

Collection #:  
SC 0938

## HENRY C. AND ROBERT V. HANNA CORRESPONDENCE, 1851–1855

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### COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 folder

COLLECTION DATES: 1851-1855

PROVENANCE: Almagre Books, 4615 Crambrook Road, Bloomington, IN 47401, 19 February 1998

RESTRICTIONS: None

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the Indiana Historical Society.

ALTERNATE FORMATS: None

OTHER FINDING AIDS: None

RELATED HOLDINGS: M 0128, Henry C. Hanna Papers; *The House of Hanna* (F534.B79 H3 1906); M 0129, Robert B. Hanna Papers (cousin)

ACCESSION NUMBERS: 1998.0291

NOTES:

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

The Hanna Family was part of a group of families who moved from South Carolina to the Indiana Territory in 1804. The Hannas settled in what would become Franklin County, Indiana. The leaders of this migration were Robert Hanna and Robert Templeton. Hanna had nine children. The youngest, David Graem (1789-1869) was married twice. He married Agnes Taylor in 1812 (one child) and Mary McKinney in 1815 (ten children). David Hanna served in the Indiana House of Representatives during the 1844-45 term.

Robert Vanrensselaer Hanna (fl. 1849-1855) and Henry Clay Hanna (fl. 1849-1881), sons of David and Mary Hanna, went to California in February 1849 during the boom of the Gold Rush. Neither Robert nor Henry ever married. Henry became a prosecuting attorney in Indiana. He served as a circuit court judge from 1870 to 1881.

James McLain Hanna (1816-1872) was also a son of David and Mary Hanna. He married Elizabeth Susan Burton and had four children: Burton G., Mary J., Emma R., and Edward S. James was a state senator from 1849 to 1852 and in 1869 (he resigned in May 1869). Throughout his life, James lived in Franklin, Clay, Putnam, Vigo, and Sullivan Counties in Indiana. He was the political editor for the *Indianapolis Sentinel* (1864) and edited the *Greencastle Patriot*. He was a prosecuting attorney (1844-46), the private secretary to Governor James Whitcomb in 1844 (See: M 0670, James Whitcomb Papers), a circuit court judge (1856-57) and a judge on the Indiana State Supreme Court (1857-65).

Sarah Ann Hanna (fl. 1906) was the youngest child of David and Mary Hanna. She wrote a genealogy of the Hanna family, *The House of Hanna*.

W.A.J. Glidewell (b. 1828) was a sheriff in Franklin County, Indiana, from 1858 to 1862.

Sources: Material in collection accession file.

*Biographical Directory of the Indiana General Assembly*. Vol 1, p. 163-164.

Hanna, Sarah Ann. *The House of Hanna*. passim.

Reifel, August J. *History of Franklin County, Indiana*.... (1915) p. 239, 1409-1410.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of eight letters (1851-1855) written to Robert V. and Henry C. Hanna, while they were mining for gold in California. Five of the letters are from their father, David G. Hanna, of Fairfield, Indiana (Franklin Co.). Also present are letters from their older brother, James McLain Hanna, Robert Templeton (probably the son of the Robert Templeton who came to Indiana with Robert Hanna), and W.A.J. Glidewell.

The letters from David and James include discussions of local and national affairs, economic conditions, and farming. David also mentions (February 25, 1854) plans before Congress "to organize a territory west of the Missouri to include all the lands on the East side of the rocky mountains not already included in...the Nebraska territory, and the possibility of acquiring lands from the kaw [Kaw] Indians." The letters are addressed to the Hanna brothers at Forbs Town, Coloma Eldorado, and Sacramento City, California. They are arranged chronologically.

## CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: <http://opac.indianahistory.org/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, SC 0938).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.