

Collection #  
SC 3400

**WILLIAM D. H. HUNTER PAPERS  
ADDITION, 1880–1885**

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## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 3 manuscript folders

COLLECTION DATES: 1880–1885

PROVENANCE: Binghamton University Libraries, Binghamton, NY; May 2017

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: William D. H. Hunter Papers SC 0805; Holman-O'Brien Papers M 0368

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2017.0136

NOTES:

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

William D. H. Hunter was born 8 January 1830 in Lawrenceburg, Indiana to James W. and Harriett Hunter. He attended local schools and in 1848 began taking classes at Asbury University in Greencastle, Indiana. In 1851, he moved to Mexico, Missouri where he studied medicine along with his older brother.

Hunter married Lucy Jane White on 7 December 1854. However, she died the next year, on 13 October 1855. He then married Francis A. Cauthorn on 15 October 1857. They had two children, Hattie and Bessie.

Hunter lived in Mexico, Missouri until 1871 and briefly practiced medicine there. For a time he was the editor of the *Mexico Weekly Ledger*. In 1857, Hunter bought the paper from John B. Williams. However, in 1862 a fire destroyed the paper's printing offices. At various times Hunter served as mayor, a member of the city council, and a clerk of the county court. In 1864, he was elected to represent Audrain County in the State Legislature. Two years later, President Johnson appointed Hunter an assessor of internal revenue for the Fourth District of Missouri. Hunter also represented the Ninth Congressional District of Missouri in the 1868 National Democratic Convention.

In 1871, Hunter returned to Lawrenceburg. He bought the *Lawrenceburg Register*, the town's Democratic newspaper, in 1877. He co-owned and managed the paper with his nephew and son-in-law, William H. O'Brien. In 1885, President Cleveland appointed Hunter collector of internal revenue for the Sixth District of Indiana. He held that position until 1889. Hunter was supported by William S. Holman, then a U.S. Representative from Indiana's Fourth District, who advocated for Hunter's appointment. Hunter's son-in-law, O'Brien, consequently assumed management of the paper. Hunter and his son-in-law also organized the Citizens' National Bank of Lawrenceburg together in 1890.

From 1880 to 1882, Hunter served as a member of the Democratic State Central Committee. He was also instrumental in organizing the Indiana Democratic Editorial Association during the same period. The association included newspapers affiliated with the Democratic party.

Hunter died on 5 February 1898.

Sources:

Callaway County, Missouri, Obituaries, 1888-1910, via Ancestry.com

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Missouri, Marriage Records, 1805-2002, via Ancestry.com

U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current, via Ancestry.com

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### **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection addition consists of correspondence. The bulk of the correspondence was written to William Hunter from 1880 to 1885 by individuals who included William Dodd, Ed E. Long, D.W. Voorhees, J.B. Stoll, and W.H. English. A number of these letters were written by William S. Holman. The correspondence to Hunter concerns topics which include his involvement with different committees and politics, as well as his work with the *Lawrenceburg Register* and the Indiana Democratic Editorial Association. Some of the remaining correspondence was written by Hunter in 1880 and 1884 and discussed similar topics. These letters were addressed to Ed E. Long, John H. Bobbitt, A.C. Downey, and W.H. English. The remaining letters, which also discussed politics, were written by Ed Long, L.C. Jones, M.D. King, and P.J. Hauss to William S. Holman and unidentified recipients.

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Correspondence to Hunter, 1880–1885; n.d.

### CONTAINER

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Correspondence from Hunter, March–September  
1880; May 1884

Folder 2

Miscellaneous correspondence, 1880–1884

Folder 3