

Collection #  
M 0151

**WILLIAM DAVIESS HUTCHINGS  
PAPERS, 1855–1970**

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Processed by

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6 September 2002

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## COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 2 manuscript boxes, 8 photograph folders, 1 OVA photograph folder

COLLECTION DATES: 1855–1970

PROVENANCE: Elizabeth Zulauf Kelemen, P. O. Box 447, Norfolk, Connecticut 06058, June 1990

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: Hutchings-Koehler Papers (M 0152)

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1975.0903

NOTES: Collection first processed in June 1990 by Charles Latham.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

William Daviess Hutchings (1825–1903) was born in Lexington, Kentucky, the son of W. D. and Anna Mary Bayer Hutchings. The family later moved to Louisville. Hutchings studied medicine for a year with Dr. David McClure in Scott County, Indiana, and then returned to Lexington to study under Dr. Benjamin Dudley. Having moved to Indiana in 1849, he graduated with honors from Indiana Central Medical College (affiliated with Indiana Asbury) in 1851. His thesis was on the theory that the disease of Asiatic cholera was caused by electrical phenomena in the atmosphere.

Hutchings began his medical practice in Wooster, Scott County, Indiana. In 1861 he married Mathilda Koehler (1840–1914) and moved to Lexington in the same county. A Know-Nothing in the 1850s, he became a Democrat, and served a term in the lower house of the Indiana legislature in 1869. From 1867–69 and later he was a member of the Board of Pension Examiners. He moved to Madison in 1876, where he spent the remainder of his life.

During his fifty-five-year career as a doctor, Hutchings was credited with developing cures for diphtheria, yellow fever, and exophthalmic goiter, and for several inventions in bone surgery.

Sources:

Materials in collection.

*A Biographical Directory of the Indiana General Assembly*. Indianapolis: Select Committee on the Centennial History of the Indiana General Assembly in cooperation with the Indiana Historical Bureau, 1980–84. Vol. 1, pp. 200–01. JK 5630 .B56

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains correspondence, notes and prescriptions, and a small amount of printed material. It is arranged chronologically within category.

The main body of the collection is correspondence of the Koehler and Hutchings families—Mrs. Hutchings's relatives, and the sons and daughters of Dr. and Mrs. Hutchings. Dr. Hutchings himself figures in the collection mainly as a father writing to his sons (with some comments from brother to brother about the father). His notebook and some of his prescriptions are also included.

The collection also contains letters (1861–64) of Herman C. Koehler, a businessman in Frederick, Maryland and Alexandria, Virginia, supplying the U. S. Army; letters (1865–75) of Aurora Koehler, a schoolteacher in southeastern Indiana; and letters of Mathilda Koehler and other family members from Madison (1860s, 1880s, 1890s) and Lexington (1865–75). Finally, there is correspondence of Dr. Hutchings with his sons: Frederick Hutchings, an electrical engineer in Pittsburgh, Massachusetts, British Columbia, and Michigan; and Robert Hutchings, a medical student at Ohio Medical College and then a physician in Colorado Springs; and letters from his daughter Agnes Hutchings Zulauf on her honeymoon in Europe in 1896.

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Biographical Information, n.d.

“Horse and Buggy Doctor in Southern Indiana,” by  
Elisabeth Zulauf

Family Photographs Used in Book (8 folders)

George F. Lotz Storefront, n.d.

Biographical Material, Magazines

Correspondence, 1855–61

Correspondence, 1862

Correspondence, 1863

Correspondence, 1864

Correspondence, 1865–66

Correspondence, 1867–69

Correspondence, 1870–73

Correspondence, 1874–79

Correspondence, 1880–85

Correspondence, 1887–89

Correspondence, 1890–94

Correspondence, 1895

Correspondence, 1896–98

Correspondence, 1900–70

Correspondence, n.d.

General Materials, n.d.

### CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 2

Visual Collections:  
Photographs, Folders 1–8

Visual Collections: OVA  
Photographs, Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 3

Box 1, Folder 4

Box 1, Folder 5

Box 1, Folder 6

Box 1, Folder 7

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Box 1, Folder 18

Box 2, Folder 1

King's Daughters Hospital, Madison, Indiana (in Hutchings House)	Box 2, Folder 2
Prescriptions, 1899–1905	Box 2, Folder 3
Prescriptions, Notes	Box 2, Folder 4
Prescriptions, n.d.	Box 2, Folder 5
News Clippings	Box 2, Folder 6
Printed Materials and Related Items, n.d.	Box 2, Folder 7