LOUIS GEX OBUSSIER PAPERS, 1803–1843

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Cataloging Information

Processed by

Paul Brockman November, 2010

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department William Henry Smith Memorial Library Indiana Historical Society 450 West Ohio Street Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	4 folders
COLLECTION DATES:	1803–1843
PROVENANCE:	Mrs. J.C. Gorum, Deadwood, SD, August, 1967; Swann Galleries, New York, NY, November, 2010
RESTRICTIONS:	None
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ALTERNATE FORMATS:	
RELATED HOLDINGS:	
ACCESSION NUMBER:	1967.0809; 2010.0327
NOTES:	

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Louis Gex Obussier (1761–1845) was born in Canton de Vaud, Switzerland. He married his first wife, Lucille, sometime before 1790 and they produced six children. Gex Obussier came to the United States in the early 1800s on behalf of Swiss merchant Jean Mennet to manage land he had supposedly purchased in Virginia. The land proved non productive and Gex ended up joining John Dufour's Swiss settlement at Vevay, Switzerland County in Indiana Territory where he was a farmer and wine maker. Lucille Obussier died in October, 1806 and he married Marian Goley six years later and they had one daughter, Columbine. Gex Obussier moved to New Harmony, Posey County, in 1826 and served as the town's postmaster from 1829–1839. During his New Harmony years, he lived with his daughter and son in law, Columbine and William Pelham.

Sources:

Information in collection.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The papers primarily deal with Louis Gex Obussier's business operations and are mainly in French, 1803–1843. There is correspondence with Jean Mennet in Lausanne, Switzerland, regarding the worthless land purchased sight unseen and later of the land purchased near Vevay. There also are letters and bills from merchants in Pittsburgh regarding supplies for Gex Obussier and the Dufour settlement. There also are two letters to Columbine Pelham in New Harmony from Vevay, 1838, 1840.

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CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

- 1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: http://opac.indianahistory.org/
- 2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
- 3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
- 4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, SC 0620).
- 5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.