

Collection #
M 0445

JENNINGS FAMILY PAPERS, 1796 - 1945

Collection Information	1
Biographical Sketch	2
Scope and Content Note	3
Contents	4

Processed by
Charles Latham
March 1986
Updated 21 December 2004

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: 2 manuscript boxes, 1 OVA photograph folder, 1 OVC photograph folder

COLLECTION DATES: 1796-1945

PROVENANCE: Gift of Mae Jennings Hutsell, Louisville, KY, 12-9-1985 and Barbara Morris, Louisville, KY

RESTRICTIONS: None

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.

ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1986.0226; 1986.0227

NOTES: 1 volume, a history of Lexington, Indiana, was transferred to Printed Collections

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

The Jennings family were among the early settlers of Scott County, Indiana. They apparently came west from Connecticut about 1800. Ozias Jennings (1766-1821) was living in Garrard County, Kentucky, between 1799 and 1815. He had three brothers, Aaron, Enoch, and Ichabod. Aaron Jennings was living in Scott County from 1820, when as justice of the peace he performed the first marriage in the county, till his death in 1834. His wife, Sally, died in 1837. They had two sons: George W. Jennings, who with his wife Susannah lived in Lexington from their marriage in 1834 until at least 1872; and Levi, who after a short stay in Lexington in 1827 returned to the East and settled near Schenectady, N.Y. Levi became postmaster in Austin, Scott County, in 1854. He died about 1880.

George W. Jennings and his wife had relatives named Owens, some of whom settled in Texas in the early 1840s, others in Illinois and Iowa around 1850.

Three more generations of the family continued to live in Lexington: William L. Jennings (1877-1924), James H. Jennings (1916-1945), and James M. (Murray) Jennings (born 1917).

All the family were farmers.

Sources: *Atlas of Scott County*, 1889

Bogardus, Carl R., *Centennial History of Austin, Scott County, Indiana*, 1953

Early History of Scott County, 1970

Pioneer Life in Scott County, 1957

Materials in collection

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Box 1, Folders 1-25, of the collection contain materials given by Mae Jennings Hutsell. This part of the collection consists of letters and deeds, and of some later printed material. It is arranged chronologically. The correspondence largely concerns family health and news, and the prices and conditions of crops. The collection begins with several letters addressed to Ozias Jennings in Kentucky by his relatives in Connecticut.

Aaron and George W. Jennings have several real estate dealings in the 1820s with their relative Salmon Jennings of nearby Jefferson County. George W. Jennings has a series of letters (1834-1844) from his brother Levi in New York State; then in the 1840s and early 1850s he and his wife receive several letters from the relations who have moved to Texas, Illinois, and Iowa.

There are several early recipes for such things as curing ringbone or colic, dyeing yarn, and curing a ham. The collection continues with the correspondence of William L. Jennings-- his lawsuit against relatives, his lumbering and farming business. There are a few items relating to James H. Jennings which are of interest as showing some of the paper work required of a farmer operating under the New Deal's AAA, and the effects of the bankruptcy of the Fletcher American Bank in Indianapolis in 1933.

The collection concludes with a number of printed materials, including operating instructions for agricultural equipment, and other materials related to farming.

Materials in Box 1, Folders 26-28 and Box 2 were given by Mrs. Barbara Morris. This part of the collection contains the penmanship copybooks of George W. Jennings, Thomas Weaver, and William L. Jennings; also a bound volume of assessment lists for Scott County in 1902.

CONTENTS

CONTENTS

1796-1830

1831-1840

n.d. early

n.d. early recipes

n.d. early school papers

1841-1849

1850-1851

1852-1860

1860-1890

1891-1899

1900-1909

1910-1919

1920-1929

1930-1938

1940-1945

n.d. later

Notes 1882-1932

Bills 1894-1938

Taxes 1849-1877

Auto and truck titles 1921-1932

Speech on Homestead Bill by Rep. C.L. Dunham,
1852

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

Box 1, Folder 8

Box 1, Folder 9

Box 1, Folder 10

Box 1, Folder 11

Box 1, Folder 12

Box 1, Folder 13

Box 1, Folder 14

Box 1, Folder 15

Box 1, Folder 16

Box 1, Folder 17

Box 1, Folder 18

Box 1, Folder 19

Box 1, Folder 20

Box 1, Folder 21

Printed material on farming	Box 1, Folder 22
Printed operating instructions	Box 1, Folder 23
Printed material-- miscellaneous	Box 1, Folder 24
Clippings	Box 1, Folder 25
Copybook, George W. Jennings, 1828	Box 1, Folder 26
Copybook, George W. Jennings and Thomas Weaver, c1830	Box 1, Folder 27
Copybook, William L. Jennings, 1855	Box 1, Folder 28
Scott County assessment lists, 1902	Box 2, Folder 1
Visual Materials	Visual Collection: OVA Photograph, Folder 1
	Visual Collection: OVC Photograph, Folder 1