These are papers, mostly correspondence, of the Roller family of Christian and Douglas counties in Missouri and Scott County, Virginia. With one exception the letters are addressed to Jacob Roller, in Virginia, from his relatives in Missouri. The exception is a letter from General R. Johnson, an in-law to the Rollers, of Douglas County, to his mother, Sarah (Bowen) Johnson.

Elias Roller (1812-1887), a native of Virginia, moved with his household to Missouri prior to the Civil War, probably in 1858, and settled in Christian County. About 1831 he had married Elizabeth Payne (1819?-1882). They had at least twelve children. The oldest child, Jacob (1832-1934), served in the 24th Missouri Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War, but returned to Virginia in 1866 to look after his mother’s inheritance and the family property. Despite the insistent pleas of his relatives, Jacob never returned to Missouri, but lived and died along the Clinch River in Scott County, Virginia. He and his wife, Letty Margaret Neely, are buried in the backyard of their original home.

The collection consists largely of letters from the family, still in Missouri, to Jacob. The majority are from Jacob’s brother, Henry H. Roller (1848-), but some are from his parents and his brother-in-law, James E. Bunyard. The papers deal with such matters as family news, estates, debts, commodity prices, land acquisition, postwar politics, Jacob’s military service “bounty,” economic development (including highway and railroad construction), religion, education, and crime (the family distilled “moonshine” whiskey, and Bunyard was arrested for this activity). Taken as a whole, the letters reflect the normal concerns of an extended family leading an agricultural lifestyle on the post-bellum Ozark frontier.

The spelling, punctuation, and grammar of the letters are very poor, and the intentions of the writers are sometimes obscure. All of the items have been typescripted for the convenience of researchers.

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These are papers, mostly correspondence, of the Roller family of Christian and Douglas counties in Missouri and Scott County, Virginia. With one exception the letters are addressed to Jacob Roller, in Virginia, from his relatives in Missouri. The exception is a letter from General R. Johnson, an in-law to the Rollers, of Douglas County, to his mother, Sarah (Bowen) Johnson.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>From</th>
<th>To</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 November 1866</td>
<td>Henry H. Roller, Christian County, Mo.</td>
<td>Jacob Roller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 December 1866</td>
<td>Elias Roller and J. E. Bunyard, Christian County, Mo.</td>
<td>Jacob Roller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 March 1867</td>
<td>Elizabeth Roller and J. E. Bunyard, Christian County, Mo.</td>
<td>Jacob Roller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 April 1867</td>
<td>Elizabeth Roller, Christian County, Mo.</td>
<td>Jacob Roller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 July 1867</td>
<td>Henry H. Roller, Christian County, Mo.</td>
<td>Jacob Roller</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
06 August 1867  J. E. Bunyard, Christian County, Mo.  Jacob Roller
13 October 1867  Elizabeth Roller, [n.p.]  Jacob Roller
01 April 1868  J. E. Bunyard, [n.p.]  Jacob Roller
30 August 1868  Henry H. Roller, Christian County, Mo.  Jacob Roller
18 December 1868  General R. Johnson, Douglas County, Mo.  Sarah Johnson
19 January 1869  Henry H. Roller, Douglas County, Mo.  Jacob Roller
31 May 1869  J. E. Bunyard, Christian County, Mo.  Jacob Roller
05 July 1869  Henry H. Roller, Douglas County, Mo.  Jacob Roller
20 September 1869  Henry H. Roller, Douglas County, Mo.  Jacob Roller
17 April 1870  Henry H. Roller, Douglas County, Mo.  Jacob Roller
14 October 1870  Henry H. Roller, Douglas County, Mo.  Jacob Roller
06 November 1870  J. E. Bunyard, Christian County, Mo.  Jacob Roller
07 May 1871  Henry H. Roller and Elizabeth Roller, Douglas County, Mo.  Jacob Roller
08 August 1871  Henry H. Roller, Douglas County, Mo.  Jacob Roller
01 October 1871  Henry H. Roller, Douglas County, Mo.  Jacob Roller
[n.d.]  [Fragment], Henry H. Roller, Douglas County, Mo.  Jacob Roller
[n.d.]  “A Statement of the amount of money come in to my hands”
[n.d.]  [Fragment], “S. A.,” Christian County, Mo.  Jacob Roller

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Farm produce—Missouri—Christian County.
Farm produce—Missouri—Douglas County.
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