

Collection #
SC 2553

**METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
CICERO CIRCUIT RECORDS, 1845–1861**

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Processed by
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29 April 1996
Updated 24 November 2004

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 item

COLLECTION DATES: 1845-1861

PROVENANCE: Mullins Books, Box 33350, Indianapolis, IN 46203, 8 April 1996

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: None

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1996.0403

HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Cicero Circuit of the Methodist Episcopal Church, based in Jackson Township in northern Hamilton County, was organized in 1845 by the North Indiana Conference. At first meetings were held in members' homes. In 1854 there was a great revival in Cicero, in which the pastor was assisted by seven exhorters-- not, as he reported, the "lazy, lounging" kind. This revival spurred the erection of a church, at a cost of \$1000 to \$1400. It is not clear whether the circuit controlled other locations or churches. By 1868 the circuit reported a record number of 495 probationers. In 1874 the *People's Guide* listed the Cicero church as having 103 members, 122 Sunday School students, and property worth \$3500-- the largest Methodist church in the county.

Sources: Materials in collection

Cline and McHaffie, *People's Guide to Hamilton County* (1874), 195

H. N. Merrick and William W. Sweet, *History of the North Indiana Conference*, Vol. I, p. 47, 101, 103

SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection contains one item, a notebook with the records of the Cicero circuit of the Methodist church from its founding in 1845 until 1861. Minutes are largely concerned with the licensing of preachers and exhorters. In other sections of the book are a list of members; marriages 1845-1849; baptisms 1847-1848; and genealogical records of the Bowman and Gipps (Kipps) families.

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 2553).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.