# BROWNLEE FAMILY PAPERS, 1828-1851

Collection #: M 580

# **Table of Contents**

User Information
Historical Sketch
Scope and Content Note
Box and Folder Listing
Cataloguing Information

Processed by: Paul Brockman 9 April 1991

# USER INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 small manuscript box (.25 linear feet)

COLLECTION DATES: 1828-1851

PROVENANCE: Mark Sutton, Carmel, Indiana, 5 April 1991

**RESTRICTIONS:** None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS: None

OTHER FINDING AIDS: None

RELATED HOLDINGS: Charles Brownlee Account Book, 1904-1919 (BV 52); Eliza Brownlee (SC 142)

**ACCESSION NUMBER: 91.0335** 

# HISTORICAL SKETCH

John Brownlee (1794-1855) was born in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. He and his family later moved to Kentucky where he served as a private in J.W. Crockett's Kentucky volunteer regiment. In 1815 the family moved to Princeton, Gibson

County, Indiana, where he and his father were engaged in the merchandising business. Brownlee continued to operate as a merchant until his death. His wife, Jane Harrington Brownlee (b. 1804), was born in North Carolina, and came to Indiana with her family from Nashville, Tennessee in 1807. The Brownlee's were the parents of eleven children.

#### Sources:

Tartt Co., *History of Gibson County* (1884), p. 167 Stormont, *History of Gibson County* (1914), pp. 504-505

# SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists of 23 letters from John Brownlee to his wife, Jane, in Princeton, Indiana while he was traveling on business ventures from 1828-1851. Letters were written from Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, Louisville, Philadelphia, and Wheeling, Virginia. The letters are of a general romantic nature and deal with descriptions of his loneliness, concerns about his family, the rigors of travel, and the degree of success in his business transactions.

There are also two letters to Jane Brownlee from her sister, Emily Writesman in Missouri, 1844-1845. She writes about the general unhealthy nature of the region, family matters, and the desire to move to Texas.

# **BOX AND FOLDER LISTING**

# **BOX 1: Brownlee Family Correspondence, 1828-1851 FOLDER CONTENTS**

1 Correspondence, 1828-1830

2 Correspondence, 1833-1838

3 Correspondence, 1839-1842

4 Correspondence, 1844-1851

### **CATALOGUING INFORMATION**

MAIN ENTRY: Brownlee, John, 1794-1855

SUBJECT ENTRIES: Brownlee, Jane Harrington, b. 1804

Business travel--United States

Merchants--Indiana--Princton

Family--Indiana--Princeton

Husband and wife--Indiana--Princeton

Love-letters

Princeton (Ind.)