

**MS-105, Benjamin F. Cryder Papers**

**Collection Number:** MS-105

**Title:** Benjamin F. Cryder Papers

**Dates:** 1816-1886

**Creator:** Cryder, Benjamin F.

**Summary/Abstract:** Benjamin Cryder was the grandfather of Frederick White, one of Wright State University's early founders. His papers include survey maps of Ross County, Civil War bounty reenlistment records, correspondence, and essays on a variety of political and humorous subjects.

**Quantity/Physical Description:** .5 linear feet

**Language(s):** English

**Repository:**

Special Collections and Archives, Paul Laurence Dunbar Library, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-0001, (937) 775-2092.

**Restrictions on Access:** There are no restrictions on accessing material in this collection.

**Restrictions on Use:**

Copyright restrictions may apply. Unpublished manuscripts are protected by copyright. Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the repository and the copyright holder.

**Preferred Citation:**

[Description of item, Date, Box #, Folder #], MS-105, Benjamin F. Cryder Papers, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio.

**Acquisition:** The papers of Benjamin Franklin Cryder were accessioned into the Wright State University Archives and Special Collections in August 1980. Cryder was the grandfather of the late Dr. Frederick White, former vice-president and one of the founders of Wright State University. Dr. White donated this collection of papers after finding them in his attic.

**Other Finding Aid:** The finding aid is available on the Special Collections & Archives, Wright State University Libraries web site at

<http://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms105.pdf>. It is also available in the OhioLINK Finding Aid Repository at <http://ead.ohiolink.edu/xtf-ead/>.

**Processing Information:** Finding aid revised according to DACS, Toni Vanden Bos, 2016 November.

**Processed by:** Kevin Proffitt, August 1980

**Arrangement:**

The collection is arranged into 4 series:

Series I: Survey Maps, 1816, undated

Series II: Bounty Reenlistment Receipts and Records, 1862-1866

Series III: Correspondence, 1880-1886

Series IV: Essays, undated

**Biographical/Historical Note:**

Benjamin Franklin Cryder was the grandfather of Dr. Frederick White, former vice-president and one of the founders of Wright State University.

**Scope and Content**

The Benjamin Franklin Cryder Papers are an interesting and varied collection of documents concerning Ross County in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The material in this collection gives insights into the geography of Ross County, the Civil War residents of Ross County in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the events of that era, and B.F. Cryder himself. The collection is divided into four series. They are: survey maps, Civil War Bounty Reenlistment Receipts and Records, correspondence, and essays.

Series I, survey maps, contains hand drawn maps, some in color, of sections of land in Ross County. Some of the maps bear Cryder's signature and are believed to have been drawn by him. It is not known who drew the remaining maps. The earliest map in this collection was drawn in 1816.

Series II: bounty reenlistment receipts and records, is valuable for the insights the records within it give into the civil war. This series contains bounty reenlistment receipts for 1864-66, one of which has a letter from a union soldier to his father written on it. On another letter in the same file is a stamp from that era. Also in this series is a list of subscribers to the Colerain Township, Ross County, Veteran Bounty Fund to which Cryder was a contributor. This record could be insightful for genealogists researching persons from Ross County. Finally, there is a financial statement of bounties paid by the Veteran Bounty Fund for the years 1862-64.

Series III contains a small amount of correspondence from the years 1880-86. Also in this series is a file containing unidentified documents.

Series IV contains a collection of essays; political, humorous, and personal, written by B.F. Cryder. The titles given to the essays by Cryder are listed in the inventory. Some of the essays were written for school by Cryder and contain corrections and comments by his instructor. These essays, some of which contain a number of drafts, give lively and fascinating insights into Cryder's personality and the topics and events of his time.

**Subject Terms:**

**Persons/Families**

Cryder, Benjamin F.

**Places**

Ross County (Ohio) -- History.

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865

**Material Types**

Maps

**Collection Inventory**

<b>Series I</b>		<b>Survey Maps, 1816, undated</b>	
<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	1	Ross County	undated
	2	Ross County	undated
	3	Ross County	undated
	4	Ross County	undated
<b>Series II</b>		<b>Bounty Reenlistment Receipts and Records, 1862-1866</b>	
1	5	Receipts	1864-1866
	6	Receipts	1864-1866
	7	List of Subscribers to Colerain Veteran Bounty Fund And Financial statement of Bounties Paid	1862-1864
<b>Series III</b>		<b>Correspondence, 1880-1886</b>	
1	8	Correspondence	1880-1886
<b>Series IV</b>		<b>Essays, undated</b>	
1	9	Misc. correspondence items and Political Essays "Traitors" and "Our Liberty... Foreign Influence"	undated
	10	Personal Essays – "Our Country"; "Pride"; etc.	undated