Guide to the Frank Norris Collection of Papers and Related Materials, [ca. 1889-1930]

Processed by The Bancroft Library staff
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Note
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Note
Arts and Humanities --Literature --American Literature
Collection number: BANC MSS C-H 80

The Bancroft Library

University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, California

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Processed by:
The Bancroft Library staff
Date Completed:
ca. 1969
Encoded by:
Charlotte Gerstein

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Collection Summary
Collection Title: Frank Norris Collection of Papers and Related Materials,
Date (inclusive): [ca. 1889-1930]
Collection Number: BANC MSS C-H 80
Creator: Norris, Frank, 1870-1902
Extent: Number of containers: 6 boxes, 2 portfolios, 1 volume and 1 oversize folder
Repository: The Bancroft Library
Berkeley, California 94720-6000
Physical Location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.
Languages Represented: English
Access
Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Frank Norris collection of papers and related materials, BANC MSS C-H 80, The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

Related Collections
Another valuable source of information in The Bancroft Library about Frank Norris is to be found in Franklin Walker's correspondence and papers pertaining to his biography of Norris

Identifier/Call Number: (BANC MSS C-H 79).


Material Cataloged Separately
Inscribed books and other books have been transferred to the book collection of The Bancroft Library. See book collection call numbers, A11... See also association file under Black, Janet: Janet Black Collection,


Also in the book collection are Dr. Frank Norris' Collection, Norris novels acquired from other sources, and a first edition of Sister Carrie with Theodore Dreiser's inscription to Norris.

Most photographs, drawings, paintings and sketches have been transferred to the Pictorial Collections of The Bancroft Library

Identifier/Call Number: (BANC PIC 1969.019.-020, 1969.19-Pic),

including four photographs of Polk Street scenes, San Francisco; Norris' home in San Francisco, 1822 Sacramento Street; three photographs of scenes from "Life's Whirlpool" silent movie; and four pictures of Frank Norris (in Portrait Collection).

Other photographs have been removed and cataloged separately with call numbers

Identifier/Call Number: Portraits 4381,
Identifier/Call Number: 4403-4415, and
Identifier/Call Number: 14166-14204.

Most of the drawings, notes, and sketches have been transferred to

Identifier/Call Number: Pictorial Collection 1969.20-A,

including Norris' oil painting of a horse's head; Norris' pen and ink sketch of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity dog, Monk; Norris' pen and ink sketch illustrating his article, "A Zulu War Dance;" and Will H. Low's water color illustration for Yvernelle.

Also, cataloged separately,

Identifier/Call Number: (BANC MSS C-H 96)

is film of the bibliographic reference cards on Norris prepared by the W.P.A. bibliography of American literature project. The University of Pennsylvania has the originals.

Scope and Content
The collecting of Frank Norris materials at The Bancroft Library began in 1952 with the project, originating in the English Department of the University, to reassemble the pages of the one Norris manuscript known to be extant, McTeague. The pages of the novel had been included in the 1928 Argonaut Manuscript Edition of Norris' collected works - one page, or half a page, to a set. To bring together these pages involved locating the owners of the sets (245) and persuading them either to donate pages or to allow them to be photostated. At the same time, an intense effort was made to locate other Norris papers, through his friends and heirs of friends. The quest met with great success and The Bancroft Library, as a result, has become the largest single repository of Frank Norris material in the country.

Most outstanding of the accessions were the gifts from Frank Preston, the son of Janet Black, the novelist's widow, in May 1953 (designated the Janet Black Collection in her memory); from Kathleen Norris, widow of Charles G. Norris (Frank's brother), in September 1954; and from Dr. Frank Norris, son of Kathleen and Charles Norris, in June 1969. A list of the papers included in each of these gifts is appended to this report, although some of these items have since been removed for separate cataloging.

The source of items in the collection has been noted on the folders. Cards have been placed in the manuscripts catalog for the major correspondents. The key included with this report provides information about the arrangement of the collection. Books and other printed items which originally constituted part of this collection have been removed, in most cases, for separate cataloging.

Biography
Frank Norris, who was born in 1870 and died in 1902, proved himself, in his short writing career, to be a major American novelist and one of the most distinguished literary alumni of the University of California. Born in Chicago, he came to San Francisco with his family when he was 14. After two years in an art school in Paris, he attended the University of California as a special student for four years, 1890-1894, and then did a year's additional work at Harvard University. He returned to San Francisco, became a newspaper correspondent during the Uitlander insurrection in South Africa and then a staff writer and sub-editor on the San Francisco Wave. Moran of the Lady Letty, which appeared serially in that magazine, brought him a job with S. S. McClure in New York, first as a reader and later as a correspondent for McClure's Magazine in Cuba in 1898. Returning to his job as publisher's reader, he applied himself seriously to his fiction and won recognition and fame. His writing was strongly identified with California, particularly his best known works McTeague (1899) and The Octopus (1901). He looked upon San Francisco as his home, and it was there he died in October 1902.

**Correspondence**

Letters written by Frank Norris (originals and photocopies), 1898-1902.
Scope and Content Note
Arranged chronologically; 5 folders.

Letters written to Frank Norris, 1902-1905.
Scope and Content Note
2 letters in folder

Letters written by various persons to Janet Black (Mrs. Frank Norris), 1902-ca. 1929.
Scope and Content Note
Arranged alphabetically by correspondents; 2 folders.

Letters concerning Norris (originals and photocopies), ca. 1897-1930.
Scope and Content Note
Arranged alphabetically by correspondent; 1 folder.

**Manuscript pages of McTeague.**
Scope and Content Note
Original and photocopies. Incomplete.

**Manuscript pages of other Norris novels with related material; oversize materials.**
The Octopus: notes; character sketches; two leaves of the original manuscript; photocopies of four additional leaves [See v. 4 for map]
The Pit: notes, author's foreword; one leaf of the original manuscript; photocopies of two additional leaves
Vandover and the Brute: notes; foreword by Charles Gilman Norris; title page
An Exile's Toast [poem]. Photocopy
"Frank Norris' Weekly Letter" - photocopies of articles published in the Chicago American, 1901

Norris' manuscript map drawn for The Octopus.
Manuscripts (original and photocopies) of articles, stories, and other writings.
Scope and Content Note
Included are themes written for Prof. Lewis E. Gates' course in writing (Eng. 22) at Harvard University; original manuscripts of the story, "Two Hearts That Beat As One," and the article, "News Gathering at Key West;" photocopies of story, "The Wife of Chino," and article, "From Dawn to Dusk - Fighting" (incomplete); manuscript of poem, "Poitiers."

Clippings, photocopies and typescript copies of published articles;
Scope and Content Note
Included are copies of articles from the Wave, the San Francisco Chronicle and various magazines.

Photocopy of letter from Book News; another from SF Examiner.
Clippings, photocopies and typescript copies of published stories.
Scope and Content Note
Included are stories from the Wave, The Argonaut, The Smart Set, The Saturday Evening Post, Overland Monthly and The Century Magazine. Some clippings are mounted and have notations and corrections by Norris.

Photocopies of inscriptions by Norris in presentation copies of his works.
Contracts, 1901-1930, for publication of The Octopus, The Pit, The Joyous Miracle, Vandover and the Brute, and the French translation of McTeague; contracts for dramatization of some of the novels.
Clippings - book reviews, obituaries, etc.
Articles about Norris.
Drawings, sketches, etc.
Scope and Content Note
All of the drawings, notes, and sketches have been transferred to Pictorial Collection 1969.20-A, except the following:

Norris' notes and drawings of medieval armor, made at the Musée d'Artillerie, Paris Schoolbook containing drawings done by Norris when he was 14.

Photographs
Scope and Content Note
Photographs from this box have been transferred to Pictorial Collection Identifier/Call Number: 1969.19 Pic

Miscellany
Brief notes by Norris concerning literature and art
List of manuscripts read by Norris as a professional reader for Doubleday, Page & Co.
Memorandum of Agreement, signed by Theodore Dreiser, witnessed by Frank Norris, Aug. 20, 1900.
Norris' report as reader on the manuscript, "Aida of the Coal Mines"
Four petitions by Norris submitted to the University of California
Two unidentified fragments in Norris' writing
Wedding announcement for Frank and Jeannette Norris
Photographs of invitation from Gelett Burgess to a dinner of "Les Jeunes" and of dinner menu
Programs for two plays, 1893-94, presented by Skull and Keys Society, University of California
Announcement of Norris memorial meeting and programme for the meeting, given by the Skull and Keys Society, 1912, San Francisco
Dust jacket for Grosset & Dunlap's photoplay edition of The Pit
Lists of Current Contents and Original Donations

Miscellany - Janet Black Collection
Photocopy of record of Norris' borrowing from the Harvard University Library
Printed map of the Mountain View Memorial Park Cemetery with notation of location of Norris' grave
Brochure announcing publication of A History of the Doggett-Daggett Family by Samuel B. Doggett
Jim Grady's script for "This Is San Francisco: Frank Norris"
Photocopy script of a play, "The Guest of Honour," by Christopher St. John, based on a story by Norris
Copy of title page of Hattie Hecht Sloss' Certain Poets of Importance and of foreword written by Charles G. Norris about his mother, to whom the book was dedicated "Frank Norris and California: 1969," Master's thesis by Marilyn Goodman
Program for the play, "The Pit," Jacobs Theatre, Elizabeth, N.J., Nov. 16, 1903
Kathleen Norris' grant to the Delta Xi Chapter of Phi Gamma Delta of custody of Norris' grave
"Reminiscences of Frank Norris, with Acknowledgments to Our Mutual Friend, Frank M. Todd"
Pages from a Dawson's Book Shop catalog describing Norris Collection offered for sale
Article from Southern Pacific Bulletin re Eric von Stroheim
Friends of The Bancroft Library: invitation to showing of film "Greed" and copy of keepsake issued on occasion of centennial of Norris birth
Poster and clipping advertising the movie "Greed"
Joseph Katz: greeting card with a reproduction of a Norris illustration and catalog for Norris exhibition, University of South Carolina, March 1970
Joseph Katz: The Manuscript of Frank Norris' McTeague: A Preliminary Census of Pages
Photocopy of Norris' Transcript, University of California
Material relating to the Lester Morris Memorial Kindergarten, San Francisco
Photocopy of dust jacket on advance copy of Vandover and the Brute
Brochure announcing the Argonaut manuscript edition of the writings of Frank Norris, 1928
Cover for "The Berkeleyan," Feb. 8, 1894, drawing by Frank Norris
Copy of check payable to Frank Norris
Dr. Frank Norris, 1969
Frank Norris Society
"The Octopus" essay in Alt Skal Med (Danish) by Erik M. Christensen
Scrapbook of clippings

Photocopy of list of Norris' themes, University of California, 1890-1892, with professors' comments; photocopy of list of students assigned to classes of [William D.] Armes and Dr. Hubbard in Freshman Themes, 1891
Inscribed books: removed for separate cataloging

Unpublished 25-page manuscript by Frank Norris, "News Gathering at Key West," describing Stephen Crane as a war correspondent, and telling of Norris' own experiences during the Spanish-American War
One page manuscript of Frank Norris' first published writing, the poem, "Poitiers"
Sheaf of notes (written on 8 pages) and drawings by Frank Norris, made in Paris, June 1889, and dealing with medieval armor
Brief composition written by Frank Norris, Dec. 13, 1894, for his Harvard class, English 22
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>v. 6</td>
<td>Two brief notes by Frank Norris concerning art and literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>v. 6</td>
<td>Mounted clipping of &quot;Fantasie Printaniere,&quot; dated in his handwriting by Frank Norris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>v. 6</td>
<td>Clippings of magazine publication of Parts 3, 4, 5 of &quot;Man Proposes,&quot; mounted by Frank Norris on pages on which he has made textual changes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>v. 6</td>
<td>Clippings of first printing of &quot;A Caged Lion,&quot; with several textual changes added in Norris' handwriting</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>v. 6</td>
<td>Clippings of magazine publication of &quot;Outward and Visible Signs&quot; with textual changes added in Norris' handwriting. (Some pages of &quot;She and the Other Fellow&quot; and &quot;Outside the Zenana&quot; are missing.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>v. 6</td>
<td>Clippings of first printing of &quot;Judy's Service of Gold Plate,&quot; with textual changes in Norris' handwriting</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>v. 6</td>
<td>Clipping of first printing of &quot;His Single Blessedness,&quot; with textual changes in Norris' handwriting</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>v. 6</td>
<td>Mounted clippings of first printing of &quot;A Case for Lombroso,&quot; with textual changes in Norris' handwriting</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>v. 6</td>
<td>Mounted clipping of first printing of &quot;His Dead Mother's Portrait&quot;</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td></td>
<td>Three photographs of Frank Norris</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td>One photograph of Gertrude Doggett Norris</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td>Four photographs of Holbrook Blinn's movie of McTeague</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td></td>
<td>Published photograph of Grays Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>v. 5</td>
<td>Three typescripts of &quot;Student Life in Paris&quot; by Frank Norris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
<td>Two copies of a pamphlet, Frank Norris, by Charles G. Norris F855 N64N6X</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>v. 6</td>
<td>Two copies of the program for the Frank Norris Memorial Meeting, Bohemian Club, 1912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>v. 5 and 6</td>
<td>Clippings of six articles and stories by Frank Norris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>v. 5 and 6</td>
<td>Copy of Saturday Evening Post (10/12/01) containing a story by Frank Norris, copy of The Critic (7/12) containing an article by Frank Norris, and copy of a page from the New York Sun (7/13/13) containing an article by Frank Norris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>v. 6</td>
<td>Copy of California Alumni Weekly (1/17/14) containing an article about Frank Norris, clipping from the Boston Evening Transcript (5/3/30) containing an article about Frank Norris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
<td>Pamphlet advertising The Pit F855 N64D6X</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td>Two copies of a Polish translation of The Pit F855.1 N855piP</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td></td>
<td>Copy of the first edition of The Responsibilities of the Novelist</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td></td>
<td>Two copies of Frank Norris' The Joyous Miracle F855.1 N855jo 1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td></td>
<td>Copy of Frank Norris: 2 Poems and Kim Reviewed, inscribed by the editor, Harvey Taylor, to Charles G. Norris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>v. 6</td>
<td>Scrapbook of clippings about Frank Norris (mainly obituaries) and containing a calling card with a note from Mrs. Norris</td>
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<tr>
<td>Item</td>
<td>Volume</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Volumes 5 and 6</td>
<td>Eight folders of photostats of Frank Norris articles and stories, prepared for the text of the Argonaut edition</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Volumes 5 and 6</td>
<td>Seven folders of typescripts of Frank Norris articles and stories, prepared for the text of the Argonaut edition</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>Volumes 5 and 6</td>
<td>Photostats of Frank Norris articles and stories in the <em>Wave</em> and <em>Everybody's</em></td>
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<td>33</td>
<td>Volume 6</td>
<td>Typescript of an essay on Frank Norris by Johannes V. Jensen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Volume 6</td>
<td>Copy of <em>The Bellman</em> (5/27/16) containing an article about Frank Norris</td>
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<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Volume 6</td>
<td>Copy of the Colt Press edition of <em>McTeague</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Volume 5</td>
<td>Forty-two themes turned in as class exercises at Harvard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Volume 6</td>
<td>Reader's report for Doubleday, Page &amp; Co. on &quot;Aida of the Coal Mines,&quot; a novel by Thomas Brennan; two leaves; with A.L.S., Charles G. Norris to Mrs. Preston concerning this report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Volume 3</td>
<td>Notes of <em>Vandover and the Brute</em>; one page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Volume 3</td>
<td>Introduction to <em>The Pit</em>; one leaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Volume 3</td>
<td>Leaf number 287 of <em>McTeague</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Volume 4</td>
<td>Map of <em>The Octopus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Volume 4</td>
<td>Notes for <em>The Octopus</em>, including a number of clippings used as the basis for incidents in the book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Volume 3</td>
<td>Notes for <em>The Pit</em>; forty-four small slips of paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Volume 1</td>
<td>Letters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Norris to Mrs. Black, senior; four pages</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Charles G. Norris to Mrs. Frank Preston, 1914, enclosing copy of Charles G. Norris' introduction to <em>Vandover and the Brute</em></td>
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<td>Charles G. Norris to Mrs. Jeannette Norris, 1903(?)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Gelett Burgess to Mrs. Norris, 1902</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>John O'Hara Cosgrave to Mrs. Norris, 1902 (?)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>R. B. Trye to Frank Norris, 1905</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Kathleen Norris to Mrs. Jeannette Preston, no date</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>W. Rainsford to Mrs. Norris, 1902 (?)</td>
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<td>William Dean Howells to Mrs. Norris, 1902</td>
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<td>Henry W. Lanier to Mrs. Norris, November 12, 1902</td>
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<td>Henry W. Lanier to Frank Norris, October 15, 1902</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>John O'Hara Cosgrave to Mrs. Norris, 1902</td>
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<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Volume 6</td>
<td>Miscellany</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Clippings of &quot;Outward and Visible Signs,&quot; corrected</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Four pictures of Frank Norris</td>
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<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Volume 6</td>
<td>Collection of reviews of the play, &quot;The Pit&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Pamphlet: &quot;The Panic Episode from Frank Norris' famous novel, <em>The Pit</em>, which affords the great fourth act climax of the dramatization, by Channing Pollock in William A. Brady's magnificent production, in which Wilton Lackaye appears as Curtis Jadwin.&quot; F855.1 N855pi 1903 sx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Volume 5</td>
<td>&quot;With Lawton at El Caney,&quot; clipping from <em>The Century</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Volume 6</td>
<td>Contracts and letters concerning publication rights of Frank Norris books</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Volume 6</td>
<td>Clippings about <em>Vandover and the Brute</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Volume 6</td>
<td>Clippings and miscellany concerning Frank Norris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Volume 6</td>
<td>Two unidentified manuscript notes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Volume 6</td>
<td>Frank Norris Manuscripts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Guide to the Frank Norris Collection of Papers and Related Materials, [ca. 1889-1930]**
The Octopus, two leaves
The Pit, one leaf
Frank Norris letter to Gilder, two pages
*Vandover and the Brute*, title page
Frank Norris note to Johnson

**Norris Drawings**
- Oil painting of horse's head
- Pen-and-ink sketch of African warriors
- Pen-and-ink sketch of dog

**Books**

Norris, Frank
*A Deal in Wheat and Other Stories of the New and Old West*
New York Doubleday, Page & Company 1903
Inscribed: Chas. G. Norris

Norris, Frank
*McTeague*
New York Doubleday & McClure Co. 1899
Inscribed: To My Ma: and not to be loaned to anybody: May 4th 1899. Frank Norris

Norris, Frank
*The Octopus*
New York Doubleday, Page & Co. 1901
Inscribed: To my Ma: Frank April 1901
Pasted in on verso front cover: poem in the handwriting of Gertrude D. Norris.

Norris, Frank
*The Octopus*
New York Doubleday, Page & Co. 1901
Inscribed: To my brother Charlie Very Sincerely Frank Norris April 1901

Norris, Frank
*The Pit*
New York Doubleday, Page & Co. 1903
Inscribed: Gertrude G. Norris

Norris, Frank
*The Third Circle*
New York John Lane Company 1909
Inscribed: To my dear Wife - Charles Gilman Norris May 30th 1909

Norris, Frank
*Vandover and the Brute*
Doubleday, Page & Company 1914
Inscribed: Gertrude G. Norris. Review pasted in on verso front cover.

**Miscellaneous**

Will H. Low oil painting "Yvernelle"
Ten photographs of Frank Norris
Two photographs of Gertrude G. Norris
One photograph of Norris home, San Francisco
Theater program for *The Pit*, Elizabeth, New Jersey, 1903
Two press clippings
Four photos of Polk Street in the 90's
Three still photos of the movie, "Life's Whirlpool" (based upon *McTeague*)