

Collection #
M 0713
OM 0380

WELLER FAMILY PAPERS, 1861–1979

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Processed by

Paul Brockman

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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 manuscript box, 1 photograph box, 1 oversize folder
COLLECTION DATES:	1861–1979
PROVENANCE:	Harry D. Weller, 6066 Garver Road, Indianapolis, IN 46220, 20

October 1997

RESTRICTIONS:

None

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RIGHTS:

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ALTERNATE
FORMATS:

None

RELATED
HOLDINGS:

None

ACCESSION
NUMBER:

1998.0034

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Members of the Weller family who are mentioned prominently in the collection include Ralph C. Weller (1838–1919), Dr. James E. Weller (1874–1916), John Weller (1864–1943), and Mary Emswiler Weller (d.1928). Ralph Weller was born in Newport, New York and came to Richmond, Wayne County, Indiana, in 1859. In September 1861, he enlisted in the 11th Ohio Regiment where he served for three years until a wound he received at the battle of Mission Ridge resulted in his honorable discharge. Following his discharge, Weller spent three years in Missouri, returning to Richmond around 1867. Ralph Weller married Thirza C. Dunham in 1863 and they had five children including James E. and John L. Weller.

James E. Weller was born in Verona, Lawrence County, Kansas, was trained as a doctor and pharmacist, served as a member of the medical service in Manila, Philippine Islands during the Spanish-American War, and married Grace R. Dilks in 1903. John L. Weller was born in Richmond, Indiana, and married Mary A. Emswiler in 1898. They had two sons, Phillip K. and Harry and a daughter, Lucille. When Mary Weller died, John married his brother's widow, Grace Dilks Weller.

Sources: Information in collection.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Weller family records contained in the collection include the correspondence, records, and general items of Ralph C. Weller, James E. Weller, John L. Weller, Mary Emswiler Weller, Phillip K. Weller, George P. Emswiler, and Albert Emswiler. The Ralph Weller papers include his Civil War and pension records, 1861–1938. James E. Weller materials contain official correspondence and military hospital papers from Manila, Philippine Islands during the Spanish-American War including a description of his promotion to assistant hospital steward. The most voluminous portion of the collection consists of the letters (May–June 1900) of John Weller in Brooklyn, New York, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, and Richmond and Norfolk, Virginia to his parents and family in Richmond, Indiana. These letters mainly describe John and Mary Weller's travels and daily activities. Other items in the collection include Mary Weller's real estate related receipts and financial records 1909–19, Phillip Weller's business receipts and news clippings, 1954–56, and news clippings regarding George P. and Albert Emswiler, 1895–1979. Also included in the papers is an 1880 diary kept by Cora L. Pearce of Williamsburg (Wayne County), Indiana, and business correspondence to Otto A. Weil of Indianapolis, 1909.

The collection also contains property and estate records pertaining to members of the Weller and Emswiler families. These items are mainly made up of indentures, wills, title abstracts, deeds, correspondence, and receipts, 1863–1945. Also included in the collection are photographs of the Weller and Emswiler families, 1870s–1950s, as well as numerous unidentified hunting and farming images from around the 1900s.

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John Weller, letters, 21–28 May 1900	Box 1, Folder 4
John Weller, letters, 29 May–8 June 1900	Box 1, Folder 5
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John Weller, letters, 22–28 June 1900	Box 1, Folder 7
John Weller, marriage certificate and memorial record, 1928, 1943	Box 1, Folder 8
Mary Weller, financial records, 1909–18	Box 1, Folder 9
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Series 2: Photographs, 1870s–1955

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Weller family members, ca. 1870s–1940s

Mary Weller, 1874; Maggie Weller, ca. 1870s

Ralph and Thirza Weller, 1923–31, n.d.

Emswiler family photographs, ca. 1870s

General photographs, 1910s–20s

International Order of Odd Fellows, group photograph, 20 May 1914

Harry Weller photographs, 1910s–40s

Phillip Weller and wife, ca. 1955

Hunting and family photographs, ca. 1900 (1 of 4)

Hunting and family photographs, ca. 1900 (2 of 4)

Hunting and family photographs, ca. 1900 (3 of 4)

Hunting and family photographs, ca. 1900 (4 of 4)

Gary, Indiana postcards, ca. 1910s

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 0713).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.