Wells (Niel) Norris correspondence 1888-1935	3	48
Elizabeth Norris correspondence 1820-1850	3	49
George Norris correspondence 1849-1852	3	50
Greenleaf D. Norris correspondence 1839-1895	3	51

Lottie Norris correspondence 1842-1848	3	52
Shepard Norris correspondence 1816, 1822, 1859	3	53
John Brooks (father of Alice B. Norris) 1861-1862	3	54
Misc. correspondence	3	55
Diaries of Norris Family	**Box #**	**Folder #**
Diaries 1880-83, 1902-06, 1912-16	3	56
Diary of Charles W. Norris 1880-1902	3	Loose in box
Bills, Invoices, & Financial Documents	**Box #**	**Folder #**
Documents 1870s-1881	3	57
Documents 1882-1883	3	58
Documents 1884-1885	3	59
Documents 1886-1889	3	60
Documents 1890-1893	3	61
Documents 1894-1895	3	62
Documents 1896-1899	3	63
Documents 1900-1913	3	64
Documents 1914-1917	3	65
Documents 1918-1920	3	66
Documents no date	3	66A
Documents 1921	4	67
Documents 1922	4	68
Documents 1922, 1930-31, 1975-1983	4	69
Real Estate/Land Documents	**Box #**	**Folder #**
Documents 1865-1902	4	70
Misc. Norris Family Items	**Box #**	**Folder #**
Wisconsin Home & Farm School Association certificates 1907, 1910	4	71
Milwaukee Boat Club 1873, 1876	4	72
Publications 1864-1920	4	73
Clippings 1929-1956	4	74
Norris/Wells family genealogy items	4	75
Norris/Wells family genealogy items	4	76
Early documents relating to Norris family 1801-1847	4	77
Letterhead and business forms	4	78
Summons & complaint in regards to will of Daniel Wells Jr. 1902	4	79
Miscellaneous	4	80
Gift record book of Fannie W. Norris 1902-1923	4	Loose in box
Gift record book of Fannie W. Norris 1914-1922	4	Loose in box
Gift record book of Alice/Fannie W. Norris 1930-1933	4	Loose in box
Gift record book of Fannie W. Norris 1932-1933	4	Loose in box

Scrapbook of Sarah B. Patten 1874-1887	4	Loose in box
Book *Three Years in North America* given to D. W. Norris on 21st birthday	4	Loose in box
Scrapbook contents	4	81
Scrapbook contents	4	82

Oversize Items	**Location**
Certificate for C. W. Norris pilot license to operate steam vessels on Lake Michigan, Nov. 7, 1874	OS Sm "N"
Certificate of marriage for Charles W. Norris and Fanny Wells, April 10, 1881	OS Sm "N"
Certificate appointing C. W. Norris to corporal of the Light Horse Squadron, Aug. 1, 1883	OS Sm "N"
Certificate appointing C. W. Norris to first sergeant of the Light Horse Squadron, Oct. 1, 1884	OS Sm "N"
Certificates showing C. W. Norris to be an active member of the Light Horse Squadron of Milwaukee, April 11, 1881 and Feb. 24, 1886	OS Sm "N"
Passport from U.S. Dept. of State for Charles W. Norris, April 15, 1911	OS Sm "N"
Certificate of honorable discharge from Light Horse Squadron for Charles, April 6, 1891	OS Sm "N"
Certificate of honorable discharge from Light Horse Squadron for Charles, July 13, 1889	OS Sm "N"
Certificate of membership in the State Historical Society of Wisconsin for Daniel Wells Jr., Nov. 15, 1886	OS Sm "N"
Passport issued by U.S. envoy to Great Britain for Charles W. Norris, Nov. 17, 1877	OS Lg "N"
Certificate of honorary membership for Mrs. F. E. Norris to the Wisconsin Veteran's G.A.R. Staff Drum Corps Association, April 5, 1922	OS Lg "N"
Certificate of appreciation for help in restoring France after First World War for Mrs. Charles Norris	OS Lg "N"
Certificate of inspection for steam yacht Mystery owned by C. W. Norris, Oct. 20, 1874	OS Lg "N"
$1000 bond for Southern Minnesota Railroad Company signed by Daniel Wells Jr., Oct. 15, 1858	OS Lg "N"
Photos	MV, Sh. 71

Books	**Location**
Dana, Richard Henry Jr. *Two Years Before the Mast.* 1911 (1840). New York, NY: Houghton Mifflin Co.	WHS