

Collection #
M 0984
OM 0481

**GENERAL MAHLON D. MANSON
FAMILY PAPERS, 1848-1910S**

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Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 4 Boxes, 1 Oversized Folder.

COLLECTION DATES: 1848–1910s

PROVENANCE: Jean W. Manson, Pittsboro, Indiana, August 2007

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: Additional Manson items can be found in the Indiana State Library; Berea College Library, Berea, KY; Indiana State Archives; and the William H. English Papers (M 0098, Box 53, Folder 10).

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2007.0208

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Mahlon Dickerson Manson (1820–1895) was born in Miami County, Ohio. His father died when he was three years old and he started working around age 8 to help support the family and eventually became an apprentice to a druggist. In 1842 Manson moved to Montgomery County, Indiana where he opened an apothecary in Crawfordsville. He served as a captain of the 5th Indiana Volunteers during the Mexican War. After the war he returned to Crawfordsville where he became active in the Democratic Party politics serving in the Indiana House of Representatives from 1851–1852. In 1850 he married Caroline Mitchell and they produced six children.

In April 1861 Manson was instrumental in raising two companies for the 10th Indiana Regiment (3 months service) and a short time later was promoted to a colonel in the 10th and participated in the Battle of Rich Mountain (West) Virginia. Manson was also involved in reforming the 10th Indiana in September and was named brigadier general for the U. S. volunteers in September 1864 and commanded second brigade, fourth division of the Army of the Ohio and was injured and captured in the Battle of Richmond. Manson was soon paroled and returned to combat and was wounded at the Battle of Resaca causing him to lose the use of his right arm and resigned his commission in December, 1864.

Manson returned to Crawfordsville after his resignation and resumed his political career and was elected to Congress in 1870 defeating Lew Wallace, the Republican candidate, in the process and served in Congress from 1871–1873. He served as State Auditor, 1879–1881, was lieutenant governor, 1885–1886, and was a trustee for Purdue University, 1875–1879. Additional offices included as collector for the U. S. Internal Revenue Service for Indiana, 1886–1889. Manson was involved in many veterans organizations including the Society of Mexican War Veterans and the Grand Army of the Republic, as well being a member of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Commission. He died in February 1895.

Sources:

Sheppard et al. *A Biographical Directory of the Indiana General Assembly*. Indianapolis: Select Committee on the Centennial History of the Indiana General Assembly in cooperation with the Indiana Historical Bureau, 1980-1984. JK5630 .B6, vol. 1, p. 260.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection chiefly consists of correspondence and records relating to his career in the Mexican and Civil Wars including his work with veteran's organizations from both conflicts. Also contained are papers regarding Manson's political, business and social organizations interests. Of particular note is correspondence from various counties in his jurisdiction while he was the collector of Internal Revenue for the government, 1886. Other correspondence includes letters to Manson from Civil War veterans on a variety of related subjects. There also are documents regarding appointments, promotions and deeds, 1853–1886. Also included is correspondence and papers regarding Manson's involvement in the Soldiers and Sailors Monument Committee, 1889–1895.

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Correspondence, 1869	Box 1, Folder 8
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Correspondence, 1889	Box 2, Folder 7
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Correspondence, n.d.

Correspondence, n.d.

Correspondence, n.d.

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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, M 0984).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.