JOHN E. IGLEHART
PAPERS, 1853–1953 (BULK 1853–1934)

Collection Information

Biographical Sketch

Scope and Content Note

Series Contents

Cataloging Information

Processed by
Paul Stephen Rich
1970

Reprocessed by
Carol Street Potter
5 December 2003

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: 8 document cases, 25 bound volumes, 1 microfilm reel

COLLECTION DATES:

PROVENANCE: Mrs. Joseph H. Iglehart and Mrs. James L. Clifford, September
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

John E. Iglehart (10 August 1848–18 April 1934) was born in Campbell Township, Warrick County, Indiana, the son of Asa Iglehart (1817–1887) and Ann Cowle (1817–1882). Asa Iglehart was a prominent lawyer and judge in Evansville, Indiana.

John E. Iglehart graduated from Asbury University (now DePauw University) in 1868, and immediately embarked on a career in law at his father’s law firm in Evansville. He was admitted to the bar in 1869 and admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States in 1874. Much of John E. Iglehart’s practice throughout his career was as attorney for the Evansville & Terre Haute Railroad Company.


Iglehart experienced much success in his legal career and turned toward personal pursuits later in life. He was a leader in the founding and activities of the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society, which encompassed Posey, Vanderburgh, Warrick, Spencer, Perry, Dubois, Pike, and Gibson counties, and later Knox County. Founded in 1920, the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society promoted the recognition of the importance of the frontier influence of Southern Indiana, with particular emphasis on the recognition of its influence on Abraham Lincoln, who spent ages seven to twenty-one in Spencer County.


Iglehart remained president emeritus of the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society until his death in 1934.

Sources:
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The papers, which date between 1858 and 1934, include over two thousand letters, Iglehart law firm letterbooks, and minutes of meetings of the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society.

Subjects of Mr. Iglehart’s correspondence include Clarence W. Alvord, George Rogers Clark, Abraham Lincoln, the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society, the Lincoln Union (formed to create a monument to the Lincolns in Indiana), the bridging of the Ohio River, and Woodrow Wilson.

Iglehart’s correspondence with historians concerning the frontier and Lincoln’s years in Indiana constitutes a significant portion of the collection. These include Frederick Jackson Turner (30 letters), Merle Curti (25 letters), Archer B. Hulbert (13 letters), Ida M. Tarbell (40 letters), Albert Beveridge (24 letters), Worthington C. Ford (37 letters), Clarence Garrett Vannest (66 letters), Louis C. Warren (11 letters), Jesse W. Weik (10 letters), and Carl Sandburg (7 letters).

The majority of the collection consists of Iglehart’s correspondence with members of the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society and the Indiana Historical Society. There are 29 letters from John W. Oliver, director of the Indiana Historical Commission; 266 letters from Mrs. Bess V. Ehrmann of Rockport, Indiana; and 179 letters from Mrs. Duff Johnson of Mount Vernon, Indiana.

There are 25 letterbooks, dating from 1853 to 1892, of the Iglehart law firm in Evansville, Indiana. John E. Iglehart joined the law firm of his father, prominent lawyer Judge Asa Iglehart, immediately after graduation in 1866.

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CONTAINER

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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://157.91.92.2/
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 0153).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.