

Collection #  
P 0703

**MARCUS MOTE FAMILY  
PORTRAITS, CA. 1844–CA. 1865**

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Processed by

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## COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 cased image box  
1 OVA Graphics Box  
2 OVB boxes in glass storage

COLLECTION DATES: 1844–ca. 1865

PROVENANCE: Cordelia M. Gladfelter, Emporia, KS, 1963  
Kessler Auctioneers, Richmond, IN, 1993  
Alan De Witt, Richmond, IN, 1999

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: Marcus Mote Letter (SC 1120) dated 1889 to David Jones describing the Battle of Tippecanoe as told by his parents, and his parents coming to Ohio in 1802. Typed transcript accompanying letter. 1 p.

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1963.0026, 1993.0322, 1999.0682

NOTES: This is an artificial collection

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

**Marcus Mote (1817–1898)** was born in West Milton, Ohio, a son of David Mote Jr. and his wife, Miriam (Mendenhall) Mote. Marcus was raised in a strict Quaker household where art was not encouraged. A self-taught painter of miniature portraits, landscapes, panoramas, biblical scenes, and ornamental works, he was also a pen artist, engraver, daguerreotypist, and a teacher of drawing and painting. In 1837, while teaching school in Turtle Creek, Ohio, he eloped with Rhoda Steddom, one of his pupils. The couple settled near Lebanon, Ohio, and around 1841 he began painting profile miniatures in watercolor. Later that decade, he traveled outside his county to paint portraits in oil, design advertising cuts for newspapers, and decorate omnibus carriages and signs. In 1850, he partnered with photographer, Peter Deardorff, and the two set up a portrait gallery in Lebanon advertising daguerreotypes, painted portraits and miniatures, and art classes. In 1864, he moved his family to Richmond, Indiana, where many of his relatives were located. There he opened a School of Design and over the years attracted more than five hundred pupils. He remained in Richmond the rest of his life teaching art and badgering the state to introduce drawing into the state public school curriculum. He closed his studio in 1893 and died in 1898.

**David Mote, Jr. (1792–1862)** and his wife, **Miriam (Mendenhall) Mote (1792–1873)**, were the parents of Marcus Mote and his younger brother Enos. The couple were Quaker farmers and lived in Miami County, Ohio.

**Enos Mote (1827–1856)** was the younger brother of Marcus Mote whose watercolor portrait appears in this collection. He lived in West Milton, Ohio and was married to Martha Ann Mote. Not much is known about the couple but both died in 1856.

**Rhoda Steddom Mote (1821–1904)**, the wife of Marcus Mote, was born in Warren County, Ohio, to Samuel and Susannah Steddom. She attended school in Turtle Creek and eloped with Marcus Mote in November 1837. An amateur painter, she is known for one small still life of pears, dated 1835. The couple had several sons and one daughter.

**Susan J. Mote (1850–1924)**, known as Jennie and the youngest child of Marcus and Rhoda Mote, she married carpenter, Francis Ibaugh on 1 February 1871. The couple had one daughter named Fannie. Susan worked as a seamstress and dressmaker. Their daughter never married and both mother and daughter worked together as furriers later in life.

Sources:

AncestryLibrary.com

Mary Sayre Haverstock; *Artists in Ohio, 1787-1900: a biographical dictionary*. Kent, Ohio: Kent State University Press, 2000. I.H.S. Reference Room Collection: N6530.O3 H38 2000

Jacobsen, Anita. *Jacobsen's biographical index of American artists*: Carrollton, Tex.: A.J. Publications, 2002. I.H.S. Reference Room Collection: N6536 .J33 2002

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection is comprised of three watercolor portraits painted by Indiana artist, Marcus Mote, and seven daguerreotype and tintype portraits that originated from his effects. The watercolors were painted by him and it is quite possible that the daguerreotype and tintype portraits were taken by him at his photography studio. Six of the images were purchased from the Argus Ogborn estate. Ogborn was a local historian in the Richmond, Indiana, area, who had obtained the images from the estate of Mote's daughter, Jennie Mote Ibaugh.

The three painted portraits by Marcus were donated by Cordelia M. Gladfelter of Emporia, Kansas, in 1963. The earliest portrait is a seated profile watercolor portrait of Mote's younger brother Enos at age 17. There are also two portraits of Mote's parents, David and Miriam, in old age. They appear to be photographs enhanced with watercolors and includes their original frames.

Purchased from the Argus Ogborn estate are the following: one daguerreotype of Rhoda Steddom Mote, one daguerreotype of Jennie Mote as a child, a tintype of Jennie as an adult with an unidentified young woman, a small oval tintype of Jennie also as an adult, a daguerreotype of two unidentified women, and a tintype of an unidentified older man identified only as a "pioneer citizen."

Also from the effects of Marcus Mote that was purchased separately, is a daguerreotype portrait of a bearded man with a gold watch chain, and a ring on the hand he holds over his heart. It came with a note: "From the effects of Marcus Mote Richmond, Ind. Artist 1817–1898."

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"Enos Mote "17 years" (1827–1856)  
younger brother of Marcus Mote  
seated profile portrait in watercolor, 1844

Miriam (Mendenhall) Mote (1792–1873)  
mother of Marcus Mote  
painted photograph in watercolor, ca. 1860

David Mote (1792–1862)  
father of Marcus Mote  
painted photograph in watercolor, ca. 1860

Two oval gilt frames to accompany portraits of  
Miriam and David Mote

Rhoda Steddom Mote,  
wife of Marcus Mote,  
daguerreotype portrait, ca. 1850

Jennie Mote,  
daughter of Marcus and Rhoda Mote  
daguerreotype portrait, ca. 1855

Jennie Mote Ibaugh and unidentified young woman  
tintype portrait, ca. 1865

Jennie Mote Ibaugh  
small oval tintype portrait, ca. 1865

Two unidentified young women  
daguerreotype portrait, ca. 1850

Elderly man with white hair noted as a "pioneer  
citizen" on typed note in case  
tintype portrait, ca. 1855

Unidentified man with beard, gold watch chain and  
ring on his hand he holds over his heart  
daguerreotype portrait, ca. 1855

### CONTAINER

OVA Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 1

OVA Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 2

OVA Graphics:  
Box 1, Folder 3

Glass Plate Storage  
OVB Box 1 and 2  
Aisle 7B, shelf 6m

Cased Images:  
Box 1, ID 95

Cased Images:  
Box 1, ID 96

Cased Images:  
Box 1, ID 98

Cased Images:  
Box 1, ID 100

Cased Images:  
Box 1, ID 97

Cased Images:  
Box 1, ID 99

Cased Images:  
Box 1, ID 387