

## Gibson, Paris

Born in Brownfield, Maine, July 1, 1830. Died Dec. 16, 1920. Graduated Bowdoin College, 1851. Settled in Minneapolis, 1858. Was a close friend of Wm Watts Folwell [see his papers] and of JJH, for whom he acted in Montana matters. He built the first flouring mill in Minneapolis before removing to Fort Benton, Montana in 1879. Interested JJH in founding Great Falls and developing its waterpower at the several falls of the Missouri River there. Was a wool buyer for many years at Fort Benton and elsewhere in Montana Territory. Was one of JJH's most prolific correspondents, 1882-1916.

Gibson, Paris

Died December 16, 1920.

From Who Was Who

Gibson, Paris

"Autobiographical Publications - Gibson, Paris, memorandum dictated to his family" is filed in Great Falls, Montana.

See: Letter from Miss Mary K. Dempsey to Dr. Grace Lee Nute, Feb. 5, 1962.

Gibson, Paris

"The Founding of Great Falls and Some of Its Early Records" by Paris Gibson.

"It includes a very short sketch of the founding of the city by himself and Mr. Hill, and a chronological listing of events in the life of the city." The following paragraph is taken from this pamphlet,

"In the summer and fall of 1883, I platted the townsite and named it Great Falls, although I first suggested Hillton as its name, in honor of James J. Hill, my partner. As he would not consent to my proposal, I thought the

name Great Falls would all things considered,  
be the most appropriate for the new town."  
(p.12)

See: Letter from Mrs. Lavern Kohl,  
Reference Librarian, Great Falls Public  
Library, to Dr. Nute, Feb. 23, 1962.

Gibson, Paris

A Montana Yankee, a master's thesis written by James G. Handford, Montana State University, 1952. *Verifax Copy. Accession no. 18*

See: Letter from Miss Mary K. Dempsey to Dr. Grace Lee Nute, Feb. 5, 1962.

*Filed with Montana Securities Papers*

Gibson, Paris

See a calendar of his letters to Hill listed day by day by date; separate file in Hill's office.  
See also the general catalogue under his name for other letters.

Gibson, Paris

Not all his letters to Hill (there are many hundreds of them) have been catalogued, but there is a complete listing of them in the special card file, Paris Gibson calendar.

Gibson, Paris

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There is much material on Gibson in the papers of the Montana Central Road in the Montana Securities file.

Gibson, Paris

See

Suspense Records      1 half-size box

Gibson, Paris

See:

Wegner, Charles. In this file.

Gibson, Paris

See

Great Falls Water Power & Town Site Co. Papers

Gibson, Paris.

See:

Montana Securities in this file.