



State of Tennessee
Department of State
Tennessee State Library and Archives
403 Seventh Avenue North
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312

KEMP, AUGUSTA THEKLA (HASSLOCK)
(1882-1963)
PAPERS
1617-1967

Processed by:

Mary Washington Frazer
Archival Technical Services

Accession Numbers: 1831, 1968.185, 1968.394, 1970.013

Date Completed: December 2, 1968

Location: III-K-2

INTRODUCTION

The papers of Augusta Thekla (Hasslock) Kemp, geologist, paleontologist, and science teacher of Seymour, Texas, were given to the Tennessee State Library and Archives by her sister, Miss Clara Whorley Hasslock of Seymour, Texas, and Nashville, Tennessee.

The materials in this finding aid measure .42 linear feet. There are no restrictions on the materials. Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the Augusta Thekla (Hasslock) Kemp Papers may be made for purposes of scholarly research but reproduction on a large scale is restricted.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Augusta Thekla (Hasslock) Kemp Papers, consisting of one volume and about 110 items covering the years 1617-1967, are composed of correspondence, genealogical data, documents, two obituaries, pamphlets and reprints, sketches, and a manuscript copy of Mrs. Kemp's *Pegasus Limping*, a book of her poems, essays, reminiscents, etc.

Correspondence includes two letters written in 1849 by Thekla (Dombois) Hasslock (Mrs. Kemp's grandmother) describing her trip to the United States as an immigrant, her stay in New Orleans, and the river trip to St. Louis and her farm nearby. She makes most interesting observations on the appearance of the people and the economy of the day.

There are about 45 letters ordering the book, *Pegasus Limping*, from former students and friends of Mrs. Kemp, all with high tribute to her as an inspiring teacher and a beloved person of great integrity. This book was compiled, edited and published after her death by her sister, Miss Clara Whorley Hasslock, and is a collection of poems, essays, reminiscences, etc. that Mrs. Kemp wrote for her own pleasure. Included also are a few sketches she wrote for her nephew when he was seven years of age.

Genealogical data on the Hasslock and Dombois families traces both back to the early 1600s in France and Germany. Included are copies of about 25 birth, death, and marriage certificates from Germany, covering the years 1689-1847, for the Hasslock family. There are a few historical sketches on various early ancestors in France and Germany.

The reprints and pamphlets deal with Mrs. Kemp's work as a paleontologist. There is a reprint from the *Journal of Paleontology*, Vol. 36, No. 5, September, 1962, of her article, "The Stratigraphic and Geographic Distribution of Cephalopod Genera in the Lower Permian of Baylor County, North Central Texas." Two pamphlets describe the Southwest Collection at Texas Technological College in Lubbock, Texas, which includes the Augusta Hasslock Kemp Papers, 1882-1966, "...materials reflecting her life as a teacher in Seymour, a geologist, and an author. Mrs. Kemp discovered a new fossil, which was named *Knightsoceras kempae* in her honor." The March, 1964, *ALCALDE*, the University of Texas Alumni Magazine, on page 26 notes "An extensive collection of geological materials including about 5,000 specimens of fossil invertebrates has been given to The University Bureau of Economic Geology for study. The materials were from the geological library and collection of Mrs. John F. Kemp (Augusta Hasslock, '21, '26) of Seymour..."

Included is the obituary, October 6, 1877, of Mrs. Kemp's grandfather, Herman Wilhelm Hasslock, who was born in Germany and came to this country in 1849, settling near St. Louis, Missouri and moving to Nashville, Tennessee in 1861. There is an obituary with a picture of Mrs. Kemp, 1963.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Augusta Thekla (Hasslock) Kemp

- 1882 July 21. Born in Nashville, Tennessee; educated in Nashville public schools
- 1901 Received teaching diploma from Peabody College, Nashville, Tennessee
- 1902 Received B.S. degree from the University of Nashville
- 1910 Received M.S. degree from the University of Chicago, majored in Geology
Taught in Nashville, Tennessee; Arizona; Oklahoma and Texas
- 1914 Married John Franklin Kemp, her school principal
- 1920 They moved to Seymour, Texas; he, superintendent of schools until his retirement in 1940; she, head of science department until retirement, 1943
- ca. 1925 Organized the Explorers' Club at the Seymour High School for the outside study of geology, insects, astronomy, etc.
- 1963 July 18. Died in Seymour, Texas

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

1. Correspondence – Hasslock, Thekla (Dombois)
2. Correspondence – Miscellaneous, 1926-1962
3. Correspondence – Tributes to Mrs. Kemp, 1965
4. Documents, 1689-1847
5. Genealogical data – Dombois and Hasslock families, 1617-1967
6. Genealogical data – Sketches, 1737-1907
7. Obituaries – 1877; 1963
8. Pamphlets and reprints, 1962-1967
9. *Pegasus Limping* – Manuscript copy
10. Sketches – by Augusta (Hasslock) Kemp