

Collection #
P0124

**IRA J. CHASE
FAMILY ALBUM, CA. 1860S–CA. 1915**

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Processed by

Pamela Tranfield
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Revised by

Dorothy A. Nicholson
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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 photograph box

COLLECTION DATES: Ca. 1860s–ca. 1915

PROVENANCE: Frank Yeoman, Mulvane, Kansas, September 1968

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: Mary Elizabeth Hampton Collection (P22)

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1968.0916

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Ira J. (Joy) Chase (7 December 1843–11 May 1895) served as lieutenant governor of Indiana from 1889 to 1891, and the state's twenty-second governor from 1891 to 1893. Born in New York, Chase moved with his parents to Milan, Ohio in 1855. He operated a hardware store in Barrington, Illinois from ca. 1858. Chase was a member of the 19th Ohio Volunteer Regiment during the Civil War. After the war Chase returned to Illinois and became a minister in the Disciples of Christ church. He held ministries at Mishawaka, Indiana (1867); La Porte, Indiana (1869); Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (1871); Peoria, Illinois (1872); Wabash, Indiana (1880); and Danville, Indiana (1884). Chase was appointed department commander of the Indiana Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) in 1887.

He was married to Rhoda J. Castle Chase (1833–1926). She was born in New York and moved to Barrington, Illinois ca. 1845 and taught school in that town until her marriage to Ira J. Chase in 1859. She contracted smallpox while working in a field hospital during the Civil War and the disease rendered her blind and physically disabled. Ira and Rhoda raised three children to adulthood. They are buried in Crown Hill Cemetery, Indianapolis.

Sources:

Items in the collection

Mannweiler, David. "Governors of Indiana." Indianapolis: The Indianapolis News, [n.d.] [in clipping file titled "Governors," Indiana State Library]

Post, Margaret Moore. *First Ladies of Indiana and the Governors*. Indianapolis: Margaret Moore Post, 1984.

Taylor, Robert M., Jr. *Indiana: A New Historical Guide*. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1989.

Visher, Stephen S. "The Geography of Indiana's Governors." *Indiana Magazine of History* 35, no. 1 (March 1939): 58–65.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The album was purchased at a sale by Frank Yeoman of Mulvane, Kansas so it is assumed that it was a Chase family album. The newsletter, *The Greeting*, from the Central Christian Church of Peoria was found at the front of the album along with a cabinet card portrait of Ira J. Chase in his later years. The newsletter, dated 27 September 1903, refers to Chase's death at Lubec, Maine in 1895. Chase preached at the Peoria church from 1872–1879. The front page of the newsletter includes an image of Chase. There was also a carte de visite portrait of a younger Chase found in the album.

The album came with 10 cabinet cards, 8 cartes de visite, 2 snapshots, 2 mounted photographs, 1 tintype, and the printed church newsletter. The album measures 8 x 6 x 2 inches (21 x 15 x 6 centimeters). For conservation reasons the items were removed from the album and stored in an upright photograph box along with the empty album.

Studios in Peoria Illinois made the cabinet cards and cartes de visite. A studio in Canton, Illinois made the tintype. The portraits with the exception of the two of Chase, depict women and children. They are possibly members of the Chase and Castle families but there are no names written on any images. The two mounted photographs show young adult men and women in classrooms. In one class they are using typewriters and the other class appears to be an accounting class.

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CONTENTS

The Greeting, Vol. III, No. 40, Peoria, Ill., September 27, 1903, publication from Central Christian Church, "In Memoriam" essay with image of Chase on cover and reference to his service in the church and his death

Ira J. Chase portraits:
carte de visite ca. 1870s
cabinet card ca. 1890s

2 portraits of elderly women:
4 cabinet cards, ca. 1890s

5 portraits of women:
1 tintype, 4 cartes de visite, ca. 1860s–1880s

3 portraits of children:
3 cartes de visite, ca. 1870s

5 portraits of children:
5 cabinet cards, ca. 1880s

2 mounted photographs of what appear to be classes in typing and accounting with both men and women students, ca. 1890s

2 snapshots ca. 1915:
an elderly woman standing in a yard
2 men and a woman holding fish and boat oars

Photo album with metal clasp and chalk covered paper embossed with decorative metallic leaf design

CONTAINER

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 2

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 3

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 4

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 5

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 6

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 7

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 8

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 9

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, P0124).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.