MERRILL-GRAYDON FAMILY PAPERS, 1836–1930 (BULK 1890–1920)

Collection Information 1
Biographical Sketch 2
Scope and Content Note 4
Contents 5

Processed by
Charles Latham
3 March 1992
Updated 26 January 2005

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: 4 manuscript boxes, 4 OVA photograph folders

COLLECTION DATES: Inclusive 1836-1930; Bulk 1890-1920


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: Samuel Merrill M 0204; John L. Ketcham M 0173, BV 1035-1046; Jane Chambers McKinney Graydon Papers SC 2222


NOTES: SC 2074, Catharine Merrill, has been transferred to this collection. A number of books to Print Collections; several artifacts to Artifacts.
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

This collection contains the papers of two families connected by marriage, and spreads over two generations. This sketch will attempt to place the family members whose papers appear in the collection, but will omit several brothers and sisters whose papers do not.

The first family is that of Samuel Merrill (1791-1855). Born in Peacham, Vermont, he moved first to York, Pennsylvania, then to Vevay, Indiana. He was a man of many talents. He served as state treasurer (1822-1834), as president of the State Bank of Indiana (1834-1844), and as president of the Madison and Indianapolis Railroad, the first in Indiana (1844-1848). Finally, through owning a bookstore, he became involved in publishing, and founded the firm which eventually became Bobbs-Merrill. By his first wife, Lydia Jane Anderson, he had a number of children, of whom four appear in this collection.

The first was Catharine Merrill (1824-1900). Following in the footsteps of her father who also taught school at times, she started a school for local children and ran it for some years. In 1859-1860 she took her younger siblings on an educational tour of Germany, and wrote a series of travel letters which were published in the Indianapolis Journal. Having gained more formal experience at teaching in a young ladies' school in Cleveland and in another in Crawfordsville, she began teaching at Northwestern Christian University (now Butler), where a chair in English literature was later endowed in her memory. In 1896 she wrote an anonymous history of The Soldier of Indiana in the War of the Union. She was an active member of several clubs, including the Indianapolis Woman's Club and the Contemporary Club. The Catharine Merrill Club, still in existence, was founded in her honor. Her younger sister, Mina Merrill, was associated with her in her early teaching.

Another sister, Julia Dumont Merrill (1826-1912) married Charles Washington Moores (1828-1864), and they had two sons, lawyer and Congressman Merrill Moores (1856-1929), and lawyer Charles Washington Moores II (1862-1923), many of whose letters appear in this collection.

A fourth sister, Mary Merrill (1835-1917) was married in 1857 to William Mordecai Graydon (1825-1903), thereby making the connection with the second family in this collection. He was the son of Alexander Graydon (1791-1868) and Jane Chambers McKinney Graydon (1802-1891). Jane Graydon was the daughter of Mordecai McKinney, and her sister Mary Ann married William Patterson Alexander, an early missionary to the Sandwich (Hawaiian) Islands. Her family tree also included the Bodine family. Alexander and Jane Graydon lived at first in Harrisburg, where they were energetic members of the anti-slavery movement. In 1843 they moved to Indianapolis.

They were both active in the Second and then the Fourth Presbyterian Church; she served as a nurse during the Civil War and was a founder of the Home For Friendless Women (now the Indianapolis Retirement Home). One of their children was William Mordecai Graydon, referred to above.
William Mordecai and Mary Merrill Graydon had three daughters whose papers appear in the collection. The first was Katharine Merrill Graydon (1858-1934). She graduated from Butler in 1878, taught Latin and Greek at Hastings College, a newly founded Presbyterian institution in Nebraska, then occupied the Catharine Merrill Chair of English at Butler until she retired in 1930.

The second daughter, Jane (Jennie) Graydon (ca 1865-1957), graduated from Butler in 1887. She also taught for some time at Hastings College, and later at Public School #2 in Indianapolis. She was a founder of the Dramatic Club and an active member of the Indianapolis Woman's Club.

The third daughter, Julia Moores Graydon (1870-1935) graduated from Butler in 1890. She married Alexander Jameson, a dentist. She wrote many papers for the Indianapolis Woman's Club, and also was active in the Family Welfare Society and the Fairview Presbyterian Church. Her activities in the Marion County Tuberculosis Association caused the Jameson Camp to be named for her. Her daughter Lydia was married first to banker Evans Woollen, Jr., and then to Dr. James O. Ritchey; her children Evans Woollen III and Katharine Merrill Woollen Fitts are the donors of this collection.

Sources: Materials in collection
Indiana Scrapbook Collection vol. 5 pp. 59-60
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection, filling four manuscript boxes and covering the years 1836-1930, consists of correspondence, club papers, a few official documents, clippings, books, and photographs. It is arranged according to correspondent.

In Box 1, Folders 1-7 contain genealogical material on the Alexander, Bodine, Dumont, Graydon, McKinney, and Merrill families. In Folders 8-11 are letters concerning the older members of the McKinney and Graydon families: letters, 1836-1847, to Mary Ann McKinney Alexander from two of her sisters; a letter from Jane Chambers McKinney Graydon while a nurse in the Civil War (see SC 2222), a poem by Ellen McKinney, and a tribute to Emma Graydon Alexander. In Folders 12-14 are incidental papers from the Merrill family, including a family temperance pledge of 1852.

Folders 15-31 contain papers of Catherine Merrill, mainly letters from her longtime friend Mary L. Meek and her letters from Germany in 1859-1860. Folders 32-33 concern Mina Merrill. Folders 34-40 contain papers of Jane Graydon, mainly a series of charming letters from her cousin Charles W. Moores.

In Box 2, Folders 1-15 contain the papers of Katharine Merrill Graydon. These include a few letters, including one from Oliver Wendell Holmes for the dedication of the Hastings College library; several club papers; and partial diaries for 1879 and 1889. The diary for 6 September 1879 mentions talks with two professors at Butler whom she finds "not unfavorable" to opening the college to girls.

In Folders 16-17 of Box 2 are the 1890-1891 journal of Julia Graydon Jameson, and some of her correspondence.

The papers of Julia Graydon Jameson continue in Box 3. In Folders 1-17 are some of her club papers. In Folder 18 is a paper on Early Times in Indianapolis probably by Julia Dumont; in Folder 20 a grammar workbook; in Folder 21 the catalog of Cleveland Female Seminary for 1856-1857; in Folders 22-26, clippings.

A considerable number of identified photographs are stored in Visual Collections.

In Box 4 are a number of family-related books (see box and folder listing).
CONTENTS

BOX 1: Genealogical; Catherine and Mina Merrill; Jane Graydon

CONTENTS
Genealogical-- Alexander  Box 1, Folder 1
Genealogical-- Bodine  Box 1, Folder 2
Genealogical-- Dumont  Box 1, Folder 3
Genealogical -- Graydon  Box 1, Folder 4
Genealogical-- Graydon-- "A family retrospect"  Box 1, Folder 5
Genealogical-- Merrill  Box 1, Folder 6
Mary Ann McKinney Alexander--from Rachel McKinney 1836-1847  Box 1, Folder 7
Mary Ann McKinney Alexander--from Jane McKinney Graydon 1836  Box 1, Folder 8
Jane McKinney Graydon to her sister 1861  Box 1, Folder 9
Ellen McKinney-- poem n.d.  Box 1, Folder 10
Emma Graydon Alexander, by Katharine M. Graydon  Box 1, Folder 11
Ketcham family letter 1844 to Priscilla Wilson  Box 1, Folder 12
Rachel V. Potts to "Uncle" 1849  Box 1, Folder 13
Rachel V. Potts to "Uncle" 1849  Box 1, Folder 14
Catharine Merrill--diplomas 1838, 1839  Box 1, Folder 15
Catharine Merrill--journal 1843  Box 1, Folder 16
Catharine Merrill--from Elizabeth L. Meek-- 1845-1851  Box 1, Folder 17
Catharine Merrill--- 1852-1874  Box 1, Folder 18
Catharine Merrill--from William M. and Mary M. Graydon 1851, nd
Box 1, Folder 19

Catharine Merrill--from Mary Merrill 1852
Box 1, Folder 20

Catharine Merrill--from Hattie E. Beecher 1856
Box 1, Folder 21

Catharine Merrill--to family 1853-1874, nd
Box 1, Folder 22

Catharine Merrill--passport 1859, D. A. R. diploma 1893
OM 0272, Folder 1

Catharine Merrill--letters from Germany 1859-1860
Box 1, Folder 23

Catharine Merrill--newspaper letters from Germany, 1859
Box 1, Folder 24

Catharine Merrill--newspaper letters from Germany, February 1860
Box 1, Folder 25

Catharine Merrill--newspaper letters from Germany, May-November 1860
Box 1, Folder 26

Catharine Merrill--newspaper letters from Germany, 1861, n.d.
Box 1, Folder 27

Catharine Merrill--to Julia Dumont n.d.
Box 1, Folder 28

Catharine Merrill--and John Muir
Box 1, Folder 29

Catharine Merrill--memorials 1900, 1906
Box 1, Folder 30

Catharine Merrill--memorial by James Davie Butler 1900
Box 1, Folder 31

Mina Merrill-- from Mary L. Meek 1903
Box 1, Folder 32

re: Mina Merrill
Box 1, Folder 33

Jane Graydon--to Mary Merrill Graydon
Box 1, Folder 34

Jane Graydon--from Charles W. Moores, 1890
Box 1, Folder 35

Jane Graydon--from Charles W. Moores, 1891
Box 1, Folder 36
Jane Graydon--from Charles W. Moores, 1893-1898  Box 1, Folder 37

Jane Graydon--from Charles W. Moores, 1899-1915  Box 1, Folder 38

Jane Graydon--from Alberta Holford 1903  Box 1, Folder 39

Jane Graydon--to Jameson nieces and nephew 1907-1908  Box 1, Folder 40

**BOX 2: Katherine Merrill Graydon; Julia Graydon Moores**

**CONTENTS**

Katharine Merrill Graydon--from [Mary Merrill Graydon}  Box 2, Folder 1

Katharine Merrill Graydon--to Janet Moores 1864  Box 2, Folder 2

Katharine Merrill Graydon--to Julia Graydon Jameson [1898]  Box 2, Folder 3

Katharine Merrill Graydon--from Oliver Wendell Holmes 1889  Box 2, Folder 4

Katharine Merrill Graydon--recommendation for emeritus status 1930  Box 2, Folder 5

Katharine Merrill Graydon--"A pioneer tale"  Box 2, Folder 6

Katharine Merrill Graydon--"The man Shakespeare as revealed in his works"  Box 2, Folder 7

Katharine Merrill Graydon--pages 23-40 of incomplete paper  Box 2, Folder 8

Katharine Merrill Graydon--"The child in literature"  Box 2, Folder 9

Katharine Merrill Graydon--"The passing of the picturesque in Indianapolis"  Box 2, Folder 10

Katharine Merrill Graydon--"Scenes from early Indiana life"  Box 2, Folder 11

Katharine Merrill Graydon--Retrospect on Fourth Presbyterian Church; Poem by Scot Butler  Box 2, Folder 12
Katharine Merrill Graydon--Diary 1879  Box 2, Folder 13
Katharine Merrill Graydon--Diary 1889  Box 2, Folder 14
Julia Moores Graydon--Journal 1890-1891  Box 2, Folder 15
Julia Moores Graydon--from family in East 1912  Box 2, Folder 16

**BOX 3: Julia Graydon Jameson; Miscellaneous**

**CONTENTS**

Julia Graydon Jameson--"Ramabai" 1894  Box 3, Folder 1
Julia Graydon Jameson--"Maud Bellington Booth" 1897  Box 3, Folder 2
Julia Graydon Jameson--"The doctor in literature" 1901  Box 3, Folder 3
Julia Graydon Jameson--"Some modern tendencies" 1904  Box 3, Folder 4
Julia Graydon Jameson--"Near the babbling Wye" 1906  Box 3, Folder 5
Julia Graydon Jameson--"The man Lowell" 1908  Box 3, Folder 6
Julia Graydon Jameson--"Modern American poetry" 1914  Box 3, Folder 7
Julia Graydon Jameson--"The divine whisper of today" 1929  Box 3, Folder 8
Julia Graydon Jameson--"The alchemist's touch"  Box 3, Folder 9
Julia Graydon Jameson--"Fashions in heroines"  Box 3, Folder 10
Julia Graydon Jameson--"Galsworthy"  Box 3, Folder 11
Julia Graydon Jameson--"Lincoln in England"  Box 3, Folder 12
Julia Graydon Jameson--"Mark Twain"  Box 3, Folder 13
Julia Graydon Jameson--"The mission of the novel"  Box 3, Folder 14
Julia Graydon Jameson-- "Some people that have passed my windows"  Box 3, Folder 15

Julia Graydon Jameson-- "This I have read in a book"  Box 3, Folder 16

Julia Graydon Jameson-- "What is worth while"  Box 3, Folder 17

J. C. L.-- "The right will conquer"  Box 3, Folder 18

[Julia L. Dumont?]-- "Early times in Indianapolis"  Box 3, Folder 19

Grammar notebook  Box 3, Folder 20

Catalog of Cleveland Female Seminary 1856-1857  Box 3, Folder 21

Clippings  Box 3, Folder 22-26

Cards  Box 3, Folder 27

Miscellaneous  Box 3, Folder 28

BOX 4: Books

CONTENTS
Catharine Merrill-- *The Man Shakespeare*

Katharine Merrill Graydon-- *Butler College in the World War; Thoughts on the service of Homer to humanity*

*Juvenile Companion* ca 1825

*The school of good manners*-- early primer

Thomas Day-- *Sandford and Merton* New York, 1830

*The pageant of Indiana* 1916

*Indiana Magazine of History* September and October 1938-- articles on Julia Dumont

*Butler Alumni Quarterly* April and July 1934, July 1937-- articles on Katharine M. Graydon
## Visual Materials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTENTS</th>
<th>CONTAINER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Catharine Merrill, Mina Merrill</td>
<td>Visual Collection: Photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane Chambers McKinney Graydon, family rocker</td>
<td>Visual Collection: Photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William M. and Mary Merrill Graydon, Ellen Douglass Graydon</td>
<td>Visual Collection: Photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane Graydon</td>
<td>Visual Collection: Photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katharine Merrill Graydon and her house</td>
<td>Visual Collection: Photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jameson family</td>
<td>Visual Collection: Photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moores family</td>
<td>Visual Collection: Photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graydon and Moores families</td>
<td>Visual Collection: Photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends-- identified</td>
<td>Visual Collection: Photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends' babies-- identified</td>
<td>Visual Collection: Photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Merrill house (ca 1822-1865) on Merrill St. west of Meridian</td>
<td>Visual Collection: Photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watercolors--Merrill and Bickford houses, Peacham, Vt.</td>
<td>Visual Collection: Photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watercolors--4 unidentified scenes; Postcards</td>
<td>Visual Collection: Photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postcards--Peacham, Vt.</td>
<td>Visual Collection: Photographs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>