

ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

A Guide to the Edwards Family Papers

Summary Information

Repository

Albany Institute of History & Art Library

Creator

Isaac Edwards

Title

Edwards Family Papers

Identifier

DC 561

Date

1840-1879

Physical Description

1 box

Physical Location

The materials are located onsite in the Museum.

Language of the Material

English

Abstract

Isaac Edwards (1819-1879) was born in South Corinth, New York. He married Anna (1826-1907), a granddaughter of Ezra Ames, and had three children who survived to adulthood. Isaac eventually became a professor at the Albany Law School, served on the Albany Board of Public Instruction, and became a member of the Congregational Church.

This collection includes clippings, essays, photographs, and other Edwards family-related materials.

Preferred Citation

Preferred citation for this material is as follows:

Edwards Family Papers, 1840-1879, DC 561. Albany Institute of History & Art Library, Albany, New York.

Conditions Governing Access and Use

Restrictions on Access

None

Copyright

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Accession: # unidentified

Accession Source/Date: unidentified

Processing Information

Processed by H. Harrington, November 2003; finding aid updated by H. Cox, July 2021.

Biographical/Historical

The Edwards Family is related through marriage to Ezra Ames. Ezra Ames' daughter Marcia married Rev. William James, and they had three daughters. One daughter, Anna (1826-1907) married Isaac Edwards (1819-1879). Isaac was the son of John Edwards and grandson of Isaac Edwards (1764-1848). Anna and Isaac had six children, of which three survived - two daughters and a son. The daughters were Elizabeth S. Edwards (1868-1921), and Katherine James Edwards (1857-1907). Their son was Henry Ames Edwards (1859- 1921). None of the three survivors ever married.

Isaac Edwards was born in South Corinth, New York. He was the descendant of early Welsh settlers. As a child, he attended Waterford Academy, and later studied law in Albany under his uncle James Edwards. Upon entering the bar, he became a professor at Albany Law School. He would later serve on the Albany Board of Public Instruction. He was one of the original incorporators of the National Savings Bank. He started life as a Presbyterian, but later became a devout member of the Congregational Church.

Henry Ames Edwards, Isaac's son, attended Albany Boys' Academy and received private tutoring in Keene, New Hampshire. Like his father, he too became a lawyer and attended Albany Law School, in the Class of 1888. He was greatly interested in the Albany Fire Department and served on the Board of Deacons of the Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Scope and Contents

The collection contains photographs of the Edwards, essays and news clippings kept by Isaac Edwards, albums belonging to different Ames and Edwards family members and friends, and items dating to the Civil War dealing with Albany businesses and people during the War. Their connection to the Edwards family is unclear.

Contents List

The following section contains a listing of the materials in the collection.

Description	Box	Folder
Photograph of Henry Ames Edwards;	1	1
Photograph of unknown woman;		
Photograph of Isaac Edwards;		
Edwards Family Portrait of Mrs. Isaac Edwards and three children;		
Unidentified Male Portrait		
Pieces and Fragments, Essays and speeches of Isaac Edwards, 1840-1855		2
Memorial to Isaac Edwards on his death in 1879		3
Album belonging to Caroline Spencer, daughter of Ezra Ames' half-sister Polly		4
Album belonging to Mary Ann Plank		5
Diary of an unidentified female resident of Albany in the 1850s. Probably written by Anna James before she married Isaac		6
Scrapbook of William H. Terrell's service in Civil War;		7
Mailing Envelopes, 49 special covers, many of which refer to the Civil War		
Scrip, 4 samples of scrip issued in Albany during the Civil War from various authorities		

