

Collection #
SC 0028
F 1695

**WILLIAM A. ASHTON
RECEIPTS AND PRESCRIPTIONS, 1858, CA. 1940**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 4 folders, 1 reel microfilm

COLLECTION DATES: 1858, ca. 1940

PROVENANCE: R. E. Banta, Crawfordsville, Indiana, Feb. 1945, March 1947

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: William A. Ashton Papers, 1835–1861 (OMB 0037, SC 2239, F 1696)

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1945.0225; 1947.0317

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

William A. Ashton, Sr., was born in Manchester, England, in 1818. He was a textile designer who was also educated in medical science. As a member of the Manchester Social Community Company, he emigrated in 1834 to America with five other families to establish a cooperative community under the auspices of the company. The group purchased 80 acres of Congress lands in Whitewater Township, Franklin County, Indiana, but failed by 1836.

Ashton was employed in 1836 by Sawyer and Brackett of Cincinnati, designing patterns for oilcloth and table covers and travelling the Midwest selling Sawyer and Brackett products. In 1837, he went into partnership with R. M. Taylor, manufacturing oilcloth. The partnership was dissolved in 1838.

Ashton married Sarah Heap in 1839. From 1848 to 1856, he worked with Milo Sawyer manufacturing and selling oilcloth, and he painted window shades in Cincinnati. Between 1852 and 1853, he studied medicine at the Eclectic Medical Institute in Cincinnati. Ashton practiced medicine in Cincinnati after graduating from Eclectic. In 1862 he moved back to Whitewater Township, Indiana, where he bought a farm and continued his work as a doctor. He remained in Franklin County until his death in 1870.

Sources:

Lilly Library card catalog, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana.

Reifel, August J. *History of Franklin County, Indiana: Her People, Industries and Institutions*, p. 1046. Indianapolis: N. B. F. Bowen and Company, 1915. Reprinted by Unigraphic, Inc. Evansville, Indiana, 1971. rrF 532.F8 R4 1971

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists of handwritten notes and printed materials related to William Ashton's medical career. The handwritten notes include a small pocket notebook (folder 1), a handmade notebook (folder 2), and some 50 unattached pages and newspaper clippings (folder 3).

The pocket notebook may date from Ashton's enrollment at a short session in the Eclectic Medical Institute (later known as the Eclectic Medical College) in Cincinnati, October 1858, as it includes a matriculation card from that date laid in.

Folder 4 contains genealogical notes on the Ashton family, ca. 1940.

CONTENTS

CONTENTS

Medical notebook with matriculation ticket from the Eclectic College of Medicine, Cincinnati (laid in), for "13 days of October, 1858"

CONTAINER

Folder 1

"For Memorandum, Notes & Scraps to be tried and applied. Enquire within" [handmade medical notebook, n.d.]

Folder 2

Recipes, prescriptions, and newsclippings on medical topics, n.d.

Folder 3

Genealogical notes, ca. 1940

Folder 4

Microfilm of collection

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