

**Collection #
BV5587-5593**

**ADAM FREEMAN CUMMINS
COLLECTION, 1845-1858**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	Seven bound volumes, 1 printed item
COLLECTION DATES:	1845-1858
PROVENANCE:	Gift of David Lee Colgazier, Londonderry, NH
RESTRICTIONS:	None
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ALTERNATE FORMATS:	
RELATED HOLDINGS:	
ACCESSION NUMBER:	2021.0053
NOTES:	

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Adam Freeman Cummins (1818-November 23, 1882) was born in Ohio to Joseph Cummins and Sarah Freeman. He was a physician who worked in and around Ripley County, Indiana in the 1840s and 1850s before moving his practice to Bloomington, Indiana. Cummins married Melissa Edwards on December 1, 1842 in Ripley County, Indiana, and the couple had one daughter, Sarah.

Sources:

Ancestry.com

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains seven account ledgers from Dr. Adam Freeman Cummins' medical practice from 1845-1858 when he was serving the towns of New Marion, Bryantsburg, and Sharpville, Indiana. For each entry, Dr. Cummins notes the month, date, person responsible for payment, the goods or services provided, the cost, and whether he had been paid. In the early account books, it appears as though Cummins may have been assisting another physician in his practice, Dr. H.C. Maynard. By 1858, the student had become the teacher, as that account book contains an agreement from Joseph L.W. Yost to become Cummins' pupil for the sum of forty-five dollars per year for three years. The list of goods and services in the ledgers shows what types of ailments the local population experienced at this time and treatments that were provided. Cummins delivers babies, extracts teeth, performs an amputation, sets a broken femur, bleeds patients, practices cupping, and lances abscesses. He dispenses various medicines, pills, tonics, and salves. Some of the specific remedies he worked with were: Cooke's Pills, Bateman's Drops, Sappington's Pills, copaiba balsam oil, quinine, senna, and blue mass, amongst others. The books also reflect a barter system where Cummins may have accepted goods or crops like sweet potatoes, flour, candles, chickens, or sometimes even labor as part of the payment owed to him. The collection also includes a copy of Professor Samuel Cooper's *A Dictionary of Practical Surgery* where Cummins has written his name inside and noted that he paid three dollars for the tome.

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Account Book, New Marion, Mar. 1845-Oct. 1846

Account Book, New Marion, Oct. 1846-Mar. 1848

Account Book, New Marion, Apr. 1848-Oct. 1850

Account Book, New Marion, Oct. 1850-July 1852

Account Book, New Marion, July 1852-Apr. 1853

Account Book, Sharpsville, Apr. 1853-Sept. 1853;
Bryantsburg, Jan. 1854-Mar. 1856

Account Book, Bryantsburg, Mar. 1856-Sept. 1858

A Dictionary of Practical Surgery... by Samuel
Cooper, 1846

CONTAINER

BV 5587

BV 5588

BV 5589

BV 5590

BV 5591

BV 5592

BV 5593

Printed Collections: