OLIVER PERRY AIKEN (FL. 1850–1886)
PAPERS, 1833–1886

Collection Information

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Cataloging Information

Processed by

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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
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Indiana Historical Society
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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 10 Manuscript Folders

COLLECTION DATES: 1833–1886

PROVENANCE: Arthur Romerhaus, Evansville, Indiana May, 1953

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1953.0524

NOTES:
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Oliver Perry Aiken was a farmer in Vanderburgh and Warrick counties, in southern Indiana.

Sources:

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Oliver Perry Aiken papers consist principally of Aiken’s correspondence, legal documents, and financial records relating to farming and the shipping of agricultural products from Newburgh (Warrick County) and Evansville (Vanderburgh County), 1850–86. Also included are letters from merchants in Lawrenceburg (Dearborn County) and New Orleans, La.; and Aiken family legal documents (1833–50).

There are 107 letters and documents, including 53 printed items consisting of land records, deeds, tax receipts, bills, and bills of lading shipments to New Orleans. There are also correspondence and family documents in Knight Township, Vanderburgh County, Evansville, and Newburgh and several letters from Jacob Piatt Dunn to Aiken from 1859 to 1864.

Each document is listed in the collection with a brief description of its contents.
CONTENTS

1833, June 1
Surveying Certificate, Jesse Lane, land in Green River Island, Henderson, Co. Ky. DS, 1p

Folder 1

1835, Oct. 20
Indenture transferring property in Vanderburgh Co. from Wm. and Cynthia Cockrum to Jordon Cockrum. 1p.

Folder 1

1836, May 28
Indenture transferring land from to David Aiken to Patrick Doran. [Conditional; takes place of mortgage]. Printed form filled in, 1p.

Folder 1

1836, May 28
Indenture transferring land from Patrick and Mary Doran, Pittsburgh, to David Aiken. P.F.F.I., 1p

Folder 1

1837, Feb. 1
Indenture transferring land, W1/2 SE and SE SE9 T7S R13W, Vanderburgh Co. from Frederick and Sarah Goodsell to Joseph Lane. Printed form filled in on one side; written on one side.

Folder 2

1844, Mar. 4
Deed transferring property, W1/2 SE9 T7S R10W, from Joseph and Polly Lane to Jesse Lane. Printed form filled in. 2p.

Folder 2

1847, Jan. 29
Transfer of property, Frac. 16, T7S, R10W, from Jesse and Delilah Lane to Dan’l. Aiken, David Aiken, Jr. and Moses Aiken

Folder 2

1847, Jan. 29
Indenture transferring property, SE SE9, T7S R10W, between Jesse and Delilah Lane, and Moses Aiken, Dan’l. Aiken and David Aiken, Jr. P.F.F.I., 1p.
1850, Sept. 1 to 1853, May 25
Dr. Walker & Hatchitt to Perry Aiken. Doctor bills. D.S. 1p.

1850, Sept. 28 to 1852, Feb. 12
Bill for law (?) services rendered by Jno. Ilehandler.

1850, Oct. 16
Aiken, Perry, Deed record, Frac. 16, 7S, 10W, from Jesse Lane showing through Joseph Lane, F.E. Goodsell, J.P. Cockrum. Jesse Lane to Daniel, Moses and David Aiken, Jr., to Perry Aiken. D.S. 2p.

1852, Jan. 2

1852, Feb. 1
County Treasurer, R.M. Dunbar to Perry Aiken. Receipt for $27.10 for taxes for 1850. P.F.F.I.

1852, Feb. 12

1852, March 5

1853, Jan. 5
Pettitt, Dr. A.H., to Perry Aiken. Receipted doctor bill.

1853, Nov. 7
Indenture, Frac. 7, T7S, R9W, between Joseph and Elizabeth Wells and Wm. T. Bryant, of Rockville, Ind. P.F.F.I.

1853, Nov. 10
To Moses Aikens. Please pay to Joseph Winaman $1.50 and place it to my account.
1853, Dec. 1
Agreement between O.P. Aiken and Miner and Dickerson about furnishing corn for shipping. D.S. 1p. Folder 3

1854, Mar. 16
Venemann, Joseph to O.P. Aiken, check for $60. Folder 3

1854, Nov. 7
Aiken, O.P. Request to court to be released as security on bond as guardian of Peggy Phillips minor heirs since he is about to remove from state of Indiana. D.S. 1p. Folder 3

1854, Dec. 26
Transfer of property NE SE9, T7S, R10W, from Julia and Polly McLaughlin to O.P. Aiken, through Daniel Aiken. D.S. 1p. Folder 3

1855, Sept. 1

1855, Nov. 15
Bill of exchange. Folder 3

1856, Feb 8
County Treasurer, To O.P. Aiken, Evansville, Receipt for $68.93 for taxes for year, 1855. P.F.F.I. Folder 4

1856, Dec. 2
Mitchell, John S. and Aiken. Agreement on the sale of 6000 bushels of corn. D.S. 1p. Folder 4

1857, Dec. 10
Saunders, Jas. D., County Surveyor, to O.P. Aiken. Surveyor’s bill. D. 1p. Folder 4

1858, Jan 28
1858, Oct. 14  

1859, Feb. 10  
Walker, Wm., Vanderburgh Co. Treasurer’s Office, Evansville, to O.P. Aikens. Receipt for $131.82 for taxes for 1858. P.F.F.I. 1p

1859, Apr. 28  

1859 Sep. 7  
Owen, Richard, Cor. Secretary, to O.P. Aiken. Notification of designation as awarding judge, Southwestern Indiana Agricultural and Mechanical District Fair. P.F.F.I. 1p.

1859, Sep. 8  

1859, Oct. 18  
Dunn, Jacob P., Lawrenceburg, to O.P. Aiken. Father wants Aiken to sell some property for him. – terms, etc. ALS, 1p

1859, Oct. 29  
Dunn, Jacob P., Indianapolis, to O.P. Aiken. Writer here with father who has settled with Judge Bryant and paid off the last payment and lifted the mortgage. Mr. Angel has changed his mind about amt. he is willing to take. Will send you the money and deed for him and wife to sign. Warmest pers. regards to you and yours. ALS 1p

1859, Dec. 14  
Conway, Thomas, to O.P. Aiken. Note authorizing Aiken to collect rent on farm occupied by Angel in Knight Township and to act as agent until further notified. DS, 1p.
1859, Dec. 26

Folder 4

1860–1880
Resume of family finances, 1860–1880, written.

Folder 5

1860, Jan 24
Denby, Charles, Evansville, to O.P. Aiken. Receipt for two late firms, $2.00 for one and $4.50 from other. ADS, 1p.

Folder 5

1860, June 18
Board of Commissioners, Vanderburgh County, Statement of appropriation of $100 out of county treasury to be applied toward repairs of road extending upon the south line of sections 29-28-27- and 26 in T6S, R10W from Evansville to Pigeon Township; to intersect Green River Road. D. 1p.

Folder 5

1860, July 25
Dunn, Jacob P., Lawrenceburg, Ind. to O.P. Aiken. Dunn has been busy with the Census. Discusses prospects of crops and politics. Douglass’ chances in Indiana. Thinks the people of territories should be able to judge for themselves whether or not they want slavery. ALS, 1 1/2p.

Folder 5

1860, Oct. 1
Murphy, William D., to O.P. Aiken, Mortgage for $500 on crop of corn on Aiken’s farm, known as “the Old Jesse Lane farm”, now tenanted by Murphy. D. 2p.

Folder 5

1860, Nov. 14
Macaulay, Ogilby, New Orleans, to O.P. Aiken. Letter covering sales made for Mr. Aiken, written on stationery provided as half daily issue of New-Orleans Price-Current, Commercial Intelligencer and Merchants Transcript. ALS 1p. plus 1p. periodical.

Folder 5
1860, Nov 17  
Macaulay, Ogilby, Merchant New Orleans. O.P. Aiken. Letter covering business transaction written on stationery provided as half daily issue of New-Orleans Price-Current, Commercial Intelligencer & Merchants Transcript. ALS. 1p, plus 1p., periodical.  

Folder 5

1860, Dec. 14  

Folder 5

1860, Dec. 15  

Folder 5

1861, Jan. 4  
Dunn, J.P., Lawrenceburg, Ind. to O.P. Aiken. Will be glad to take care of matter you wrote about, but have just returned from Indianapolis and do not expect to be there again soon. Suggests Mr. Nathan Pyatt to take care of it. Intends to be in Aiken’s neighborhood within month to look into business pertaining to sale of mill. Complains about Republican Administration. ALS, 1p.

Folder 6

1861, Feb. 16  

Folder 6

1861, May 6  
Dunn, Jacob P., Lawrenceburg, Ind. to O.P. Aiken. Letter speaking of uneasiness especially along the river, and the possible effects if Kentucky should secede. Says that Crittenden’s plan should have been adopted. States his position. Will be with the Administration for Union. Asks Aiken to look into Conrad Finckston matter. ALS, 1p.
1861, Nov. 22
Parrett, William F. to Hicks, R.S., Spencer Co., Clerk.
Inquiring whether O.P. Aiken’s dark bay horse has been posted there.
[also at bottom]
1861, Nov. 26
Hicks, R.S., Rockport, Ind., To Parrett. It has not.
ALS, 1p.

1862, Jan 4

1862, April 8
Tonner, O.R. of C. Aultman & Co., Terre Haute, Ind. to O.P. Aiken. Letter asking Aiken to meet him in Evansville en route to Cincinnati, so Toner can see the machine for which he wants repairs. Also Toner’s Co. would like Aiken to be their agent. ALS, 1p.

1862, Dec. 23
Coker, Solomon, Indianapolis, to O.P. Aiken. Written in jail, a request for Mr. Aiken to appear as witness for writer at his trial for taking part in Newburgh raid, July 18, 1862. ALS, 1 ½ p.

1863, Feb. 25

1863, July 18
Cook, Hamer T., Delphi, Ohio, to Editor Evansville Journal. Letter from farmer who has seen advertised Rock Bentley wheat and would like Editor to forward to O.P. Aiken. On same page: Letter from Editor to Mr. Aiken. A.L.S. 1p.

1863, Oct. 2
1864, Mar, 1

1864, May 5
Dunn, Jacob P. Indianapolis to O.P. Aiken. Letter saying writer had written to Moses saying he wanted to sell his farm or exchange it for city property; also sent him statement of balance due by Moses & Aiken on their notes to Dunn’s father. ALS, 1p.

1864, July 27

1865, Feb. 24
Cox, J.B, Deputy Treasurer, Vanderburgh Co. to O.P. Aiken, Receipt for taxes, 1864. P.F.F.I. 1p.

1865, Mar. 6

1865

1865, Nov 11 and Jan. 17, 1866
Thompson, Dr. Peter S. Bill and receipt for medical services. D.S. 1p.

1867, Feb. 16

1867, Feb. 22

1867, Feb. 27
Duddenhauser, Co. Clerk’s Office, Evansville, to O.P. Aiken, Receipt for taxes for 1866. P.F.F.I.
1868, Jan. 8
To O.P. Aiken, Invitation to First Grand Social Hop of season by the Newburgh Excelsior Dancing Club. Printed form, name O.P. Aiken, written in. 4p.  

Folder 7

1868, Dec 17

Folder 7

1868, Feb 22

Folder 7

1869, Jan. 9

Folder 7

1869, Mar. 8
Koester & Korff, to O.P. Aiken, request to come to see Mr. Henry Behrin, as he will not live much longer. ALS, 1p.  

Folder 7

1869, Mar. 15
Lauer, J.W., County Treasurer’s Office, Vanderburgh, to O.P. Aiken, receipt for taxes for 1867. P.F.F.I., 1 p.  

Folder 7

1869, Mar. 26

Folder 7

1869, Apr. 5
Knight, A., Fickas, S.R. Inspectors and Judges of Election Vanderburgh Co. Certificate of election of O.P. Aiken to post of Supervisor of Road District 110. D.S.  

Folder 7

1870, Mar. 6
Lauer, J.W., Office of County Treasurer, Evansville to O.P. Aiken Receipt for taxes for 1869, P.F.F.I.  

Folder 8

1870, Mar. 15

Folder 8

1871, April 7 Lanis, J.W., County Treasurer’s Office, Evansville, to O.P. Aken. Receipt for taxes for 1870. Printed form filled in, 1p.

1871, June 22 Justice of Peace, Garrett, John, Vanderburgh Co., Knight Township. Writ to constable to summon jury. Verso: Venier listing citizens on whom writ was served, by Constable Peter Springstun. ADS, 1p.


1872, Oct.?

1873, Apr. 14

1873, Dec. 16
Office of Charles Pleasants, Commission Merchant, New Orleans, per Benedict. To Miss Aiken & Williams. Letter accompanying statement of account saying he can see no prospect of a favorable reaction in prices for a long time to come, and quoting prices on oats and corn. LS, 1p.

1874, Dec. 16
Charles Pleasants [Co.], New Orleans, per Benedict, to Miss Aiken & Williams, Newburgh. Statement of account-credits and debits.

1874, Jan 3
Conway, Thos., Banker, Rochester, Pa., to O.P. Eakin. Letter regarding a farm owned in Indiana by writer for which Aiken is acting as agent. ALS, 19

1874, Apr. 10
Warren, Will, Jr., County Treasurer, to O.P. Aiken. Receipt for third installment on State and County taxes for 1873. P.F.F.I.

1874, Nov. 13
1874, Dec. 22
Charles Pleasants [Co.], New Orleans, La., by
Benedict, to O.P. Aiken, Newburgh, Ind. Account of
sales of grain sold at New Orleans. Verso; sugar,
molasses, coffee bought plus cash paid subtracted
from net proceeds sales hay. P.F.F.I. 1p.

1875, Jan. 18
Ricker, H.J.S., to O.P. Aiken. Receipt for $73.20.
P.F.F.I. 1p.

1875, Jan 18
Silverstrom, J.N., Evansville Journal Co., to O.P.
Aiken. Receipt for one year’s subscription to Daily

1875, Apr. 16
Warren, Will, Jr., Treasurer Vanderburgh Co.
Evansville, to O.P. Aiken. Receipt for first installment
state and county taxes. P.F.F.I. 1p.

1877, Mar. 1
Hodge, F.E., Drew, C.K., Bennett, Drew, Citizens Fire
and Marine Insurance Co., Evansville, to O.P. Aiken.
Insurance policy of $1,000. P.F.F.I. 1p.

1879, Jul 9
Chase, Geo. L., Browne, J.D., Bennett, Drew, Hartford
Insurance Co., to O.P. Aiken. Property insurance
policy for $5,000. P.F.F.I. 1p.

187- 
Aiken & Bittrolff (John P. Aiken) Grocery bill and

1884, Jan. 14
Audel E., Evansville Saddlery Co., to O.P. Aiken,
receipt for $31.60. P.F.F.I. 1p.

1885, Dec 21
Keller & White, Wholesale Druggists, Evansville, to
1886, Mar. 23
Hodson, Walker, Physician to O.P. Aiken. Receipt for $7.50 for services rendered Moses Aiken in his last illness. Printed form written on 1p.

1886, August 11

n.d.

n.d.
Plat of Akins land with description.

n.d.
CATALOGING INFORMATION

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2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.

3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.

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