

Collection #
SC 3501

**INDIANA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
LETTER, CA. 1870S–1880S**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 manuscript folder, 1 photograph folder, 1 tintype

COLLECTION DATES: Ca. 1870s–1880s

PROVENANCE: Donated by Jeffrey M. Kintop

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: Indiana General Assembly, *Laws of the State of Indiana, passed at the 47th -49th session of the General Assembly*, KFI3025. A212

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1998.1138X

NOTES:

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Thomas M. Kirkpatrick was born on 2 May 1820 in Brown County, Ohio. He worked as a farmer, a railroad contractor, and as a secretary and stockholder for the Pete's Run Gravel Road Company. During the Civil War, he served as a captain in the 13th Indiana Infantry Regiment until 1864. He served as a Republican member of the Indiana House of Representatives in 1871, 1873, and 1879. He died on 6 September 1891 in Kokomo, Indiana.

Addison F. Armstrong was born on 1 April 1835 in Clinton County, Ohio. He moved to Indiana in 1849 and worked as a hardware merchant, a teacher, a lawyer, and a treasurer for the J.H. Haverly Golden Group Mining Association. He served as a Kokomo city councilman for eight years and served as a Democratic member of the Indiana State Senate in 1871 and 1873. He died on 26 September 1903 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

James Douglas Williams was born on 16 January 1808 in Pickaway County, Ohio. He moved to Indiana in 1818 and later worked as a farmer, miller, and as Justice of the Peace from 1839 to 1843. He served as a Democratic member of the Indiana House of Representatives from 1843–1844, 1847–1848, 1851–1852, 1857, and 1869. He also served as a member of the Indiana State Senate in 1859, 1861, 1863, 1865, 1871, and 1873. He died on 20 November 1880 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Carte de visites are photographs mounted on small cards that were popularized as collectibles during the late 1850s up through 1910. In 1854, French photographer Andre Adolphe Eugene Disdéri patented a format of photography that allowed multiple portraits to be taken on one plate, making multiple copies cheaper and easier to make. Tintypes, also known as ferrotypes, are photographs that are created using a similar process to wet plate photography. Thin iron plates were used to capture underexposed negative images which were then darkened into a positive image using a collodion photographic emulsion. The process was first patented in the United States by Hamilton Smith in 1857 and maintained its popularity as late as the 1940s.

Sources:

"Addison F. Armstrong." *Indiana Legislator Biographies*. Accessed September 25, 2018. <http://legdb.iga.in.gov/#!/legislator/623/Addison-Armstrong>

"James Douglas Williams." *Indiana Legislator Biographies*. Accessed September 25, 2018. <http://legdb.iga.in.gov/#!/legislator/3011/James-Williams>

"Thomas M. Kirkpatrick." *Indiana Legislator Biographies*. Accessed September 25, 2018. <http://legdb.iga.in.gov/#!/legislator/1001/Thomas-Kirkpatrick>

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of one letter and one Republican Party election ticket. The letter was written by an unknown author is dated 1 August 1878. It discusses concerns about the actions of different members of the Indiana General Assembly in regards to Section 45 of a specific appropriations bill passed by the legislature in 1873. It specifically mentions House Republican Thomas M. Kirkpatrick, Senate Democrat Addison F. Armstrong, Senate Democrat James Douglas Williams, and state agent Patrick Sherman. On the back of the letter is a list of townships and counties in Indiana with majority vote counts for each. The election ticket is dated 1876 and features candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States as well as state electors and district electors for the state of Indiana.

The collection also includes two photographs of a man named John Nicholson. The first is a carte de visite of Nicholson dressed in a suit and taken in Kokomo, Indiana circa the 1870s. The second is a tintype taken of Nicholson and an unknown man posed seated together with their legs crossed. The tintype is dated circa the 1880s. These photographs were donated along with the Indiana General Assembly letter and the election ticket; however, while the items could be related, a connection between the documents and the photographs could not be confirmed.

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Republican election ticket, 1876

Correspondence, 1 August 1878

Portrait, John Nicholson, ca. 1870s

Portrait, John Nicholson and unknown man, ca. 1880s

CONTAINER

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Photographs,
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Tintypes 1 of 1