Austin H. Brown papers
L019

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit
August 03, 2018
Describing Archives: A Content Standard
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### Summary Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Repository</th>
<th>Rare Books and Manuscripts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creator</td>
<td>Brown family</td>
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<tr>
<td>Creator</td>
<td>Brown, Austin H., 1828-1903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creator</td>
<td>Brown, George, 1835-1913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creator</td>
<td>Brown, William J. (William John), 1805-1857</td>
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<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Austin H. Brown papers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>1830-1901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent</td>
<td>1.0 Cubic feet 2 manuscript boxes, 1 volume</td>
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<td>Language</td>
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**Preferred Citation**

Austin H. Brown papers, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library
Biographical Note

Austin H. Brown was born at Milroy, Rush County, Indiana on March 19, 1828. He was the son of Susan Tompkins Brown and William J. Brown, who served as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. Brown moved to Indianapolis in 1837 and worked for a printer and was a carrier for the *Indiana Democrat*. In 1844, he entered Asbury University but left the following year to go to Washington, D.C. and work as a clerk in the office of the sixth auditor. Brown rose to become the assistant chief clerk and distributing officer and was the United States post office inspector.

Brown married Margaret E. Russell in 1855 and together they had two children. He returned to Indianapolis and took over proprietorship of the *State Sentinel*. In 1855, Brown was elected auditor of Marion County. He was assistant adjutant general of Indiana during the U.S. Civil War. Brown became collector of internal revenue for Indianapolis in 1866. In 1874, he became clerk of Marion County and served as city councilman and on the school commission. Brown was a member of the National Democratic Committee. Austin H. Brown died January 1, 1903.

Sources:

Items in the collection.


Scope and Contents

This collection contains Brown’s personal and business correspondence, as well as documents of political appointments, indentures, checks, receipts, clippings, and compositions, programs and other ephemera from social and political activities such as membership to the Democratic Party and Masons organizations. The correspondence includes letters from his father, William J. Brown, his brother, George, and cousin, John Ferguson. Other correspondents include Thomas A. Hendricks, James Whitcomb, Richard Wigginton Thompson, and Jesse Bright. There are also letters to President Grover Cleveland recommending Brown for a federal appointment, a report on fraudulent claims in the Horse Claims division, and a scrapbook of theatrical programs and announcements for the Metropolitan Theater.

Arrangement
Arranged in the following series:

Series 1: Correspondence, 1844-1901
Series 2: Legal and financial papers, 1830-1901
Series 3: Social and political papers, 1846-1901

Administrative Information

Publication Information
Rare Books and Manuscripts

Conditions Governing Access
This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use
Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Custodial History
This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a donation from Gavin M. Brown on 1931/05/02; Austin H. Brown care of Eli Lilly Corporation on 1931/07/22, and Austin Brown on 1944/03/30.

Accruals
No further additions are expected.

Processing Information
Collection processing completed 2007/03 by Barbara Hilderbrand. EAD finding aid created 2007/03 by Barbara Hilderbrand. Collection reprocessed and EAD finding aid revised 2015/10/16 by Brittany Kropf.

Related Materials
Related Archival Material

Materials relating to this collection may be found in the following collections in Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN:

V443: Austin H. Brown scrapbook, 1844-1901

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Democratic Party (Ind.).
- DePauw University.
- Freemasons. Grand Lodge of Indiana.
- Lafayette and Indianapolis Railroad.
- Saint Mary-of-the-Woods Academy (Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Ind.).
- United States Naval Academy.
- United States. Horse Claims Division.

Genre(s)

- Claims
- Correspondence

Geographic Name(s)

- Amity (Ind.)
- Annapolis (Md.)
- Cincinatti (Ohio)
- Indiana--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.
- Indianapolis (Ind.)
- Martinsville (Ind.)
- Milroy (Ind.)
- United States--Claims
- United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865
• United States--Officials and employees

Personal Name(s)

• Bright, Jesse D. (Jesse David), 1812-1875
• Cleveland, Grover, 1837-1908
• Conner, William, 1777-1855
• Cox, E. T. (Edward Travers), 1821-1907
• Davis, John Wesley, 1799-1859
• Defrees, John D. (John Dougherty), 1810 or 1811-1882
• Elliott, Byron K. (Byron Kosciusko), 1835-1913
• Ferguson, John
• Gorman, Arthur P. (Arthur Pue), 1839-1906
• Gray, Isaac P. (Isaac Pusey), 1828-1895
• Hendricks, Thomas A. (Thomas Andrews), 1819-1885
• McDonald, Joseph E. (Joseph Ewing), 1819-1891
• Parker, George F. (George Frederick), 1847-1928
• Russell, Alexander W. (Alexander Wilson), 1796-1852
• Vilas, William F. (William Freeman), 1840-1908
• Walker, Robert J. (Robert John), 1801-1869
• Watson, William Stuart
• Whitcomb, James, 1795-1852

Subject(s)

• Businesspeople--Indiana
• College students
• Education--Indiana
• Family life
• Fraternal organizations
• Freemasons--Indiana
• Horses--United States
• Legislators--United States
• Military education--United States
• Mines and mineral resources--Montana
• Mining corporations--Montana
• Politicians--Indiana
• Railroads
• Schools
• Secret societies--Indiana
• Theaters--Indiana
## Collection Inventory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Series 1: Correspondence, 1844-1901</th>
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<td>Correspondence, 1844</td>
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<tr>
<td>Correspondence, 1846-1847</td>
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<td>Correspondence, 1848</td>
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<td>Correspondence, 1849 January-June</td>
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<td>Correspondence, 1849 July-December</td>
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<td>Correspondence, 1851-1860</td>
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<td>Correspondence, 1861-1881</td>
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<td>Correspondence, 1882-1884</td>
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<td>Correspondence, 1885-1890</td>
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### Series 2: Legal and financial papers, 1830-1901

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<td>Legal and financial documents, 1830-1842</td>
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<td>Legal and financial documents, 1845-1860</td>
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<td>Legal and financial documents, 1861-1876</td>
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<td>Horse claims, 1887</td>
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<td>Account books, 1833-1844, 1868</td>
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### Series 3: Social and political papers, 1846-1901

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social events programs and fliers, 1872-1901, undated</td>
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<td>Freemasonery organizations materials, 1878-1901, undated</td>
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<td>Masonic ribbon badges, 1895, 1897</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous publications, writings and notes, 1846-1901, undated</td>
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