

CONRAD BAKER PAPERS, 1858-1902

Collections #

M 0008

OM 0003

BV 3222-3252

F 0034-0047; 0259-0263

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Processed by
Paul Brockman
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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	12 manuscript boxes, 30 bound volumes, 18 microfilm reels, 1 oversize folder
COLLECTION DATES:	1858-1902
PROVENANCE:	Robert C. Tucker, Jr., Indianapolis, IN, 1963; W. J. Holiday, Sr., 7 October 1966
RESTRICTIONS:	Use microfilm copies of letter books in place of originals.
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.
ALTERNATE FORMATS:	Letter books are on microfilm
RELATED HOLDINGS:	Arthur G. Mitten Collection (M 0211)
ACCESSION NUMBER:	1963.0015, 1966.1007
NOTES:	

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Conrad Baker (1817-1885) was born in Franklin County, Pennsylvania. After attending Pennsylvania College in Gettysburg he studied law in the firm of Stevens and Smyser, under Thaddeus Stevens. In 1841, he moved to Evansville, Vanderburgh County, and started a law practice. During the Civil War, Baker served for three years as a colonel in the 1st Indiana Cavalry (28th Regiment). In 1863, he was assigned to Indianapolis where he became Assistant Provost Marshall General for the state of Indiana.

Baker's political career prior to the war included on term as a state representative (1845-1846) and eighteen months as judge for the Court of Common Pleas. In 1865, Baker was nominated to run as lieutenant governor with Oliver P. Morton. After their election victory, Morton suffered a paralytic stroke in November, 1865, and was sent to Europe for recovery. Baker served as acting governor for six months in Morton's absence, and two years later he became governor when Morton was elected to the U. S. Senate. He was reelected for a full term in 1868. Among his gubernatorial accomplishments were appropriations for a soldier's home, a house of refuge for juvenile offenders, uncontrollable boys and children with unfit parents, and a woman's prison.

After his term as governor, Baker did not seek further political office and entered into partnership with the Indianapolis law firm of Hendricks, Hord & Hendricks which became Baker, Hord & Hendricks when Thomas Hendricks became governor. Baker was married twice, in 1838 to Matilda Escon Sommers and in 1858 to Charlotte Frances Chute. Baker fathered six children: Albert, William, Alice, Florence, Elizabeth and Thaddeus.

Source: Information in collection.

Pumroy & Brockman, *A Guide to the Manuscript Collections of the Indiana Historical Society and the Indiana State Library*, p. 10.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists of the personal and official papers of Conrad Baker, concerning the period while he was lieutenant governor and governor of Indiana, 1865-1867, a number of letter books containing the correspondence of both governors Morton and Baker, and the records of the law firm of Baker, Hord & Hendricks. Conrad Baker's papers consists of correspondence, receipts, legal documents and printed material. Among the subjects in the correspondence are elections and state and national Republican Party politics, correspondence on issues before the Indiana General Assembly including claims from Morgan's Raid, the Indiana Hospital for the Insane, Ku Klux Klan activities in the state, the creation and location of a state agricultural college, prison conditions and the creation of a women's prison. The papers also contain accounts and receipts regarding the constructions of the Supreme Court and State Office Building in Indianapolis (1867-1869). There is also a report by General Alvin P. Hovey, military commander of the District of Indiana, regarding the arrests and court martials of Indiana opponents of the war (August, 1865), and court opinions and calendars, circulars, fugitive requisitions, and other printed materials.

The Baker papers also contain letters books regarding business during legislative sessions, 1869, 1871, 1872, and letter books on routine government business, such as appointments, claims, and invitations. The collection also includes correspondence between Baker and his brother William (1813-1872) regarding family matters and personal business interests in Evansville, 1865-1872. Also contained in the papers are letter books, correspondence, and notes for the law firm of Baker, Hord & Hendricks, 1863-1887. Additional items in the collection include an account book for Baker's estate, 1885-1896, and a register and account book for Hemlock Lodge at Pine Hills, Montgomery County, Indiana, 1896-1902.

The collection also includes correspondence and letter books of Governor Oliver P. Morton, including letters to Morton regarding politics, the conduct of the war, and routine government business, and Morton's letter books, 1864-1867, containing copies of his letters on politics and government business.

Correspondents include: Horace P. Biddle, Noble C. Butler, Henry B. Carrington, John Coburn, Charles F. Coffin, Schuyler Colfax, Edward T. Cox, Henry H. Crapo, Will Cumback, Jefferson C. Davis, John Defrees, William H. English, Walter Q. Gresham, Rutherford B. Hayes, Thomas A. Hendricks, William R. Holloway, Alvin P. Hovey, George W. Julian, James F. D. Lanier, Robert H. Milroy, Oliver P. Morton, Lazarus Noble, David Dale Owen, Richard Owen, Robert Dale Owen, John U. Pettit, Daniel D. Pratt, William H. Seward, Edwin M. Stanton, Thaddeus Stevens, Jeremiah Sullivan, William H. H. Terrell, Lew Wallace, Anson Wolcott, and Joseph Wright.

BOX AND FOLDER LISTING

BOX 1: *Correspondence ,1858-March, 1867*

FOLDER CONTENTS

- 1 Autobiography n.d.; Correspondence, 1858-1863
- 2 Correspondence, Jan. 15, 1864-Sept., 1864
- 3 Correspondence, Oct. 3-27, 1864
- 4 Correspondence, Jan., 1865-March, 1865
- 5 Correspondence, April, 1865-May, 1865
- 6 Correspondence, June, 1865-July, 1865
- 7 Correspondence, Aug., 1865
- 8 Correspondence, Aug., 1865 (Gen. Hovey's Report)
- 9 Correspondence, Sept., 1865-Oct., 1865
- 10 Correspondence, Nov., 1865-Dec., 1865
- 11 Correspondence, Jan., 1866-Feb., 1866
- 12 Correspondence, March, 1866-April, 1866
- 13 Correspondence, May, 1866-June, 1866
- 14 Letter books & private letter books, May, 1866-Oct, 1872 (BV 3222-3240 & F 0034-0044 & 0046-0047)
- 15 Correspondence, July, 1866-Aug., 1866
- 16 Correspondence, Sept., 1866-Dec., 1866
- 17 Correspondence, Jan. 1-20, 1867
- 18 Correspondence, Jan. 21-31, 1867
- 19 Correspondence, Feb. 1-14, 1867
- 20 Correspondence, Feb. 15-28, 1867
- 21 Correspondence, March 1-7, 1867

BOX 2: *Correspondence, March 8, 1867-Sept. 30, 1867*

FOLDER CONTENTS

- 1 Correspondence, March 8-12, 1867
- 2 Correspondence, March 13-19, 1867
- 3 Correspondence, March 20-27, 1867
- 4 Correspondence, March 28-31, 1867
- 5 Resolutions Regarding Morgan's Raid Claims, March 11-18, 1867
- 6 Correspondence, April 1-16, 1867
- 7 Correspondence, April 16-30, 1867
- 8 Correspondence, May 1-14, 1867
- 9 Correspondence, May 15-31, 1867
- 10 Correspondence, June 1-12, 1867
- 11 Correspondence, June 13-30, 1867
- 12 Correspondence, July 1-15, 1867
- 13 Correspondence, July 15-31, 1867
- 14 Correspondence, Aug. 1-15, 1867
- 15 Correspondence, Aug. 17-31, 1867
- 16 Correspondence, Sept. 1-14, 1867
- 17 Correspondence, Sept. 16-23, 1867
- 18 Correspondence, Sept. 24-30, 1867

BOX 3: *Correspondence, Oct., 1867-March, 1868*

FOLDER CONTENTS

- 1 Correspondence, Oct. 1-10, 1867
- 2 Correspondence, Oct. 11-21, 1867
- 3 Correspondence, Oct. 22-26, 1867
- 4 Correspondence, Oct. 27-31, 1867
- 5 Correspondence, Nov. 1-17, 1867
- 6 Correspondence, Nov. 18-22, 1867
- 7 Correspondence, Nov. 23-30, 1867

- 8 Correspondence, Dec. 1-18, 1867
- 9 Correspondence, Dec., 19-31, 1867
- 10 Correspondence, Jan. 1-14, 1868
- 11 Correspondence, Jan. 15-23, 1868
- 12 Correspondence, Jan. 24-31, 1868
- 13 Correspondence, Feb. 1-10, 1868
- 14 Correspondence, Feb. 11-23, 1868
- 15 Correspondence, Feb. 24-28, 1868
- 16 Correspondence, March 1-31, 1868

BOX 4: *Correspondence, April, 1868-Feb., 1869*
FOLDER CONTENTS

- 1 Correspondence, April 1-28, 1868
- 2 Correspondence, May, 1868
- 3 Correspondence, June, 1868
- 4 Correspondence, June, 1868
- 5 Correspondence, July, 1868
- 6 Correspondence, Aug., 1868-Sept., 1868
- 7 Correspondence, Oct., 1868
- 8 Correspondence, Nov., 1868
- 9 Correspondence, Dec., 1868
- 10 Correspondence, Jan., 1869-Feb., 1869

BOX 5: *Correspondence, March, 1869-Oct., 1869*
FOLDER CONTENTS

- 1 Correspondence, March, 1869
- 2 Correspondence, April, 1869
- 3 Correspondence, May, 1869-June, 1869
- 4 Correspondence, July, 1869
- 5 Correspondence, Aug., 1869

6 Correspondence, Sept, 1869

7 Correspondence, Oct., 1869

BOX 6: *Correspondence, Nov., 1869-June, 1870*

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1 Correspondence, Nov., 1869

2 Correspondence, Dec., 1869

3 Correspondence, Jan., 1870

4 Correspondence, Feb., 1870

5 Correspondence, March, 1870

6 Correspondence, April, 1870

7 Correspondence, May, 1870

8 Correspondence, June, 1870

BOX 7: *Correspondence, July, 1870-Dec., 1870*

FOLDER CONTENTS

1 Correspondence, July, 1870

2 Correspondence, Aug., 1870

3 Correspondence, Sept. 1870

4 Correspondence, Oct., 1870

5 Correspondence, Nov., 1870

6 Baker, Hord & Hendricks legal files, Nov. 11-28, 1870

7 Correspondence, Dec., 1870

8 Speeches and general materials, 1870

BOX 8: *Correspondence, Jan., 1871-Feb., 1872*

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1 Correspondence, Jan., 1871

2 Correspondence, Feb., 1-13, 1871

3 Correspondence, Feb. 14-28

- 4 Correspondence, March, 1871
- 5 Correspondence, April, 1871
- 6 Correspondence, May, 1871
- 7 Correspondence, June, 1871
- 8 Correspondence, July, 1871-Aug., 1871
- 9 Correspondence, Sept., 1871-Oct., 1871
- 10 Correspondence, Nov. 1-21, 1871
- 11 Correspondence, Nov. 22-28, 1871
- 12 Correspondence, Dec., 1871
- 13 Correspondence, Jan., 1872
- 14 Correspondence, Feb. 1-18, 1872
- 15 Correspondence, Feb. 19-29, 1872

BOX 9: *Correspondence, March, 1872-Dec. 15, 1872*
FOLDER CONTENTS

- 1 Correspondence, March 1-8, 1872
- 2 Correspondence, March 11-17, 1872
- 3 Correspondence, March 18-31, 1872
- 4 Correspondence, April 1-10, 1872
- 5 Correspondence, April 11-29, 1872
- 6 Correspondence, May, 1872
- 7 Correspondence, June 1-10, 1872
- 8 Correspondence, June 11-30, 1872
- 9 Correspondence, July, 1872
- 10 Correspondence, Aug., 1872
- 11 Correspondence, Sept., 1872
- 12 Correspondence, Oct., 1872
- 13 Correspondence, Nov. 1-10, 1872
- 14 Correspondence, Nov. 11-30, 1872
- 15 Correspondence, Dec., 1-9, 1872

16 Correspondence, Dec., 10-15, 1872

BOX 10: *Correspondence, Dec. 16, 1872-1879; Legal Papers, 1863-1870*
FOLDER CONTENTS

- 1 Correspondence, Dec. 16-20, 1872
- 2 Correspondence, Dec. 21-24, 1872
- 3 Correspondence, Dec. 25, 1872
- 4 Correspondence, n.d.
- 5 Correspondence, 1873-1879
- 6 Serial letters to Albert Baker (son), n.d.
- 7 Accounts-Indiana Supreme Court & State Office Building, 1867-1868
- 8 Governor's & legislative letter books, 1864-1872, (BV 03241-3247 & F 0259-0263 & F 0044-0045)
- 9 Correspondence--Indiana Supreme Court & State Office Building, April 23-May 1, 1867
- 10 Correspondence--Indiana Supreme Court & State Office Building, May 8, 1867-July, 1867
- 11 Correspondence--Indiana Supreme Court & State Office Building, Aug., 1867-Oct. 11, 1867
- 12 Correspondence--Indiana Supreme Court & State Office Building, Oct. 17, 1867-Dec. 30, 1867
- 13 General records--Indiana Supreme Court & State Office Building, 1867-Jan. 27, 1869
- 14 Receipt Books--Indiana Supreme Court & State Office Building, 1867-1868
- 15 Documents & printed materials , 1865-1867 (OM 0003)
- 16 Correspondence--Baker, Hord & Hendricks, 1863-Oct., 1865
- 17 Correspondence--Baker, Hord & Hendricks, Nov., 1865-Dec., 1865
- 18 Correspondence--Baker, Hord & Hendricks, 1866-1870

BOX 11: *Baker, Hord & Hendricks Case Records, 1870-1886*
FOLDER CONTENTS

- 1 Grand Prairie Memorial Institute papers, 1870-1872
- 2 Grand Prairie Memorial Institute, papers, 1872

- 3 Grand Prairie Memorial Institute, papers, 1872
- 4 Grand Prairie Memorial Institute, papers, 1873
- 5 Clements A. Greenleaf bankruptcy case, 1874
- 6 Clements A. Greenleaf bankruptcy case, 1874
- 7 E. Nutting bankruptcy case, 1878
- 8 E. Nutting bankruptcy case, 1878
- 9 Baker, Hord & Hendricks correspondence, 1874-1882
- 10 Baker, Hord & Hendricks correspondence, 1880-1885
- 11 Baker, Hord & Hendricks correspondence, 1880
- 12 Baker, Hord & Hendricks, Wabash, Toledo & Western Railway, 1880
- 13 Baker, Hord & Hendricks, Wabash, Toledo & Western Railway, 1882
- 14 Baker, Hord & Hendricks, Central Union Telephone Co. case, 1880-1886

BOX 12: Baker, Hord & Hendricks--Legal Cases, 1871-1882
FOLDER CONTENTS

- 1 Union Paper Collar Co., n.d. (186?)
- 2 *Smock v. Henderson, Root, Braden, Woodruff, Hendricks*, Feb. 16, 1872
- 3 *Compton v. Wabash, St. Louis & Pacific Railway Co. and others*, n.d.
- 4 Opinion of stockholders of Republic Insurance Co., April, 1872
- 5 *Metropolitan National Bank v. Toledo, Wabash & Western Railway*, June 10, 1878
- 6 *Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railway and others v. Roosevelt and Fosdick*, 1879
- 7 *Compton v. Wabash, St. Louis & Pacific Railway*, n.d.
- 8 *Compton v. Wabash, St. Louis & Pacific Railway*, 1880, n.d.
- 9 *Tysen, Ham & others v. Wabash, St. Louis & Pacific Railway*, 1882
- 10 Scrapbooks, 1863-1873 (BV 3251-3252)
- 11 Conrad Baker estate, Oct., 1896 (BV 3249)
- 12 Allan Hendricks letter book, Indiana Law School, 1894 (BV 3248)
- 13 Hemlock Lodge, Pine Hills, Register & Association Book, 1892-1906 (BV 3250)

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's [online catalog](#)
2. Click on the "Local Catalog" icon.
3. Search for the collection by its call number, using the letter or letters designation and **four** digits (e.g., M 0715, SC 2234).
4. When you find the collection, go to the "Holdings" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.

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