JAMES TOWNSEND
STORE LEDGER, 1830–1832

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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 bound volume

COLLECTION DATES: 1830–1832

PROVENANCE: Jane Eaglesfield Darlington, Carmel, IN, February 2004
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

James Townsend was born 31 August 1786 in Maryland to Major Townsend and Leah Selby. Townsend moved from Maryland to Kentucky in 1808. On 9 January 1809, Townsend married Catherine Hodge Davis, born in Maryland on 23 August 1789.

The couple moved from Kentucky to Indiana in 1828. Children of James and Catherine included Alfred Hodge Davis (b. 1 Nov 1809), Mary Hodge Davis (b. 3 March 1812), William Selby (b. 5 January 1815), Margaret Elizabeth (b. 18 September 1817), James McGready (b. 22 February 1820), Martha Ann (b. 28 April 1822), John Selby (b. 21 August 1824), Catherine Hodge Davis (b. 4 November 1826), and Alfred (b. 12 June 1830).

Upon his arrival in Putnam County, Indiana, Townsend helped establish the town of Putnamville in Warren Township. Townsend also opened Putnamville’s first store and inn in 1830. The town’s Presbyterian church was organized at the home of Townsend and his wife in 1830, and James served as an elder.

By 1850 Townsend had moved his family to a farm in Clay County, Indiana. James Townsend died on 4 November 1851 in Clay County, Van Buren Township, Indiana, and is buried in Williamstown Cemetery near Staunton.

Sources:
Information in the collection.


Rootsweb. Available at: http://www.rootsweb.com/

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists of the store ledger kept by James Townsend for the years 1830–1832. The first five pages are pasted over with newspaper clippings. The remaining pages list the names of Townsend’s customers and the items they purchased such as tea, sugar, coffee, salt, soap, nails, calico, ribbon, buttons, and tobacco.

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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, BV 3617).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.