

**O'BRYAN (ROBERT P.) FAMILY PAPERS**  
(Mss. 3100)  
Inventory

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections  
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library  
Louisiana State University Libraries  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

Reformatted 2003  
Revised 2011

## CONTENTS OF INVENTORY

SUMMARY .....	3
BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE .....	4
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE .....	4
INDEX TERMS .....	5
CONTAINER LIST .....	6

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Proper acknowledgement of LLMVC materials must be made in any resulting writing or publications. The correct form of citation for this manuscript group is given on the summary page. Copies of scholarly publications based on research in the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections are welcomed.

**SUMMARY**

<b>Size.</b>	463 items
<b>Geographic locations.</b>	Calcasieu Parish, La.; Vermilion Parish, La.
<b>Inclusive dates.</b>	1778-1958
<b>Bulk dates.</b>	1850-1900
<b>Language.</b>	English, Spanish, French
<b>Summary.</b>	Attorney of Vermilion and Calcasieu parishes, Louisiana. O'Bryan represented Vermilion Parish in the Louisiana House of Representatives (1879-1886) and was appointed attorney for the 14th Judicial District of Louisiana in 1890. Early papers relate to Spanish and territorial land grants. Early legal correspondence pertains to cases heard by Daniel O'Bryan, Robert's father, Clerk of Court for Vermilion Parish. Other papers of Robert O'Bryan include legal, political, and family correspondence.
<b>Organization.</b>	Arranged chronologically
<b>Restrictions on access.</b>	If microfilm is available, photocopies must be made from microfilm.
<b>Related collections.</b>	N/A
<b>Copyright.</b>	Copyright of the original materials is retained by descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. copyright law.
<b>Citation.</b>	Robert P. O'Bryan Family Papers, Mss. 3100, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
<b>Stack location(s).</b>	W:33, OS:O

## **BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE**

Robert P. O'Bryan was an attorney of Vermilion and Calcasieu parishes in Louisiana. While he was a resident of Abbeville, Louisiana, he represented Vermilion Parish in the Louisiana House of Representatives in 1879 and 1886. In 1890 he was appointed attorney for the 14th Judicial District of Louisiana.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

Early papers pertain to Spanish and territorial land grants, and include land patents and plats. Early legal correspondence (1830-1870) concerns cases heard by Daniel O'Bryan, Robert's father, who served as Clerk of Court for Vermilion Parish. Legal correspondence (1871-1900) pertains to the activities of Robert O'Bryan as an attorney for the town of Abbeville and as an attorney and notary public in Vermilion and Calcasieu parishes. Legal cases concern soldiers' pensions, requests for pardons, and the collection of bad debts. Financial papers include tax receipts, statements from New Orleans commission merchants, receipts for sales of molasses in New Orleans, and a pocket almanac and account book. Political correspondence includes a letter (Apr. 2, 1887) concerning the debate over construction of a railroad in Vermilion Parish and a letter (Apr. 3, 1888) outlining procedures to be followed for the election of a Democratic candidate for State Representative in Vermilion Parish. Later correspondence concerns family matters and the heirs of Robert P. O'Bryan.

**INDEX TERMS**

Abbeville (La.)--History.  
Account books.  
Almanacs.  
Calcasieu Parish (La.)--History.  
Commission merchants--Louisiana--New Orleans.  
Land grants.  
Land grants--Louisiana.  
Lawyers--Louisiana.  
Louisiana--Politics and government--1865-1950.  
Molasses.  
O'Bryan, Daniel.  
O'Bryan, Robert P., b. 1844.  
Pensions--Law and legislation--Louisiana.  
Plats (maps)  
Railroads--Louisiana--Vermilion Parish.  
Vermilion Parish (La.)--History.

CONTAINER LIST

Stack

<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
W:33	1	1	Spanish land grant documents (1778-1797)
		2	Land grants and legal documents pertaining to land sales, many deal with claims of Joseph Trahan (1806-1827)
		3	Land and tax documents; litigation pertaining to John Choate, Joseph Lavergne, Solomon Morgan, and Archibald Morgan of Lafayette and St. Martin Parishes (1830-1849)
		4	Legal and tax documents; land transfers and litigation in Vermilion, Rapides, St. Landry, and Lafayette Parishes; legal correspondence pertaining to the heirs of Joseph Trahan; tax statements and receipts for Vermilion and Calcasieu Parishes (1850-1869)
		5	Legal documents pertaining to Robert Daniel O'Bryan's legal practice in Abbeville, Louisiana; receipts for sale of molasses in New Orleans; tax receipts for Vermilion Parish; personal and business letters (1870-1879)
		6	Legal correspondence of Robert P. O'Bryan; correspondence with Laurent Lacassagne, New Orleans commission merchant; Vermilion Parish tax receipts; letter (Apr. 2, 1887) concerning debate over building of railroad in Vermilion Parish; letter (Apr. 3, 1889) concerning agreement amongst Democratic candidates for Louisiana House of Representatives election; pocket almanac and account book (1889-1900)
		7	Legal documents; correspondence and discharge certificates of Charles A. McDonald in his request for a soldier's pension; correspondence concerning Theo Hester, in the Baton Rouge Penitentiary, in his attempt to obtain a pardon (1890-1893)
		8	Legal correspondence of Robert O'Bryan; correspondence concerning suit brought by J. S. Brown Hardware, Co. of Galveston, Texas, against A. Perry of Edgerly, Louisiana; document renewing W. W. Heard's attorney's license; correspondence with Atlanta National Building and Loan Association (1894-1899)

**Stack**

<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Box</u></b>	<b><u>Folder(s)</u></b>	<b><u>Contents (with dates)</u></b>
W:33	1	9	Legal documents, family correspondence; report card of Nettie O'Bryan from Southwestern Louisiana Industrial Institute; articles concerning the centennial of the secession of Louisiana, the Civil War, and surviving veterans; letter concerning the will and heirs of Mr. Perry (1900-1958)
		10	Printed items; empty envelopes (undated)
OS:O	--	1	Land grants (1846-1860); preemption of settlement (1832); sale of property M. M. Cohen to Emile Rost (1867); life insurance policy (1871); document appointing O'Bryan notary public in Calcasieu Parish (1890); document appointing O'Bryan district attorney for the 14 <sup>th</sup> Judicial District of La. (1890); certificate nominating Lucius O'Bryan as a Second Lieutenant in the Louisiana State National Guard (Apr. 18, 1896); investment loan contract (1909)