

Mme. Annette Collection

May 2013

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Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 Box
COLLECTION DATES:	1898-2009
RESTRICTIONS:	None
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	See also copies of spreadsheet which lists all Mme. Annette's <i>Bulletin</i> articles thus far identified, including many not in this collection. Interviewee and topic matter are also listed.

BRIEF HISTORY

Perhaps the best local newspaper reporter at the turn of the century wrote for the *Bulletin* and published a column as simply "Mme. Annette." Her frequent columns included lively interviews with early settlers, visits to local sites such as the underground coal mine and county jail, activities of local clubs and literary groups, fashion, social issues such as women's suffrage and poverty, and more.

Research suggests that this mystery woman may have been a Mrs. Annette or Anna Ferguson of 212 ½ E. Washington St. In the 1900 census, she is reported as a childless 40-year-old widow born in Iowa in 1860. Her columns appeared in the *Bulletin* from late 1898 through late 1900. Her work life before and after that remains a mystery for now.

SCOPE NOTE

This collection includes copies of many of Mme. Annette's articles in the *Bulletin* plus limited research into her identity. The collection also includes a listing of all published articles thus far identified including many that are not in this collection.

BOX AND FOLDER INVENTORY

Folder 1: Mme. Annette Biographical and General Info

- 1.1 Research notes and correspondence on Annette, 5 pp, 2011.
- 1.2 "The Bulletin's Madame Annette a most versatile journalist" ("Page from Our Past" column), Archivist Bill Kemp, March 1, 2009, p. B3.

The remaining folders include copies of Mme. Annette's articles. Each is from the *Daily Bulletin* unless otherwise noted.

Folder 2: Mme. Annette Articles, Oct 1898-Feb 1899

- 2.1 "Observations: Mme. Annette Discourses Entertainingly Upon Local Clubs," October 29, 1898.
- 2.2 "Interesting Budget from the Spritely Pen of Mme Annette," October 30, 1899, p.6.
- 2.3 "Observations. Madame Annette Discourses on Female Suffrage and Other Topics of Interest," November 4, 1898, p. 7.
- 2.4 "Observations. Bloomington School Children Tell Mme. Annette What They Would Do If Rich," November 6, 1898, p. 2.
- 2.5 "Brokaw on Old Days. Bloomington's Millionaire Pioneer Talks with Annette," January 8, 1899, p6. (Lincoln, David Davis, S. Douglas, Gov Moore, Wm Flagg, Dr. Hobbs)
- 2.6 "Talk With W.B. Read. Discourses With Annette on Life and Literature," January 10, 1899, p. 2.
- 2.7 "A Grand Old Lady. Mrs. Martha Tompkins Wards Tells of Early Bloomington," January 11, 1899, p3.
- 2.8 "Library Visitors. Your Character Portrayed in What You Read," January 13, 1899, p3. (Miss Eva L. Moore, librarian)
- 2.9 "Tales from the Ark. Adam Guthrie Discourses Entertainingly with Annette. The Winter of the Deep Snow," January 15, 1899, p2.
- 2.10 "Days of Pathfinders. Bloomington When the Indians Were the Monarchs. Tales of First Settlement," January 18, 1899, p3. (Mrs. Paist)
- 2.11 "A Life of Toil. Such Has Been the Career of Mr. R.H. Parmelee. The Pixley & Co Manager," January 19, 1899, p 2.
- 2.12 "Perserverance Wins. That is the Key to Success Says Mr. B.F. Hoopes," January 20, 1899, p3.
- 2.13 "Dr. Herman Schroeder. Was Sentenced to be Shot and Escaped to America," January 24, 1899, p3.
- 2.14 "Upward Step by Step. The Substantial way of Ascending Any Business Ladder," January 25, 1899. (Mr. C.J. Northrup)

- 2.15 "A Queenly Woman: An interview with the Venerable Mrs. A.M. Gridley," January 26, 1899.
- 2.16 "Mr. G.A. Ensenberger. Believes People Must Have Better Goods than Formerly," January 27, 1899, p2.
- 2.17 "Mr. Dawson on Indians. His Associations with Them in McLean County," January 29, 1899, p. 2.
- 2.18 "Venerable Dr. Rogers. He Talks Most Entertainingly with Annette," February 6, 1899.
- 2.19 "Success in Harness. Mr. B. S. Green Tells of the Degrees by Which He Ascended," February 9, 1899, p. 2.
- 2.20 "The Proebel Doctrine. Improved Manner of Teaching the Young Idea How to Shoot," February 10, 1899, p. 7.
- 2.21 "Hon A. E. Stevenson. Our Distinguished Townsman is Interviewed by Annette," February 12, 1899, p. ?
- 2.22 "Pillars of the Community. Among the Lingering Giants of Other Days. Talk with the Hodge Bros.," February 13, 1899, p. 3.
- 2.23 "Poverty Is No Crime. There Are Many Ethically Rich But Poor in Purse," February 14, 1899, p. 7.
- 2.24 "Found Coal and Water. What the Old North Shaft Did for Bloomington. Mr. T. J. Bunn Tells Annette," February 15, 1899, p. 7.
- 2.25 "With the Jail Birds. Annette Visits the Bastile and Chats With Criminals," February 16, 1899, p. 6.
- 2.26 "Ideal Grandmother. The Venerable Mrs. Keiser Talks With Annette," February 17, 1899, p. 3.
- 2.27 "Successful Lawyers. Ex-Gov. Fifer Tells Annette the Necessary Adjuncts," February 19, 1899, p. 2.
- 2.28 "Liked No Democrat. Dr. Hill Found it That Way on His Arrival in Town," February 20, 1899, p. 2.
- 2.29 "Actress and Writer. Frances Drake Tells Annette About Reporting an Indian Outbreak," February 22, 1899, p. 3.
- 2.30 "Charming In Old Age. Annette Finds a Type in Mrs. Hamilton Spencer," February 23, 1899, p. 7.
- 2.31 "The Tramp Problem. Chief Schroeder Tells Annette the Situation," February 28, 1899, p. 3.

Folder 3: Mme. Annette Articles, Mar 1899-Jun 1899

- 3.1 "In Ante-Bellum Days. Mrs. Rice Tells Annette of Experiences of Southerners," March 1, 1899, p7.
- 3.2 "Sixty-Two Years Ago. Mrs. Lydia Pearson tells Annette of Early Illinois," March 2, 1899, p2.
- 3.3 "Big Problems of Life. L.H. Kerrick Tells Annette About Education and Vocation," March 5, 1899, p2.
- 3.4 "Talking of Old Times. Ex-Sheriff Goodheart Chats Entertainingly with Annette," March 7, 1899, p2.
- 3.5 "Teach Housekeeping. Eight Girls are Learning to Sew and Cook Under Woman's Club Care," March 10, 1899, p7. (Mrs. Dr. Marsh)

- 3.6 "For Almost a Century. Mrs. Martha Hoopes Tells Annette of Other Days," March 15, 1899, p9.
- 3.7 "In the Good Old Times. Mrs. Jane Hendryx Tells Annette of Early Days," March 28, 1899.
- 3.8 "The First Undertaker. Homer Wolcott Furnishes Annette an Interesting Story," April 18, 1899, p. 2.
- 3.9 "The Old Time Doctor. Lee Smith Tells Annette of the Early Days," May 9, 1899, p1.
- 3.10 "Down in a Coal Mine. Five Hundred Feet Underneath the Ground" (McLean County Coal Co.), May 12, 1899, p. 1.
- 3.11 "Making a Magazine," May 14, 1899, p1. (Albert Brady)
- 3.12 "Geology Illustrated. The Elaborate Collection of George B. Harrison," May 15, 1899.
- 3.13 "Tales of Olden Times. Mrs. Brokaw's Charming Story of Pioneer Days," *Weekly Bulletin*, May 19, 1899, p. 11 (?).
- 3.14 "She Reads the Future. Annette Visits Aunt Sophia Huggins the Soothsayer," May 26, 1899, p2.
- 3.15 "The Early West Side. J.O. Rodgers the Veteran Grocer Tells Annette," June 1, 1899, p. 1.
- 3.16 "Pioneer School Days. Peter Folsom Tells Annette of teaching in the Forties," June 6, 1899, p1.
- 3.17 "Bloomington Homes. What the Nursery Should Be," June 23, 1899, p1. (Mrs. Dr. Homer Wakefield)
- 3.18 "The Early Newspaper. Annette Talks With Captain E. J. Lewis, Pioneer Editor," June 29, 1899, p. 7.

Folder 4: Mme. Annette Articles, Jul 1899-Feb 1900

- 4.1 "Bloomington Homes. Annette talks with Mrs. Stephen Smith a Famous Manager," July 7, 1899, p1.
- 4.2 "The Early Theatre. Oscar Wakefield tells Annette of the Opening of Historical Phoenix Hall," July 12, 1899, p1.
- 4.3 "Bloomington Homes. Mrs. A.M. Kitchell tells Annette of Housekeeping without the Aid of Servants," July 23, 1899, p1.
- 4.4 "Bloomington Homes. Annette talks with Mrs. Stephen Smith a Famous Manager," July 7, 1899, p1.
- 4.5 "The Story of the City. Mr. J. F. Humphreys Tells Annette of Early Bloomington," July 24, 1899, p. 1.
- 4.6 "An Evening of Melody. Annette's Impressions of the Bulletin Band Concert," July 26, 1899, p. 1.
- 4.7 "Bloomington Homes. Mrs. Hamilton on Differences Between School and Housekeeping," July 30, 1899, p1.
- 4.8 "Bloomington Homes: Mrs. J.A. Miller Gives Annette Some Happy Suggestions," August 6, 1899, p.1.
- 4.9 "A Pioneer Wedding. Annette Tells of the Brokaw Marriage," August 13, 1899, p1.

- 4.10 "Almost the Century. Annette Entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Wallace," August 28, 1899.
- 4.11 "Improved Facilities. Dr. Marsh Tells Annette of Medical Schools Today and Those a Generation Ago," September 1, 1899, p1.
- 4.12 "Bloomington Homes. The Servant Girl Problem," September 24, 1899, p1. (Mrs. Jas M. Fordice)
- 4.13 "Turkey Days Gone By. Reminiscences of Early Thanksgiving Celebrations," November 26, 1899, p1.
- 4.14 "Old School Democrat. Annette Talks with J.W. Finley of Chenoa. A Pioneer Irish American," December 7, 1899, p2.
- 4.15 "Make Them Reform. Promising Selection of Men," December 31, 1899, p1.
- 4.16 "Stories of Maik. Annette Has a Chat with a Noted Merchant, Farmer and Traveler" (Maik Livingston), January 4, 1900, p. 5.
- 4.17 "Den Thompson in Art," January 5, 1900, p. 1. (Albert Montgomery)
- 4.18 "Magazine Departure. Annette Tells Us Pleasingly of Striking Changes. A Valuable Literary Review," January 7, 1900, p. 9.
- 4.19 "Chat for the Children. Annette Talks of the History of Mother Goose and Mary Lamb," January 10, 1900, p. 7.
- 4.20 "England and America: Mrs. Martha Frost Tells Annette of the Two Countries," February 5, 1900, p.7.
- 4.21 "Facts as They Are: Early History of Bloomington Told by Mrs. Virginia Graves," February 11, 1900, p. 9.
- 4.22 "A Life of Activity. William Bach Sr. Tells Annette Interesting Incidents," February 19, 1899, p.1.

Folder 5: Mme. Annette Articles, Mar 1900-Jul 1900

- 5.1 "A Leader of Women. Mrs. Potter Palmer as Seen and Interviewed by Annette," March 18, 1900, p.1.
- 5.2 "About Life in Paris. Nellie Van Schoick Writes Entertainingly of Student Life," April 10, 1900, p.1.
- 5.3 "Feared Not Indians: 'Aunt Lizzie' Funk Talks," April 22, 1900, p 1.
- 5.4 "By Accident or Fate? How Some Leading Citizens Came to Locate Here," April 30, 1900, p1. (Ed Cole, Sig Heldman, J.P. Jung, H.J. Higgins)
- 5.5 "City's First Mayor: Mrs. Scott's Recollections," May 8, 1900, p.8.
- 5.6 "One Hundred Years," May 9, 1900, p.1. (Francis Anthony)
- 5.7 "What the Magnet Was: Annette Asks Other Leading Citizens the Reason for Choosing Bloomington," May 14, 1900, p1. (Abram Brokaw, Geo McIntosh)
- 5.8 "The Good Old Times: Mrs. Robert Fells Looks Back Over Ninety Year; Life of the Early Quakers," May 23, 1900, p.1.
- 5.9 "Origin of the Omish: Peculiarities of Their Religious Faith and Services," May 27, 1900, p.9.
- 5.10 "People and Things: Annette Writes of the First Band Concert and Other Things," May 28, 1900, p.5.
- 5.11 "In the Good Old Days: Mr. L.M. Temple Tells Annette Interesting Incidents," May 29, 1900, p 2.
- 5.12 "Story of Veteran: Robert Fells Tells Annette of Army Life," May 30, 1900, p.1.

- 5.13 "Early day Circuses," June 17, 1900, p.1. (Mrs. Ceatty Simmons)
- 5.14 "Census Takers' Woes. Annette Tells of the Queer Objections of Some Bloomingtonians," June 18, 1900, p. 2.
- 5.15 "Defends the Canteen. Annette Talks With a U.S. Recruiting Officer," June 21, 1900, p. 7.
- 5.16 "Incidents of the Fire. Annette Tells What She Saw and Heard," June 22, 1900, p. 2. (Mrs. Dr. Schroeder, Spencer Ewing)
- 5.17 "Visits Court House. Annette Tells of the Conditions Since the Fire," June 24, 1900, p. 1.
- 5.18 "Annette's Beauty Bureau. A Number of Anxious Inquiries Are Answered," July 4, 1900, p. 3.
- 5.19 "Working the Wires. Annette Tells of Big Rush During the Recent Fire," July 6, 1900, p. 6.
- 5.20 "Bookings for Grand. Annette tells of Attractions for Coming Season," July 8, 1900, p. 8. (Theater)
- 5.21 "A Harvest of Gold. Those Who Have Wheat Will Be Enriched," July 10, 1900, p. 1. (George Funk)
- 5.22 "Confession of Della. Light Opera Comedienne Tells of Her Many Troubles," July 11, 1900, p. 8. (Della Fox)
- 5.23 "Annette's Beauty Bureau," July 13, 1900, p. 3.
- 5.24 "Annette on New Buildings. Views of Architects—Good Materials Should Be Used," July 13, 1900, p. 3. (A.L. Pillsbury)
- 5.25 "A Wonderful Memory. Mrs. James Moore Vividly Recalls Many Historical Events," July 15, 1900, p.9.
- 5.26 "Believes War Exists. Annette Writes Upon the Present Chinese Situation," July 18, 1900, p. 1.
- 5.27 "Remembers the Lord. Mr. L.M. Temple Recalls Visit of Early English Scion," July 22, 1900, p. 9. (Lord Houghton)
- 5.28 "Colonial in Dramas," July 24, 1900, p. 8.
- 5.29 "Men in Shirt Waists," July 27, 1900, p. 2.
- 5.30 "Fair Ones Kicking. Dust Nuisance From the Big Fire Spoils Their Gowns," July 30, 1900, p. 4.
- 5.31 "Dislike the New King. Local Italians Say He is Quite Unlike his Father," July 31, 1900, p. 8.

Folder 6: Mme. Annette Articles, Aug 1900

- 6.1 "Training Fire Horses. Chief Mayers Tells Annette Some Interesting Things," August 1, 1900, p. 4.
- 6.2 "Defends 'Dutch Mike': Annette Comes to the Rescue of the Dynamiter," August 5, 1900, Pt 2, p. 1. (Dynamiting the courthouse dome)
- 6.3 "Life at Camp Lincoln. Captain Butler Tells Annette of the Week Spent There," August 7, 1900, p. 3.
- 6.4 "A Pioneer Politician: James Miller Held Important State Office during Fifties," August 9, 1900, p 2.
- 6.5 "Paid Him in Sausage," August 10, 1900 (Dr. John Miller interview)

- 6.6 "Tells of Paris Trip. The Big Exposition as Seen By Mr. Louis Howard," August 12, 1900, p. 9.
- 6.7 "Local Hotel History," August 14, 1900, p. 8.
- 6.8 "Trials of Reformers. Annette Writes of the Changes in Women's Habitments," August 15, 1900, p. 8.
- 6.9 "Enjoyments at Home. Local Places of Amusement as Seen by Annette," August 16, 1900, p. 2.
- 6.10 "Life at Dawson City. Mr. Frank Osborn Tells Annette of Klondike Country," August 19, 1900, p. 9.
- 6.11 "A Long Married Life. Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Story Celebrated Anniversary Today," August 20, 1900, p. 2.
- 6.12 "Why a Man Marries," August 22, 1900, p. 8.
- 6.13 "Will Soon Be Ninety. Mrs. Amelia Walton Has Reached Most Remarkable Age," August 23, 1900, p. 6.
- 6.14 "Ready for Veterans. Annette Writes of the Grand Army Encampment Preparations," August 26, 1900, p. 9.
- 6.15 "Makes Them Better. Annette Writes of the Results of Reform Institutions," August 27, 1900, p. 8. (Pontiac State Reformatory)
- 6.16 "The New Beauty Fad. Learning the Motions to Fly is now the Latest," August 28, 1900, p. 2.
- 6.17 "Discipline is Strict. Rules at the Pontiac Reformatory are Enforced to the Letter," August 30, 1900, p. 8.
- 6.18 "First Negroes Here. Mr. L. M. Temple tells Annette of Early Comers," August 31, 1900, p. 8.

Folder 7: Mme. Annette Articles, Sep 1900-Oct 1900

- 7.1 "Annette on Trusts. Airs them up in the Light as Viewed by a Woman," September 2, 1900, p. 9.
- 7.2 "The Early Campaigns. Mr. James H. Fouke Tells Annette Interesting Incidents," September 4, 1900, p. 2.
- 7.3 "How to be Beautiful. The Secret a Simple One when Once It is Known," September 5, 1900, p. 8.
- 7.4 "Work of Local Clubs," September 9, 1900, p. 9.
- 7.5 "Endless Prayer Chain," September 10, 1900, p. 2. (W.C.T.U.)
- 7.6 "Lesson in Lip Study," September 13, 1900, p. 2.
- 7.7 "Music in the Schools," September 14, 1900, p. 2.
- 7.8 "Mrs. Mandel in Europe," September 16, 1900, p. 9.
- 7.9 "Built Against Bible. Annette Says People of Galveston Disobeyed the Teachings," September 18, 1900, p. 8.
- 7.10 "Best Kind of Baths. Annette Answers an Inquirer upon this Subject," September 19, 1900, p. 3.
- 7.11 "Trip was Delightful. Miss Bessye Welty Describes Their Journey to Paris," September 23, 1900, p. 9.
- 7.12 "Hunting a New Home. Members of the Women's Club have not found Permanent Place," September 25, 1900, p. 8.

- 7.13 "The Heroine of Today. The Attributes are quite Unlike Those of Years Ago," September 26, 1900, p. 2.
- 7.14 "Wage System is Bad. Mr. George DuNah Tells Annette of Plan Used in Europe," September 28, 1900, p. 8.
- 7.15 "Wedded Fifty Years. Mrs. and Mrs. J. Newell Will Celebrate This Event Tomorrow," October 2, 1900, p.8.
- 7.16 "Last Day of Meeting. Convention of Disciples of Christ Nearing a Close," October 4, 1900, p. 2.
- 7.17 "Open Year's Work. The Amateur Musical Club Gave Their First Program Saturday Afternoon at Cooper Hall," October 7, 1900, p. 9.
- 7.18 "Of Historic Interest. Pictures Owned by C. C. Redgrave Admired at Convention," October 8, 1900, p. 3. (Artist Alexander Campbell)
- 7.19 "Beauty Bureau Queries. A Number of Anxious Inquires are Answered by Annette," October 9, 1900, p. 7.
- 7.20 "Doing a Good Work," October 10, 1900, p. 5. (Associated Charities)
- 7.21 "Good Things in Store. Annette Writes of Coming Events for Women's Club," October 11, 1900, p. 7.
- 7.22 "Nome Gold Fields. A Bloomington Boy Tells of His Trip to the Famed Regions of Alaska," October 14, 1900, p. 7. (John Moon)
- 7.23 "Much Work to be Done. Annette Tells of the Local Field for Associated Charities," October 15, 1900, p. 8.
- 7.24 "Trip Was Delightful. Mr. and Mrs. Mandel and Miss Mandel Home From Europe," October 17, 1900, p. 8.