

Collection #
SC 3310

**JAMES DILL
LETTERS, 1833–1838**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION: 1 manuscript folder

COLLECTION
DATES: 1833–38

PROVENANCE: Heritage Photo Services, Indianapolis, IN; June 2001

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE
FORMATS:

RELATED
HOLDINGS: Catherine Lawrence Randolph Papers, SC 1235; Varney-Porter
Family Papers, M 0639

ACCESSION
NUMBER: 2001.0858

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

James Dill was born in Ireland. He came to the U.S. before the Revolutionary War. Dill was a friend of William Henry Harrison and son-in-law of General Arthur St. Clair. He married St. Clair's daughter, Elizabeth St. Clair Lawrence. Dill was an early member of the bar in Dearborn County, Indiana. He represented the county at the state's 1816 constitutional convention and was the first Dearborn County recorder. Dill also served as a general during the War of 1812 and as speaker in Indiana's territorial legislature. He died around 1840.

Mary Skipwith Randolph was born to Thomas Randolph and Catherine Lawrence in 1811 in Lawrenceburg, IN. Catherine was one of Elizabeth St. Clair Lawrence's children from her first marriage. Thomas died 7 November 1811 at the Battle of Tippecanoe and Catherine died on 14 November 1816. Mary married William Sheets on 29 May 1833 in Indiana. They had several children together. Sheets served as Indiana's Secretary of State for a time. Mary died in Philadelphia, PA on 6 Nov 1892. She was buried in Indianapolis, IN.

Sources:

Colonial Families of the USA, 1607-1775, via Ancestry.com

Dill Family Papers collection guide, S1819, Indiana State Library,
<http://www.in.gov/library/4711.htm>

Egle, William Henry, ed. *Notes and Queries: Historical, Biographical and Genealogical, Relating Chiefly to Interior Pennsylvania*. Harrisburg, PA: Harrisburg Publishing Company, 1898.

Indiana, Marriages, 1810-2001, via Ancestry.com

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Death Certificates Index, 1803-1915, via Ancestry.com

Shaw, Archibald, ed. *History of Dearborn County, Indiana: Her People, Industries and Institutions*. Indianapolis, IN: B.F. Bowen & Company, 1915.

U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current, via Ancestry.com

U.S., Sons of the American Revolution Membership Applications, 1889-1970, via Ancestry.com

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains eleven handwritten letters from James Dill to Mary S. Sheets and William Sheets Esquire, dating from 1833 to 1838. The letters discuss daily life, Dill's health, items sent between Dill and the Sheets', and the birth of Mary's daughter, Elizabeth "Betty" Lawrence Sheets in 1836.

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CONTAINER

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