

CAMPBELL HOUSE *Courier*



CAMPBELL
House Museum
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City Living Since 1851

Fall 2021 Newsletter

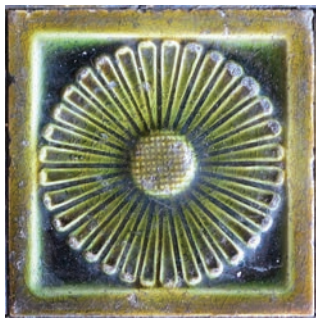
Museum Hours

March to December
Wednesday to Saturday
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sunday
12 to 4 p.m.

Monday & Tuesday
By Appointment

January & February
By Appointment



1508 Locust Street
St. Louis, MO 63103
314-421-0325

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Museum.org



Remembering Jeanne Lindburg

Longtime Museum Board member and Museum Shop volunteer **Jeanne Lindburg** died peacefully on October 19 after a short illness.

Campbell House never had a greater advocate than Jeanne. It started as a family passion for local history passed on by her mother-in-law and father-in-law **Arthur and Marian Lindburg** and her husband **Earl Lindburg**, all of whom were early supporters of the Museum's mission of historic preservation.

But Jeanne made the biggest impact of all. She joined the Campbell House Board in 1973, and over the past 48 years she undertook two important ventures to support the Museum—the Campbell House Galleries West (an antique consignment shop on Clayton Road in the 1970s and 80s) and the current Museum Gift Shop, which she managed for the last 30 years.

As a Board member she served most recently as the 1st Vice-President and previously as

the Secretary. Her biggest impact on the board was the creation of the Museum's 1851 Society.

Named for the year the Campbell House was constructed, the 1851 Society was founded in 1993. Membership in the Society is offered to donors contributing gifts of \$750 or more annually to the foundation. Their support provides critical funds for the annual operating budget.

Her efforts (literally thousands of hours of work) not only raised millions of dollars for Campbell House, but also raised the Museum's profile and visibility. Jeanne worked tirelessly to help establish Campbell House as one of the preeminent historic house museums

in the country. Because of her efforts the Museum is now a model institution of its kind. Most of all, Jeanne was a kind and generous spirit and a faithful friend. She was much loved by the Campbell House family and is greatly missed.

Jeanne had celebrated her 90th birthday in August.



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CAMPBELL HOUSE MUSEUM

The Campbell House Museum enlivens the history of St. Louis and Westward Expansion through the story of the Campbell family and their home.

Since opening, the Campbell House Museum has served the greater St. Louis area as one of the region's premier historic property museums. The Museum not only preserves the Campbells' house, but also their collection of original furniture, fixtures, paintings, objects and thousands of pages of family documents. After a meticulous five-year restoration the building reflects its opulent 1880s appearance, when the house was one of the centers of St. Louis society.



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Memorials & Tributes

In Memory of Jeanne M. Lindburg
Anthony and Maryrose Behr
Chatfield Place Residents
Ann Delaney
Scott and Carolyn Dolan
Enterprise Holdings
Louis Gerteis & Jan Parker
Andrew Gillentine, PNC Bank
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In Memory of James H. Stebbings
Ann Delaney
In Honor of Jane P. Gleason
Tom Gronski
In Honor of Patricia H. Schlafly
Janet Sheban

Director's Report

By Andy Hahn

It is with a heavy heart I write this message. As you read on the cover of this issue of the *Courier*, the Museum lost its most dedicated volunteer and personally I lost a mentor, advocate and a great friend.



Jeanne Lindburg joined the Museum's board in 1973 and was for the last 30 years the brains and brawn behind the Museum Gift Shop. Jeanne and her sister Mary Potter were a volunteer team that made annual trips to the gift markets, selected merchandise, received it, inventoried it and sold it—all for the benefit of Campbell House.

I will always remember Jeanne striving to make the shop a reflection of the elegance of the Campbell House period rooms. But just as important she strove to make the Museum shop an interesting part of the Museum experience. And she did all of this while generating sales to support the Museum's operation.



Jeanne making the final touches in the new Museum Gift Shop, November 27, 2020

Jeanne is quite simply one of those special people you will never forget.

It was announced this summer that the old YMCA adjacent to Campbell House will be renovated to become the next 21C Museum Hotel, an award-winning hotel and contemporary art museum. The 21C Museum Hotel will bring a "new kind of cultural and travel experience to

St. Louis, building upon the founders' mission to integrate contemporary art into daily life." The building will feature a free Contemporary Art Museum, (open 7 days a week, 365 days a year) and 173 spacious guest rooms, along with Fitness Center that will utilize the original Art-Deco style pool from the old YMCA.



Continued on page 5

Virginia Kyle Goes To Boarding School

By Tom Gronski

New research has uncovered the name of the school that **Virginia Kyle**, the future wife of **Robert Campbell**, attended in Philadelphia. The school was Julia Hawkes' Female Seminary, located at 287 Chestnut Street. Previous publications (including Mountain Man to Millionaire) had named the school as Freeman's Finishing School for Girls, but a review of the Philadelphia city directories and newspapers does not list any such institution. Our evidence of Virginia's attendance at the Hawkes' Seminary comes from letters in the Campbell House Museum collection and ledgers recently archived at the Nabb Research Center at Salisbury University in Maryland.

We do not know when Virginia Kyle first arrived in Philadelphia from her home in Raleigh, North Carolina. She was there in 1835 at Christmas, as confirmed by a gift she received from Robert Campbell (Virginia, born January 25, 1822, was 13 years-11 months old on Christmas Day 1835). Virginia was presumably already attending school at that time, which would have started in September or October. However, in a letter dated April 1838, Virginia tells Robert: "*remember I have seen none of my nearest relations for five years; could it not be most unnatural in me not to desire to see them...*," which arguably places Virginia in Philadelphia as early as 1833 (i.e., age 11). This, perhaps coincidentally, coincides with the death of Virginia's father in July of that same year.

Julia S. Hawkes (sometimes spelled Hawks) (1803-1859) was born in Claremont, Massachusetts. She later moved to Hartford, Connecticut where she taught at the Hartford Female Seminary founded by **Catharine Beecher** (the sister of **Harriet Beecher Stowe**). Julia roomed with Catharine Beecher at a local boarding house, and was described by Harriet Beecher as "*gentle, affectionate, modest, and retiring, and very much beloved by all the scholars.*"

In April 1829, Julia established her own private school for young ladies at Springfield, Massachusetts. She left there in 1832 and in 1833 went to Philadelphia, where she established a new female seminary. The school allowed for both day and boarding students.

(below) Philadelphia street view showing the building at 287 Chestnut St. that housed Julia Hawkes Female Seminary in the 1830s and 40s (outlined in red).

Accompanying Julia to Philadelphia was **Sarah Porter**, who had also taught at the Springfield school. In 1843, Sarah Porter established her own school at Farmington, Connecticut, which remains in operation today. **Nellie Grant** began attending this school in 1870 (if only briefly) and notable alumna includes **Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis** (1947). Also of interest is that Sarah's brother was **Noah Porter**, president of Yale University from 1871-1886 (Virginia's son **James A. Campbell** attended from 1878-1882).

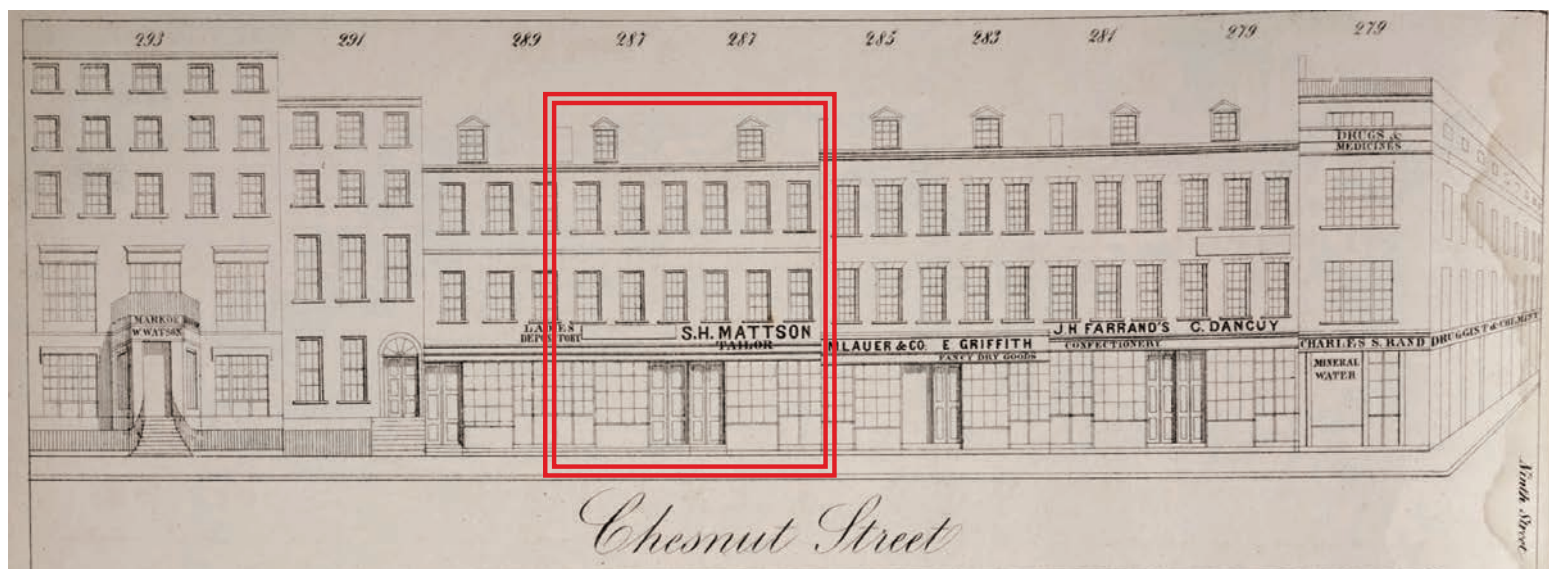
Catharine Beecher, Julia Hawkes, and Sarah Porter were part of the Female Seminary Movement that transformed education in America between 1820 and 1850. Each of these women were the daughters of religious ministers, and their educational philosophy was to promote a Moral Philosophy that sought to create "a new class of guardians" to regulate domestic and family behavior. A Classical education was deemed superior to "ornamental" instruction and it was the school's responsibility to influence the moral, physical and intellectual development of children—not only the students who were attending school, but the future children of the female students who would lead America into the new Millennium. As Leonard Sweet explains in The Female Seminary Movement: "The nation's destiny depends on the character of its families and homes; the character of the nation's homes and families is shaped by and depends upon women; therefore upon an educated and enlightened female population rests the destiny of the nation."

Catharine Beecher stated that Julia "*conducted the most popular seminary for young ladies in Philadelphia,*" and the ledgers confirm that many of the most notable families in Philadelphia sent their daughters there. In addition, a contingent of young girls from Raleigh also attended, including **Virginia & Eleanor Kyle**, **Margaret Mordecai**, and **Susan Polk** (sister to **Leonidas Polk**, cousin to future-president **James K. Polk**).

Virginia Kyle was very young when she first arrived at Miss Hawkes' school. In December 1836, **Hugh Campbell** wrote:

"[Virginia's] manners are like those of all school girls, when they get clear of the restraint of their teachers—affable and lively. I have not discovered anything like talent or genius in her conversation, but she seems to have a better capacity for learning"

Continued on page 6



Telephone Talk: The Campbells & The Kinloch Co.

By Dennis Rathert

Although the telephone has been around since the 1870s, it is highly doubtful that Virginia and Robert Campbell ever used one. Their youngest son James may have seen or used a telephone when he was a student at Harvard University in the mid 1880s, since the first regular telephone line was constructed in 1877 between Boston and Summerville, Massachusetts.

What is known is that Hugh and Hazlett Campbell did have a telephone at the Campbell House through the Kinloch Telephone Company in the early 20th Century. Their telephone number was CEntRAL 8927. Since the family financial records between 1905 and 1913 are missing, it is not clear when the Campbells got their first telephone. We do, however, have check stubs starting in January, 1914, showing that they paid monthly telephone bills to the Kinloch Telephone Company of \$12 per month, which adjusted for inflation would be \$155.00 per month today. It is probable that this first telephone was located in the front hall under the steps, where there is now an actual, so-called “candlestick” phone, the style of which was very popular between 1890 and the 1930s. While this is not the actual Campbell phone, it is probably the most likely type they would have had.

The Kinloch Telephone Company started in St. Louis in 1896. To encourage people to use the new telephone, Kinloch Telephone Company offered subscribers free service until a certain number of people had subscribed and only then did they start to charge annual or monthly fees.

There were no dial or push-button telephones in those days. When you wanted to make a call, you would lift the receiver or “ear-piece” and go through a “telephone girl” or “operator” at a switchboard at the exchange. She would make the necessary connection to the party with whom you wanted to speak. In addition to being able to speak clearly, the girls also were required to have excellent eyesight and even be over a certain height requirement. This seems strange, since one would never see the girl on the end of the line, but having operated a large PBX switchboard while I was in college, I guess the girl had to be tall enough to reach all the trunk lines and the local line connections (as illustrated above). At any rate, the requirement was there.

The first telephones were in downtown St. Louis and the office was called the “Central” Exchange. The next Kinloch exchange to come about was the “Delmar” Exchange. Other exchanges to follow were the “Saint Clair” exchange in East St. Louis, and later the “Victor” Exchange in the area around Ann Avenue in South City.

By 1896, Bell Telephone had around 3,000 telephones in the city of St. Louis. By 1923, when the Kinloch Telephone Company and the Bell Telephone Company merged, there were over 170,000 telephones operated by the two companies.

The next time you take a tour of the house, notice the telephone sitting on the restored hall-tree under the front steps. The Campbell’s telephone number is listed next to the phone. It won’t do any good to try the number though, because no one will answer.

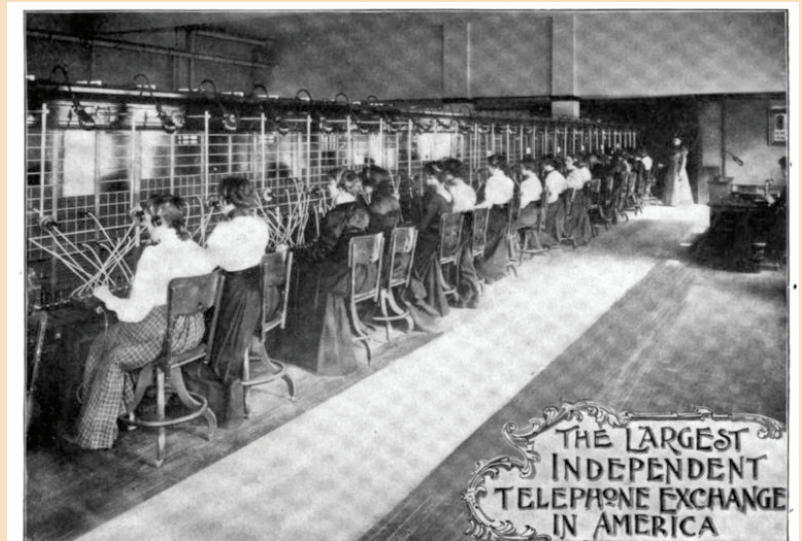


FIG. 1.—ONE SIDE OF THE LARGE SWITCHBOARD, KINLOCH TELEPHONE EXCHANGE, ST. LOUIS, MO.

(top) The Kinloch Telephone Central Exchange in downtown St. Louis at 10th and Locust Streets was at one time one of the largest telephone switchboards in the world.

(below) Candlestick style telephone was the first mass-produced phone and one similar to this is on display in the front hall of Campbell House.

(below left) Page from the 1910 St. Louis Social Directory shows Hugh Campbell’s address and telephone number in the Kinloch system — (kinl) CEntRAL 8927.



St. Louis 1910		15
Campbell M ^r Hugh	kinl ^{Phone} 8927 Cen . . . 1508 Locust	
Campbell M ^r & M ^{rs} James (F Adele Von Platner)	Ph ^{one} 324 Forest	
Jo ^{ns} M ^{ss} Lois A & M ^r Willard [Uv. Rc. Sl. Nd.]	2 Westmoreland Pl	
Campbell M ^r Jas Eads	see J W Harrison	
Campbell M ^r & M ^{rs} John Hayes (Marian Desloge)	see D ^{ilatory} D ^{omicile}	
Campbell M ^r Walter T—Uv	University Club	
Capen M ^r & M ^{rs} Chas P (Clara S Stegall) Y ^{oo}		
	Ph ^{one} 1255 Forest . . 1200 Oakley Pl	

Director's Report Continued from page 2

At the annual dinner of the 1851 Society on November 1, two outstanding supporters of the Museum were honored with the annual President's Award.

Fritz Clifford was honored with the 2020 President's Award for his efforts as past-president (2009-2014) of the Museum, but also for his work on the Museum's Maintenance Committee where he is always the first to volunteer for a job, especially in case of an emergency.

Scott Johnson was honored with the 2021 President's award for his work as the most recent past-president (2015-2020). Scott led the fundraising effort for the 2020 Museum Expansion. The Museum's board also recently revived the title of Chairman of the Board which was also given to Scott. *Thank you to both of these men for their exemplary leadership of Campbell House.*

This fall we completed an important project for the ongoing preservation of the Museum's landmark 170-year-old building. The five windows and six shutters on the west side of the Museum building were repaired and painted by specialty window contractor Ambacht and its owner **Alex Mattan**. This job is a reminder of the scale of most maintenance projects at Campbell House—the distance from the ground to the top window on the west side of the building is more than 60 feet!

In the history of the Campbell House Museum, many things have happened that can only be called fate—in the 1970s the album of 1880s photos of the house was discovered in a downtown dumpster and in the early 2000s a notebook used by the Campbell's housekeeper was discovered beneath floorboards in a house in Carondelet. Fate happened again this summer.



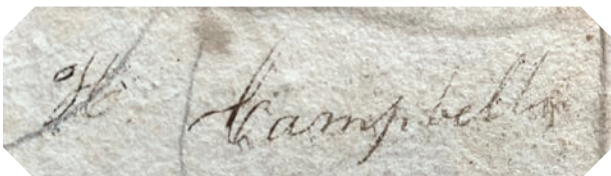
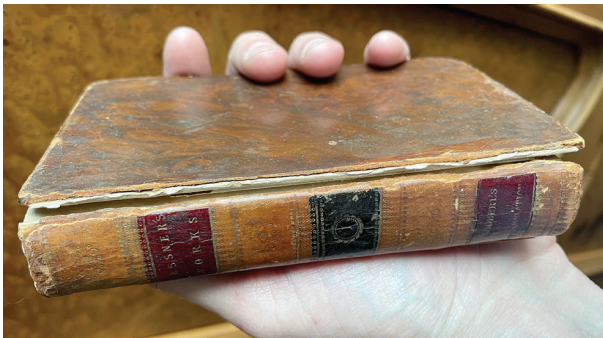
(above) Andy Hahn and Fritz Clifford
(below) Scott Johnson and Tricia Schlafly



As an avid reader and book collector I regularly visit thrift stores in search of "treasures." At Goodwill I stumbled upon a small leather volume with both its cover boards detached. It looked old and interesting. Old it was, printed in 1806, but not too interesting, a collection of decidedly old-fashioned poems by Salomon Gessner translated from German. I opened the cover and saw a name and handwriting I recognized—"Hugh Campbell"—Robert Campbell's older brother. I immediately searched for more signed books but with no luck. I bought the poetry volume for \$.50 and the next day began to compare the signature in the book with the many known examples of Hugh Campbell's writing—it was a perfect match!

I theorize that this small book was brought by young Hugh Campbell to America from Ireland in 1818 and stayed in his library for the rest of his life. His nephew Hugh Campbell (Robert's oldest surviving son) later inherited his uncle's library. More than likely this small volume was sold in February 1941 with the rest of the Campbell estate. Who bought this book and how it ended up at Goodwill we will never know. But at least this piece of history has returned home.

Finally, in October we said goodbye to **Michael Stoecklin**, the assistant director for the last 5 years. Michael came to work at Campbell House as a former summer intern and during his time at the Museum he completed a number of important projects related to the expansion and he developed the "Cocktails with the Campbells" event. I am thankful for Michael's hard work and wish him the best of luck in his career.



JOIN THE FAMILY RENEW or Become a Friend of Campbell House

(choose a membership level or make a donation)

- 1851 Society.....\$750
- Campbell Associate.....\$300
- Century.....\$100
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- Active.....\$50
- Junior (age 40 and under).....\$40
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All members enjoy these benefits

- Unlimited free museum admission and tours
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or

Credit Card number: _____
Expires ___/___ CVV: _____

Signature: _____

My gift will be matched by my employer.

Contact me about volunteer opportunities.

Contact me about making gift of stock or about making a gift through my estate plan.

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BOARDING SCHOOL: Continued from page 3

than her sister. It has been the misfortune of both sisters to have had too much latitude allowed them in their intercourse with society, and of course to be allowed to think themselves young ladies when they were only girls... They talk of 'beaux' until I am sick of the subject..."

Classes at the Hawkes' Seminary were offered in French, Latin, Arithmetic, Geometry, Reading, Composition and Chemistry. One of Virginia's earliest letters to Robert ends with: "I must now relinquish the more delightful employment of communicating with you to turn over a few pages of a Latin dictionary." A month later, Virginia writes: "Imagine me sitting dear Mr. Campbell in the little geometry rooms, filled with smoke and cold, Netta [a school friend] at my side writing her French exercise, and I suffering all this for the sake of writing to you."

Virginia and Robert were engaged in January 1838 and, in April, she alludes to Moral Philosophy in anticipation of marrying Robert: "You would have been amused had you seen your ever giddy thoughtless girl pick up a Moral Philosophy and read attentively a chapter on the duties incumbent on the conjugal relations. The directions given to one party I thought excellent, the others I must say I did not much relish."

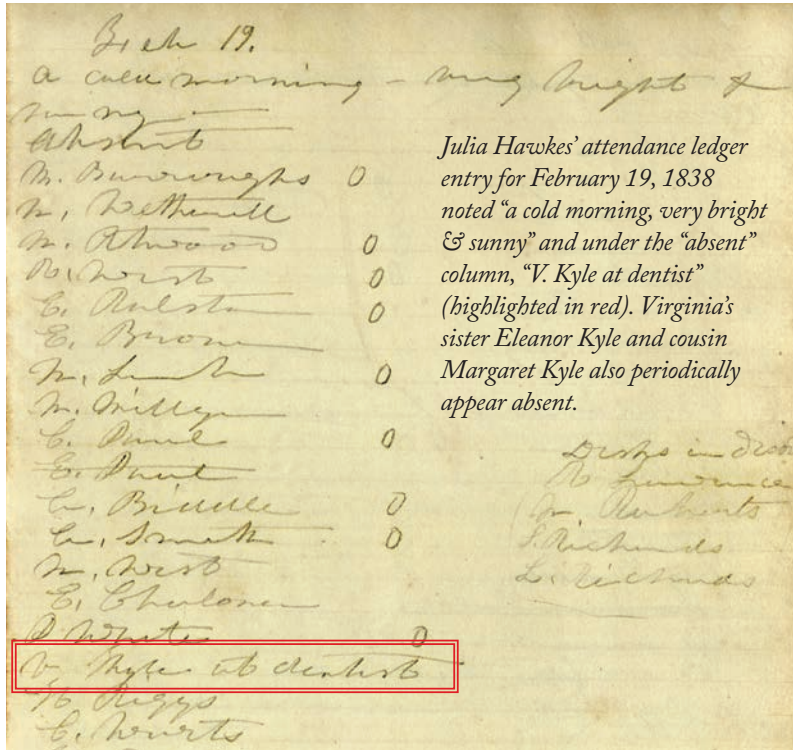
Realizing that students required healthy bodies in addition to healthy intellects, regular exercise was part of the school routine, a concept first introduced by Catherine Beecher at her Hartford school. Walking was scheduled as weather permitted. In January 1838, Virginia wrote:

"I will endeavor to come around this afternoon, as we are walking for exercise, but I cannot stay but a moment... In April she reported: Netta and myself walked out the Schuylkill one damp afternoon, and next morn both arose with violent colds, I have retained unwell several days. To which indisposition you may be obliged for the receipt of this letter, as I am excused from attending to my school duties today..."

Virginia first mentions Julia Hawkes by name in March 1838. Following Virginia and Robert's engagement, there are concerns Virginia will neglect her studies:

"For Ma of course will certainly say that I might as well be at home, for my mind is more turned up on beaux, etc., than my studies, but it is not. I am

in hourly anticipation of a private account from Miss Hawkes; she bade me come to her at this hour but happily she is prevented from lecturing over me by indisposition. I am so much relieved."



Julia Hawkes' attendance ledger entry for February 19, 1838 noted "a cold morning, very bright & sunny" and under the "absent" column, "V. Kyle at dentist" (highlighted in red). Virginia's sister Eleanor Kyle and cousin Margaret Kyle also periodically appear absent.

In May 1838, Virginia wrote to Robert: "I always wear the pencil you gave me and seldom take it up without thinking of the giver. Miss Hawkes has a great fondness for it and always prefers keeping a little longer than I wish to part with when she takes it into her hands..."

In June 1838, her description of time alone at the school is almost poetic: "When I tell you that I write from a deserted hall, you must not associate with these words the idea of a feasting chamber, deserted by its gay guests, unless you choose to fancy the banquet to be one of knowledge; the guests to be Miss Hawkes' scholars and the furniture of the feasting chamber red desks & red chairs."

Virginia left Julia Hawkes' seminary in July 1838 (age 16 years-6 months). Her participation at that school adds significantly to our understanding of Virginia's life and subsequent family events. She married Robert Campbell on February 25, 1841. Her adult sons attended prestigious schools, but now when we speak of Virginia home-schooling prior to their higher education, their studies takes on a whole new light. We can also assume that James' attendance at Yale and Harvard was not just some expensive whim.

In 1844, Julia Hawkes published Conversations on Italy; in English and French. Designed and Particularly Adapted for the Use of Schools, Academies, Etc. On July 2 of that same year, in Philadelphia, she married **Bernard Gardel** (1806-1885), a French immigrant and wealthy art collector, who also taught French at Hawkes' school. The couple travelled extensively, particularly after 1850, due, in part, to Julia's declining health. Catherine Beecher in her Educational Reminiscences noted that several female educators had "lost their health" due to the excessive demands in operating the seminaries. Julia Hawkes Gardel was one of them.

In 1859, the Gardels, along with two students, travelled to Europe and the Middle East. On the road between Jerusalem and Damascus, the group was attacked by Bedouin tribesmen, ultimately resulting in Julia's death. Bertrand Gardel erected a monumental tomb for his wife at Mount Vernon Cemetery in Philadelphia at a cost of \$30,000.



(top) Cemetery monument for Julia Hawkes Gardel in Mount Vernon Cemetery, Philadelphia. (bottom) Detail of the Julia Hawkes portrait medallion from Hawkes Gardel monument.

December 25, 1854

The Campbells' First Christmas on Lucas Place



By Tom Gronski

The Campbells' first Christmas at No. 20 Lucas Place (today the Campbell House address is 1508 Locust Street) was much different from the opulent affair you see at the Museum today. The occupants according to the February 1855 St. Louis census were: Robert Campbell (age 50), his wife Virginia (age 32) and two surviving sons: Hugh, Jr. (age 7) and Hazlett (age 1). Hugh had been sick in July with gastrointestinal illness that nearly killed him, but was now recovered.

Five other people were also part of the household: two white females (servants) between the ages of 15-21; one "free black male" (probably the coachman) between the ages of 21-45; and two enslaved people: Eliza Rone (age 22) and her 6 month old son Aleck, listed in the census as a "male slave" under the age of 5 (for details about slavery at Campbell House see CampbellHouseMuseum.org/slavery).

The Campbells purchased their new home on Lucas Place on November 8, 1854 but did not move in until December 1. Robert wrote a friend on December 23: *We have removed our dwelling to a situation where I have more room.* But their house in 1854 was not the floorplan visitors to Campbell House see today. The original kitchen still stood where the butler's pantry is today and new furnishings were not added until Summer 1855. There was no bay window in the dining room, no third floor library, and the front of the house held the two parlors instead of the large double parlor seen today.

The weather Christmas Eve 1854 was recorded as "rainy and unpleasant" with dense fog along the river. That day the "very low" river rose 2 inches; on Christmas it rose an additional foot. The weather on December 26 was "very unpleasant; afternoon was very rainy, and in the evening the river was enveloped in a heavy fog."

Robert did not conduct any business that entire weekend (Christmas was on Monday). How the Campbells celebrated at home is unknown. But it was an important holiday, full of all the festivities we cherish today. The December 23, 1854 edition of the Daily Missouri Republican reported:

All sections of the city devoted to the business of retailing toys or minor articles of merchandise, and the markets were crowded yesterday evening with ladies intent upon the purchase of Christmas presents and Christmas dinners. Market and Fourth streets were most favored. At one time in the afternoon 60 or 70 carriages were drawn up on Fourth, between Washington Avenue and Pine, the sidewalks at the same time being crowded with foot passengers... And meals were sumptuous.

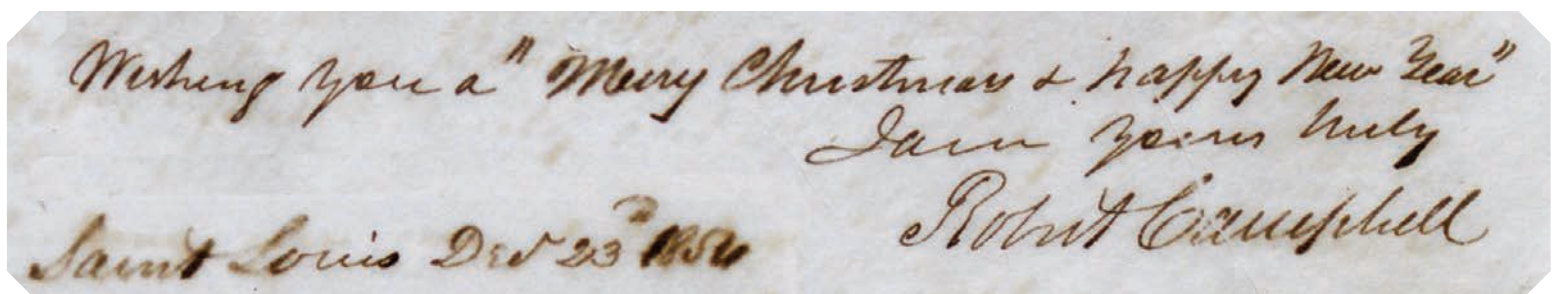
The Berkley House, on Fourth Street, was prepared to furnish every article requisite for the occasion, including game, fowl, venison, oysters, wines and liquors...

Christmas at the Campbell House would continue, in one form or another, for the next 83 years. We are proud to continue those traditions today.



(above) Holly and Ivy Wreath on the front balcony of Campbell House. This image is featured on the 2021 Campbell House Christmas Card, available in the Museum Shop or online at CampbellHouseMuseum.org/Shop.

(below) Robert Campbell's Christmas greeting to his longtime friend John Dougherty, December 23, 1854.



CAMPBELL HOUSE FOUNDATION

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From the Archives

The majority of houses on Lucas Place had adjoining carriage houses. And like the residences, some were more utilitarian in appearance and others more grand. The 1883 map below illustrates some of these forgotten buildings—residences are shown in pink and carriage houses in red. The yellow numbers on the map show the approximate location where the photos at right were taken. #1 Ames carriage house at 1615 Lucas Place. #2 Campbell carriage house at 1508 Lucas Place. #3 Larkin carriage house at 1600 Lucas Place. #4 Morrison carriage house at 1628 Lucas Place (re-purposed as the Unique Art Glass Co.). The Campbell House carriage house is one of the few in America to still house original 19th century carriages—the pair of Campbell family carriages stored there today have been in this building since the 1870s.

