ENOS STIMSON
LETTERS, 1861–1867

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Cataloging Information

Processed by
Kathryn Wilmot
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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 folder

COLLECTION DATES: 1861–1867

PROVENANCE: Ohio Book Store, Cincinnati, Ohio, August, 1960

RESTRICTIONS: None
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Born ca. 1809 in New York, Enos Stimson wrote the letters in this collection. Stimson owned E. Stimson & Co., Wholesale Grocers, Nos. 35 & 37 West Water Street, Syracuse, New York. The 1860 census indicates he lived in Homer, Cortland County, New York.

During the time period covered by this collection, Stimson traveled frequently from New York to Lafayette, Indiana to conduct business and purchase hogs and cattle. He was involved in stock options and trade with the firm of Purdue & Ward, a New York-based commission business. Stimson also mentions conducting business with H. T. Sample of Lafayette, Indiana, Thomas & Benham, and Stimson & Tallman.

Sources:
Information in the collection

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists of letters from Stimson to J. Ballard & Sons and Charles P. Ballard of Athens, Ohio. Stimson wrote the letters from Homer, New York, and Lafayette, Indiana, describing investments and the purchase and selling of contracts for hogs, cattle, corn, lard, and wool. He provides information on prices for these items in Indiana, New York, Chicago, and Cincinnati. Stimson also mentions hog cholera, the condition of hogs south of the National Road, pork packing, and the gold market.

In the larger historical context, Stimson wrote these letters during the Civil War era and discusses the suspension of banks in the east, the passing of the Treasury Note bill in February 1862, and Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation. He states the future of trading depends upon the success of the Army in the South, and mentions going home to New York for the express purpose of casting a vote for Lincoln in the 1864 election.

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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:  http://opac.indianahistory.org/
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, SC 2824).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.