Shanklin and Avery family papers, 1828-1959.
.5 cubic ft.

Summary: Letters, diaries, deeds and other papers of the related Shanklin and Avery families; diary of John Gilbert Shanklin of Evansville, Indiana, in which he wrote of people and places observed on a summer trip through the northwestern United States, 1863; deeds, appraisals, indentures and other legal papers, 1828-1873, mostly involving land in Evansville; cancelled checks, receipts, bills, 1828-1868; also, playbills, programs, clippings, and miscellaneous items; taped interview with transcript of Malvina Harlan Shanklin, 1959, in which she provides reminiscences of her early life.

Indexes: Item list.
Cite as: Shanklin and Avery Family. Papers, #1635. Department of Manuscripts and University Archives, Cornell University Library.


RGPN: 1635

Forty-five letters (1832-1932), mostly on family matters, to and from members of the Shanklin family and of the Avery family, to whom the Shanklins were related by marriage and who owned a summer home, "Hillside", in Wyoming, Wyoming County, New York; one letter from the poet Edwin Markham to a Mr. Brown (1932) thanking him for a copy of the book "Chronicles of an American Home", the story of "Hillside", a copy of which is included in the collection, and containing reminiscences of his visits to "Hillside"; deeds, indentures and other legal papers (1828-1873), mostly in connection with land in Evansville, Indiana, the home of John Gilbert Shanklin who married Gertrude Avery, including one deed (1829) on land in Evansville belonging to James Van Rensselaer, Jr., of Utica, New York; and a few cancelled checks, receipts and bills (1829-1868), three unsigned poems, and a small leather case containing calling cards of John Shanklin.

Card entries:

Markham, Edwin See main card
Napoleon III See France (Paris)
Van Rensselaer, James, Jr. See main card
Webb & Erie Canal

France (Paris)
Indiana (Evansville)

Elections (Congressional, 1866)
Reconstruction (1866) See Elections...

One 4" box in stacks:

DFS: 6/5/58
Description for report: x
Cards: 13

Ack. sent x
Donor card made
Mailing list card x
Tracer in corres. file x

For more recent material, see [redacted].
1. Jane Perry (?) to Mr. Shanklin, July 20, 1832, Carrickmagra.
2. F. E. Walker, Henderson, to Isaac T. Preston, New Orleans, Aug. 31, 1836.
5. Benjamin Avery to his wife, Susan, Jackson, Miss., to Louisville, Ky., Dec. 27, 1848.
7. J.P. Walworth, Natchez, to Benjamin Avery, June 22, 1848.
8. Marias (?) to Mrs. F.H. Avery, Hartford, August 27, 1848.
9. J.G. Shanklin, Evansville, to James N. Shanklin, Crawfordsville, Ind., Nov. 26, 1850, March 4, 1851, April 1, 1851, May 2, 1851.
10. George Shanklin (?) from Brother "Gil" (Gilbert Shanklin (?)), Geneva, Switzerland, Feb. 10, 1864, describing prices and supplies for Mr. Avery.
12. George from Gil, Carrickmagra, Oct. 22, 1866, criticizing party politics.
13. G.W. Shanklin to Francis W. Miller, Evansville to Cincinnati, May 9, 1871.
14. B.F. Avery to Gertie (?), Louisville, Nov. 15, 1879.
21. G.W. Shanklin to Mr. Wilson, Evansville, Ind., Apr. 13, 1892.

22. Edwin Markham to Mr. Brown, West New Brighton, N.Y., Aug. 8, 1932.

+ undated letters (10)...

In stacks.

Correspondence (73 letters) of John Gilbert Shanklin, editor of The Courier, the Evansville, Indiana, newspaper, his wife, Gertrude Avery Shanklin, whom he married in 1879, their daughters Susanna and Malvina, grandmother Susan Howes Look Avery, aunts, uncles, and cousins on both sides of the family, as well as scattered letters from friends and business acquaintances; one diary of John Gilbert Shanklin, 1863; three tape recordings with 22 pp. typed transcription of Miss Malvina Shanklin's reminiscences of her family and their life in Louisville, Evansville, and their summer home, "Hillside," Wyoming County, N.Y., made in 1959; playbills and opera programs (19 items), newspaper articles and clippings, and miscellaneous items. Detailed checklist attached.

Card entries:

[key card as above]
Foster, John Watson
Harlan, John Marshall
Hubbell, Henry Salem
Miller, Joaquin
Prescott, Marie
Ream, Vinnie
Robinson, Helen Avery
Avery Family
Goonley Family
Shanklin, (John) Gilbert
Germany (description)
Italy (description)
Civil War (Northern opposition to)
Gold rushes (California, 1849)

Acknowledgment. 
Accession list. 
Accession folder
Desc. for report
Donor card
Mailing list card
Corres. file tracer
Catalog cards - Temp.
Perm.

Incorporated with original acquisition and rearranged in one 4" and one 2" box.

Shanklin, Malvina, Collector. Additional Shanklin and Avery Family Papers, 1848-1950

LETTERS

1. July 24, 1848 - B. F. Avery in letter to wife, wrote a copy of his letter to D. H., a relative, dissolving a partnership. [Arms]


3. December 22, 1853 - From Benjamin F. Avery to Susan (?) on board the "Southern Belle" by Ground Gulf, (Louisiana?). Tells of business transaction made and anxiety to return home to see his children.

4. May 11, 1859 - From Gill to his father from Frankfort, Kentucky [?]. Explains amount of money needed for school there and how it would be used.

5. July 12, 1863 - From Southfield, Redford, near Detroit from Gill to his parents during his travels thru Ohio, Michigan. Describes the warm hospitality. Discusses fully his views on the Civil War - friendly negotiations, realize plight of South if emancipation took place. Use of the "olive branch" (Diary tells of travels); see p. 5 of this inventory.

6. September 30, 1865 - To Edie from her cousin Gill from Augsburg (Europe). Philosophizes and tells of accident - sprained ankle and experience with Perry family, with whom he lives.

7. October 8, 1866 - From Gilbert Shanklin to his sister Lizzie Shanklin from Strumorier describing Bologna -- its streets, palaces, people and also Venice -- its palaces, people and advances. Original (poor condition) and 2 typed copies.

8. December 19, 1866 - From Gill Shanklin to his Edie wishing her a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.


10. April 15, 1867 - From Benjamin Laforce McDougall to Miss Gatty expressing sadness to be leaving his seat at her desk because of the Board's decision to change the meeting place. (sketches)

11. November 22, 1867 - From Gill to Edie from Berlin. Departure from Braunschweig sad. Start in at University in Berlin soon.

12. November 15, 1868 - From Gill to his sister from Evansville, Ind. News and family talk.
LETTERS (cont.)
15. June 17, 1879 - Vinnie/Roxie sends a congratulatory wedding note to Hon. John Gilbert Shanklin -- from Washington, D.C.
17. August 3, 1881 - Dan Mac Cauley's of Boston writes Gil Shanklin a personal note recalling old days gone by. Mentions the Shanklin baby girl.
20. July 26, 1885 - Mary L. Coonley writes to her Uncle Gill Shanklin from Hillside (school?). Thanks him for a newspaper he sent her.
21. December 30, 1886 - Marie Prescott (actress) writes thank you note to Editor Smokey of the Evansville, Ind. paper, for a prized criticism. From Buffalo, N.Y. [The Courier, of which JGS was editor.]
22. February 2, 1887 - Marie Prescott writes to Evansville's newspaper critic to give good notices of her Co. due to upset within the players. They are coming to Evansville soon.
23. August 22, 1887 - Mallie Shanklin writes her pa-pa (Gill) from Hillside.
25. July 21, 1889 - Gill Shanklin writes to daughter, Mallie from Hot Springs, Arkansas where he went for treatments on his eyes.
26. August 4, 1889 - To Mallie from her grandmother for her birthday wish. 
27. October 10, 1889 - To Hon. John G. Shanklin from D. W. Robertson from Asheville, N.C. thanking him for his account of the Scottsburg meeting.
28. March 27, 1892 - To Susanna and Malvina Shanklin from their mother in Anchorage.
29. March 30, 1892 - To Susanna and Malvina Shanklin from their mother in Anchorage telling date she will return home.
30. April 4, 1892 - C.B.R. (?) from the Pendennis Club in Louisville, KY. thought it would be nice to send to Gil the seconds who backed his name for membership -- somehow Gil Shanklin was sent the letter.
LETTERS (cont.)

31. April 20, 1892 – Susanna and Malvina Shanklin receive a letter from their mother from Indianapolis, Ind. She and her husband are at a convention.


33. November 14, 1892 – Mallie received a note from her grandmother.

34. March 23, 1893 – As mentioned on April 4, 1892 – list of seconds from the Pendennis Club.

35. July 18, 1893 – Mallie, in Chicago, receives a letter from her father in Evansville. His eyes are poorer. The girls and their mother are attending the World’s Fair.


37. August 31, 1893 – Mallie’s uncle writes to her from Evansville.

38. October 15, 1893 – Susanna, in Chicago, writes to her friend and tells her of the fun she is having at the Fair.

39. August 10, 1894 – To Mallie at Hillside from her father at Evansville.

40. December 29, 1896 – To Mallie from her cousin, Helen Avery Robinson.

41. January 6, 1897 – To Mallie from her cousin, Helen Avery Robinson.

42. January 13, 1897 – To Mallie from her cousin, Helen Avery Robinson.

43. January 18, 1897 – To Mallie from her cousin, Helen Avery Robinson.


45. May 11, 1897 – To Mallie from her cousin, Helen Avery Robinson.

46. September 4, 1897 – W. T. Price wrote letter of sympathy to Gil Shanklin upon the death of his brother, George.

47. February 18, 1898 – To Susanna from her father, in Evansville, Ind. dictated to Mallie.

48. June 8, 1898 – To Susanna from her grandmother (and whom she was named after) Susanna in Evansville and grandmother in Anchorage, Ky.

49. October 21, 1901 – To Susanna from Mallie, speaks of weddings, gossip, etc.


51. November 18, 1901 – To Susanna S. from her father, misc. gossip.
52. April 16, 1902 - To Mallie S. from her mother. Mallie is traveling with the Bingham family.

53. April 17, 1902 - To Mallie S. from her mother from Anchorage, Ky.

54. April 19, 1902 - To Susanna S. from her father dictated to A.P. (?) from Evansville Ind. General news.

55. October 14, 1902 - To Susanna S. from her father dictated to A.P. from Evansville Ind. General news.

56. December 9, 1902 - To Susanna S. from her father dictated to A.P. from Evansville, Ind. General news.

57. January 28, 1903 - To Susanna S. from her father dictated to A.P. from Evansville, Ind. General news, mentions affliction Susanna had.

58. October 21, 1909 - To Gertrude (Avery?) from her sister Lydia in Rochester. Lydia is loaning Mallie money to study French and take singing lessons.

59. June 21, 1912 - To Gertrude and the girls (? Mallie and Susanna?) from their mother from Hillside.

60. August 12, 1912 - To Susanna, Mallie, Goldie, from grandmother Avery from Hillside.

61. September 16, 1913 - to J. W. Shanklin from S. M. Macdonald from Wyoming, N.Y. (Hillside) report on Mrs. Avery.


63. March 17, 1916 - To Susanna S. from her cousin Edith Reilly concerning some early clippings of her father's activities which she sent Susanna.

64. February 25, 1950 - To Mallie from Willard Hubbell of Coral Gables, Fla. discussing list prices of portrait done by Henry Salem Hubbell. Printed list price accompanies this.

UNDATED LETTERS

1. To Uncle George from Malvina H. Shanklin sometime in 1893. Written from Chicago, Ill.

2. To Gertrude from her sister Lydia from Rochester.

3. To Gertrude from her sister Lydia discussing the loan of money to Mallie for singing.

4. To Gertrude from her sister Lydia again discussing Mallie and her singing.
UNDATED LETTERS (cont.)

5. To Mallie from her grandmother.

6. To Susanna from her father.

7. To Susanna S. from her father dictated to Mallie. Note from Mallie on the end. Susanna is in Virginia teaching school.

8. J. W. Raymond (?) to Dr. Shanklin from Louisville, Ky. declines invitation because of previous engagement.

9. To J. W. Shanklin from S. M. M. (?)

Envelopes added to letterhead collection:

1. The Denison, Erwin Hotel Co. Proprietors, Indianapolis, Ind. - addressed to Misses Shanklin, 620 Locust Street, Evansville, Ind.

2. St. George Hotel, Electric Light in Every Room -- addressed to Critic of Courier.


DIARY


PHOTOGRAPH

1. Lydia Avery Coonley Ward.

PLAYBILLS -- Transferred to Broadside Collection, 6/61.

1. Opera House - Margaret Mather, "The Honeymoon". Nov. 11, 1886 - poor condition

2. Opera House - Kate Castleton, "A Paper Doll" Nov. 11, 1886, Nov. 16, 1886

3. Opera House - Mrs. D. P. Bowers, "Lady Audley's Secret", 1886


5. Opera House - Marie Prescott, "Czeka", Dec. 29, 30, 1886, poor condition


PLAYHILLS (cont.)

12. Opera House - Mr. & Mr. W. J. Florence, "Our Governor", Jan. 31, 1887.
15. Opera House - Bennett and Moulton's Comic Opera Co., "Chimes of Normandy", Feb. 1887. poor condition

PROGRAMS

1. Pamphlet of operas put on by the National Opera Co., Exposition Music Hall in Louisville, Ky. June 1, 1887 - July 4, 1887.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

2. Countryside April, 1900 - letter to the Editor from G. A. Shanklin.
3. Countryside April 16, 1900, "Wise Sayings From Mrs. Avery's Note Book."

MISCELLANEA

1. Letter case - marked "Old Letters, G. H. Shanklin". -- discarded per KJ, 6/61
3. calling card of Joaquin Miller
4. Fragment of unidentifiable paper.
5. Clipping of newspaper concerning Gil Shanklin in politics.
6. Poem which accompanied a Christmas gift from Waldo (?) to his mother.
BOOKS (picked up by Mrs. Fox, 11-2-59)

1. Notes and Extracts about Money, Banks, etc. Started July, 1902, 11 pages handwritten quotes and book lists (leather bound notebook).

2. Printed 86 page book entitled Dinner to Mr. Justice John Marshall Harlan 1877-1902. Containing speeches at dinner given in his honor by the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States on December 9, 1902.

Inventory made by L. Barnard, 11-12/59. Typed and corrected, 6/61.