

Collection #
M 1528

**ISAAC W BLAKE FAMILY
PAPERS, 1828-1894**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	One half-sized manuscript box
COLLECTION DATES:	1828-1894
PROVENANCE:	Dr. Gregory Weeks, 2023
RESTRICTIONS:	None
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ACCESSION NUMBER:	2023.0115
NOTES:	

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Isaac W. Blake was born in 1805 in Ohio. By the time of his marriage to Rachel Line (sometimes spelled Lion) in 1828, he had come to Indiana. The couple's first four children, Elizabeth (1829), John Elihu (1830), Charles Abel (1832), and Isaac Newton (1834), were born in Parke County.

In early 1835 Isaac was living near the Yellow River in St. Joseph County. That summer he went to the newly organized White County. On 4 April 1836, he was one of the fourteen men who voted in the first election in that county's Monon Township, and he was elected constable. His father-in-law Elihu Line was also present, and was elected inspector of elections. That year Isaac and Rachel welcomed their fifth child, Dennis Kilgore, in White County. In 1836 and 1837 Isaac purchased several plots of land in White County. However, he was not present for Monon Township's second election in April 1837.

Back in Parke County in February of 1839, a sixth child was born, a daughter named Rachel after her mother. However, it appears that the mother did not survive childbirth. Six months later, in August, the baby died. After this time Isaac seems to have settled and farmed in Parke County, while his in-laws lived in White County. He also collected rent on land he owned in Iowa.

Isaac W. Blake died in 1862.

Sources:

Ancestry.com. U.S., General Land Office Records, 1776-2015 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2008.

Beckwith, Beadle, et al. 1880. *History of Vigo and Parke Counties: together with historic notes on the Wabash Valley, gleaned from early authors, old maps ... other authentic ... sources*. Chicago: Hill and Iddings

Goodspeed, Arthur. 1883. *Counties of White and Pulaski, Indiana: historical and biographical*. Chicago: F.A. Battey

Hamelle, W.H. 1915. *A standard history of White County, Indiana: an authentic narrative of the past, with an extended survey of modern developments in the progress of town and country*.

Material in the collection

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists chiefly of letters written to and by Isaac W. Blake. Much of the early correspondence is with the Line family. Later correspondence is from friends and business partners in Indiana and Iowa. In one particularly interesting letter from July of 1843, Isaac wrote to his mother-in-law Nancy Line (Lion) in White County complaining that life raising his children without his wife was too difficult.

Also included are a handwritten record of the births (and deaths) of his children and wife, tax receipts, and other legal documents.

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Handwritten genealogy

Correspondence, 1835, 1839

Nancy Lion [Line] to Isaac W. Blake, 29 January 184?

Correspondence, 1841-1848

Correspondence, 1851-1855

Correspondence, 1856-1857

Tax receipts, 1828-1894

Tax receipt with note, 1870

Land indenture, 1838; Debt contract, 1853

CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 2

Box 1, Folder 3

Box 1, Folder 4

Box 1, Folder 5

Box 1, Folder 6

Box 1, Folder 7

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