

Collection #  
BV 0003,  
SC 2720,  
F 1699

**REUBEN BATES  
ACCOUNT BOOK,  
12 APRIL 1838–9 OCTOBER 1839**

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Processed by

Glenn McMullen  
20 November 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](http://www.indianahistory.org)

**COLLECTION INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 BV, 1 folder, and 1 microfilm
COLLECTION DATES:	12 April 1838–9 October 1839
PROVENANCE:	Unknown

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS: Microfilm (F 1699)

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 0000.0398

NOTES:

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Reuben Bates was an early settler of Troy (Perry County), Indiana, an important shipping point on the Ohio River. The town had been laid out in 1815 as the county seat of Perry County (it lost that distinction to Rome three years later). Troy contained twenty log cabins by 1818, when its residents included Reuben Bates, who opened a general store and shipped pork, corn, and other farm products to New Orleans, as well as selling cordwood to steamboats on the Ohio River. James Worthington was Bates's partner for a time.

Reuben Bates was among the stockholders of the Indiana Pottery Company which was chartered in Troy in 1838, using the clay beds available there to manufacture Rockingham and other stoneware, and bringing in potters from England to work. Bates's investment in the company consisted of giving the company about 160 acres of land containing clay beds. After one year, the business was transferred to (or placed in charge of) Samuel Cassidy of Louisville, Kentucky, who managed it until 1851.

Bates's death date is unknown. He may have moved to Warrick County, Indiana, as a Reuben Bates is present in the federal censuses there through 1860.

### Sources:

*History of Warrick, Spencer and Perry Counties, Indiana from the Earliest Time to the Present: Together with Interesting Biographical Sketches, Reminiscences, Notes, etc.*, pp. 668, 671-73. Evansville, Ind.: Unigraphic, Inc., 1965. Reference Room Collection: [F532.W4 H57 1965](#)

Jackson, Ronald V., Accelerated Indexing Systems, comp. *Indiana Census 1790-1890* [database on-line]. Provo, Utah: Ancestry.com, 1999-. [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com). Accessed 17 November 2003.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists of an account book of Reuben Bates of Troy, Indiana, for general merchandise, dating from 12 April 1838 to 9 October 1839.

Fifty pages of the account book had been covered over with newspaper clippings from the mid- and late 19<sup>th</sup> century; these pages of clippings included literary articles, local school items, articles on Rockport and Dubois counties, and on the Women's Christian Temperance Union (W.C.T.U.). These pages were photocopied and then removed by the Conservation Department, allowing the text behind them to be visible, in preparation for microfilming the account book. The photocopied pages exist as SC 2720; they were not included in the microfilm (F 1699).

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### CONTENTS

Account book, 12 April 1838–9 October 1839

Photocopies of pages of newspaper clippings removed from the account book

Microfilm of the account book

### CONTAINER

BV 0003

SC 2720, Folder 1

F 1699

## 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, BV 0003).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.