

Watson Family Papers

MS – 191

Wright State University  
Department of Special Collections and Archives

Processed by:  
Stephen F. Kahn  
February 13, 1990

## Introduction

The George Watson Papers were donated to the Wright State University Archives, which retains all property rights, by Mrs. David Klarer on October 21, 1981. At that time, Mrs. Klarer resided at 537 McIntire Ave., Fairborn, Ohio. All literary rights have been conveyed to the public. There are no restrictions. The collection consists of three series, nine files, and is contained in one box of .25 linear feet. Its processor was Stephen F. Kahn who completed processing on February 13, 1990.

### Scope, Content, and Biographical Notes

This collection is primarily an example of family correspondence as written from the middle of the nineteenth century to the beginning of the twentieth century. Files one to five appear to be the most interesting of the nine files since they show a considerable slice of life of that period. These five files are made up of advertisements, announcements, and an abstract of the Seventh United States Census, miscellaneous literature, and pamphlets. The abstract and various pamphlets seem to merit special attention. Among the pamphlets is one dated 1871 that deals with the national debt of that time. Another pamphlet that originated in Cleveland, Ohio, riles the evil of intemperance.

The legal papers in files six and seven may also be of some interest. They are dated from 1860 to 1882 and include George Watson's appointment as secretary of subdivision 10, Xenia Township, Ohio; a petition for a township road; a real estate appraisal; subpoenas and a summons. Files eight and nine consist of family correspondence.

The papers reveal very little about the relationship of the letter writers to the main addressee, George and Margaret Watson. Curiously, the collection contains no return correspondence or, for that matter, any letters from George or Margaret Watson who lived in Xenia Township of Green County, Ohio, from approximately the middle to the end of the nineteenth century. At one time, he was secretary of sub-district 10 of Xenia Township. The Watson's apparently had a child, J.W. Watson, and a niece by the name of Rebecca Bone or Rebecca Bouen. Margaret Watson also had a sister whose married name was Edith Trader.

In addition to the George Watson letters, the collection contains letters to Emily Watson whose relation to the George Watson family is not apparent. An envelope, which is part of file nine, shows that Emily Watson lived at 696 South Detroit Street, Xenia, Ohio, in 1925. Another correspondent was Edward Richardson who seemingly was a brother to a member of the Watson family.

## Container Listing

### Series I: Advertisement, Abstract, Announcements, Misc. Lit., and Pamphlets

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	1	Advertisements by Ruby Mills Writing Paper; S.D. Conwell Dr. J.J. Huckins, Chiropodist	March 1853
	2	Abstract of the 7 <sup>th</sup> U.S. Census	Dec. 1, 1851
	3	Announcements of primary elections 1865; political meetings, Xenia 1872; Republican primary elections 1881; Commencement, Lincoln High School, 1923; Republican congressional convention	1865, 1872, 1881, 1923
	4	Directions for the operation of a Casady Plow; pedigree of a Blue Bayard brown horse	ca. 1874
	5	A pamphlet dealing with national finances, 1871; a pamphlet by the Western Mutual Life Association, 1873 a pamphlet by David Tatum, Cleveland, Ohio against intemperance	1871, 1873

### Series II: Legal Papers

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	6	Appointment of George Watson of sub-division 10, Xenia Township, 1861; petition by J. and J. Hodon for a township road, 1873 a real estate appraisal; return of legal voters of School District 10, Xenia, Ohio, 1860, summon of George Watson to Superior court 1871.	1861, 1873, 1860, 1871
	7	Subpoenas of George Watson to various courts from 1871 to 1882	1871-1882

### Series III: Correspondence

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	8	Correspondence to George and Margaret Watson – This file includes letters from Richard Atkins, A.J. Berryhill, Rebecca Bone, Samuel and Martha Ewing, R. Howe, John Hart, Richard Hurley, B. Lockhart, Edward Richard, Ashibia Stubbs, Edith Trader, J.W. Watson, Henry Whiteman, and a letter without signature	
	9	Correspondence to Emily Watson – This file includes a letter from Pearle Miller, a letter without signature, and an envelope addressed to Emily Watson	