

Collection #
M 0153,
F 0232

**JOHN E. IGLEHART
PAPERS, 1853–1953 (BULK 1853–1934)**

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1970

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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: 8 document cases, 25 bound volumes, 1 microfilm reel

COLLECTION
DATES:

PROVENANCE: Mrs. Joseph H. Iglehart and Mrs. James L. Clifford, September

1966.

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1966.1010

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

John E. Iglehart (10 August 1848–18 April 1934) was born in Campbell Township, Warrick County, Indiana, the son of Asa Iglehart (1817–1887) and Ann Cowle (1817–1882). Asa Iglehart was a prominent lawyer and judge in Evansville, Indiana.

John E. Iglehart graduated from Asbury University (now DePauw University) in 1868, and immediately embarked on a career in law at his father's law firm in Evansville. He was admitted to the bar in 1869 and admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States in 1874. Much of John E. Iglehart's practice throughout his career was as attorney for the Evansville & Terre Haute Railroad Company.

Iglehart married Lockie W. Holt on 4 November 1874. They had four children: Eugene H., who married Emily Powers; Ann, who married John Ingle, Jr.; Lockie Holt, who married Charles Humphry; and Joseph H., who married Gertrude Townley.

Iglehart experienced much success in his legal career and turned toward personal pursuits later in life. He was a leader in the founding and activities of the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society, which encompassed Posey, Vanderburgh, Warrick, Spencer, Perry, Dubois, Pike, and Gibson counties, and later Knox County. Founded in 1920, the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society promoted the recognition of the importance of the frontier influence of Southern Indiana, with particular emphasis on the recognition of its influence on Abraham Lincoln, who spent ages seven to twenty-one in Spencer County.

Published historical works of Iglehart include *History of Indiana from Its Exploration to 1922, vol. 3: An Account of Vanderburgh County from Its Organization* (Dayton: Dayton Historical Publishing Co., 1923) and *The Environment of Abraham Lincoln in Indiana* (Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1925). Ida Tarbell, a close acquaintance from his work with the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society, paid tribute to him in her book, *In the Footsteps of the Lincolns* (New York: Harper & Bros., 1924).

Iglehart remained president emeritus of the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society until his death in 1934.

Sources:

Dunn, Jacob Piatt. *Indiana and Indianans: A History of Aboriginal and Territorial Indiana and the Century of Statehood*. Chicago: American Historical Society, 1919, v. 5, pp. 1986–1987. General Collection: F526 .D85 I53 1919

Gilbert, Frank M. *History of the City of Evansville and Vanderburg [sic] Co., Indiana*. Chicago: Pioneer Pub. Co., 1910, v. 2, pp. 181–182, 458–460. General Collection: F532 V2 G5 1910

Roll, Charles. *Indiana, One Hundred and Fifty Years of American Development*. Chicago: The Lewis Pub. Co., 1931, v.5, pp.488–489. General Collection: F526 .R65 1931

Rich, Paul Stephen. “Iglehart Papers.” *Indiana History Bulletin*, vol. 47, October 1970, p. 149. General Collection: RR F521 .I36

Taylor, Charles W. *Biographical Sketches and Review of the Bench and Bar of Indiana: Containing Biographies and Sketches of Eminent Judges and Lawyers of Indiana, Together With a History of the Judiciary of the State and Review of the Bar from the Earliest Times to the Present, with Anecdotes, Reminiscences, etc.* Indianapolis: Bench and Bar Publishing Co., 1895, p. 398. General Collection: F525 .T24 1895

Ancestry.com. *Indiana Marriage Records Index, 1845–1920*. Provo, UT: Ancestry.com, 2000. www.ancestry.com. Accessed 1 December 2003.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The papers, which date between 1858 and 1934, include over two thousand letters, Iglehart law firm letterbooks, and minutes of meetings of the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society.

Subjects of Mr. Iglehart’s correspondence include Clarence W. Alvord, George Rogers Clark, Abraham Lincoln, the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society, the Lincoln Union (formed to create a monument to the Lincolns in Indiana), the bridging of the Ohio River, and Woodrow Wilson.

Iglehart’s correspondence with historians concerning the frontier and Lincoln’s years in Indiana constitutes a significant portion of the collection. These include Frederick Jackson Turner (30 letters), Merle Curti (25 letters), Archer B. Hulbert (13 letters), Ida M. Tarbell (40 letters), Albert Beveridge (24 letters), Worthington C. Ford (37 letters), Clarence Garrett Vannest (66 letters), Louis C. Warren (11 letters), Jesse W. Weik (10 letters), and Carl Sandburg (7 letters).

The majority of the collection consists of Iglehart’s correspondence with members of the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society and the Indiana Historical Society. There are 29 letters from John W. Oliver, director of the Indiana Historical Commission; 266 letters from Mrs. Bess V. Ehrmann of Rockport, Indiana; and 179 letters from Mrs. Duff Johnson of Mount Vernon, Indiana.

There are 25 letterbooks, dating from 1853 to 1892, of the Iglehart law firm in Evansville, Indiana. John E. Iglehart joined the law firm of his father, prominent lawyer Judge Asa Iglehart, immediately after graduation in 1866.

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Lincoln Lore (The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company) #469–516

Lincoln Lore (The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company) #517–619

The Lincoln Kinsmen (Lincolniana Publishers) #1, 4, 9, 12, 18, and 20.

Charles Roll. *One Hundred and Fifty Years of American Development*. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Company, undated.

Pamphlet of *Lincoln Memorials*. No publication information given

Depositions from those who knew Lincoln or his family in Indiana, 1915: Louella Ashley, L.B. Barker, James Blackford, Francis M. Carlisle, Isaac G. Cissna, Jacob Clark, Mary E. Floyd, Allen Gentry, Robert Gentry, Elizabeth A. Goad, Sarah Gray, Bartley Inco, Captain William Jones, Jacob Oskins, James W. Phillips, George W. Roberts, James Stephens, W.E. Williams

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CATALOGING INFORMATION

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4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 0153).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.