

Collection #
SC 0138

WILLIAM GREENE BROWN PAPERS, CA. 1850–1976

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 manuscript folder; 1 photograph folder; 2 cased image tintypes; 2 boxes of tintypes
COLLECTION DATES:	Ca. 1850–1976
PROVENANCE:	Alice Bonifield
RESTRICTIONS:	None
COPYRIGHT:	Held by Indiana Historical Society
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.
ALTERNATE FORMATS:	None
RELATED HOLDINGS:	None
ACCESSION NUMBER:	1976.0324
NOTES:	

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

William Greene Brown was born on January 29, 1831. His parents, William Brown and Jane McGreggor Brown, had five children. William was the fourth born. He had one older brother, James (June 16, 1823), two older sisters, Mary Ann (February 28, 1825) and Elizabeth Margaret (April 19, 1827), and one younger sister, Sarah Jane (August 3, 1835). Little is known about William's early life. He married Rosanna Heater in 1851, over ten years before he enlisted in the Indiana Volunteers.

William Greene Brown was a Union soldier during the American Civil War. He served in Company B of the 89th Regiment in the Indiana Volunteers. Company B was also known as Sam Henry's Guards.

According to enlistment records, William G. Brown resided in Pendleton (Madison County), Indiana. He mustered in during August 1862 in Wabash, Indiana. His regiment marched to Memphis, Vicksburg, and finally mustered out in Mobile, Alabama. The regiment traveled over ten thousand miles during the war and fought in skirmishes as far south as Mississippi and Alabama. During this time he achieved the rank of Corporal. Brown was discharged on July 19, 1865 and returned home.

After the War, he and his wife, Rosanna, had five children. The oldest was Sarah Elizabeth Brown (Hensley). Sarah Elizabeth was followed by Julia Margaret Brown (Craig), John William Brown, James Wesley Brown (1866), and Jean Brown (Bonifield) (1870). According to the 1880 United States Census, William's family moved to Marion County, where he continued his occupation as a farmer. His date of death is unknown.

Sources:

Materials in the collection

Terrell, W.H.H. *Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Indiana: Officers 75th-156th Regiment-Artillery-Officer Index-1861-1865*. Vol. 3 Indianapolis: Samuel M. Douglass, State Printer

United States Federal Census, 1880 Accessed August 18, 2010. <http://search.ancestry.com>

Civil War Research Database. Accessed August 17, 2010.

<http://www.civilwardata.com/active/hdsquery.dll?SoldierHistory?U&1959486>

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The William Greene Brown Collection includes manuscripts and photographs. Series 1 is comprised of manuscript material detailing the genealogy of the Brown family. Included is a letter written from Jean Brown Bonifield to her cousin, Walter L. Smith. The letter outlines a family history including some birth and death records. The collection also contains materials related to William G. Brown's Civil War service. Series 2 contains the visual portion of the collection and features a few identified images and several unidentified images.

CONTENTS

Series 1: Civil War and Family History Materials

CONTENTS

CONTAINER

89th Regiment, Company B, August 29, 1862. William G. Brown listed with the Privates.

Broadside Collection,
E506.5 89th .S65 1862

Manuscript dated July 19, 1865, officially discharging William G. Brown from Company B of the 89th regiment in the Indiana Infantry.

Folder 1

Brown family genealogy from birth of William Brown (1803) to marriage of Miriam Bonifield to John Maurice Jones (1946). Some birth and death dates included.

Folder 1

Letter written by Jean Brown Bonifield to her cousin, Walter L. Smith, discussing the Brown family history (May 6, 1948).

Folder 1

Letter from Alice Bonifield (Jean's daughter) to Mrs. Abig, 1976. The letter detailed the genealogy papers sent from Jean Bonifield to Walter L. Smith.

Folder 1

Series 2: Visual Materials

CONTENTS

CONTAINER

William and Jane McGreggor Brown, parents of William Greene Brown (2 copies)

Photographs,
Folder 1

Copy of Civil War portrait of William Greene Brown

Photographs,
Folder 1

William W. Webb, blacksmith and inventor

Photographs,
Folder 1

Photograph of unidentified woman with charcoal over photograph

Photographs,
Folder 1

Unidentified Indianapolis Cabinet Cards: Woman standing in black dress with hand resting on column by J.A. Collins (2 copies) marked Spring 1890; Woman seated in black dress with looped appliqués by Keeter; Little girl standing in plaid front dress by C. Brown's State Gallery; Woman with dark dress with puffed sleeves and bow at neck by R.L. Crumrine; Couple: Man in suit seated and woman in dress with beaded appliqué standing by Simpson Boston Gallery; Baby in long white gown seated in chair by Simpson Boston Gallery; Couple: Man in suit seated and woman in dress with square buttons standing by Pickard (Haughville)

Photographs,
Folder 1

Portrait Cards: Woman in white dress with bows on shoulders by Keeter; Man seated in hounds-tooth suit with bow tie and stiff collar by Keeter

Photographs,
Folder 1

Cased Image: William Greene Brown tintype

Cased Images:
ID 115

Cased Image: Unidentified Man in dark suit with white shirt and dark tie [possibly a copy of a ca. 1850 image] tintype

Cased Images:
ID 116

Identified Tintype: Frederick Heater

Tintypes,
Box 1

Unidentified Tintypes: Man seated in dark coat holding lapel; Woman standing in light dress resting hand on armrest of chair; Two women in light colored dresses, one standing and one seated; Two men in dark jackets and vests, one standing and one seated; Young boy standing; Young girl in white dress seated on woman's lap (invisible mother photograph)

Tintypes,
Box 1

Unidentified Tintypes: Baby in long white dress seated in patterned chair; Man in dark suit with ornate watch chain and fob; Four women, two seated and two standing; Baby in long white gown seated; Girl in plaid dress with black dog; Girl in light dress with fringe; Two women, one seated on chair knitting and one seated on the floor with book; Woman standing with hand on man's shoulder while man sits; Woman seated wearing a polka dot dress

Tintypes,
Box 2