



The Urbana Free Library

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Calling Cards
Collection, 1878-1880 and undated

Collection 290

Champaign County Historical Archives

Compiled by: Maggie Weimer, June 2023

Creator/Corporate name: Champaign County Historical Archives

Inclusive Dates: 1878-1880 and undated

Physical Description: 1 box (0.25 linear ft)

Provenance:

Materials were donated to the Champaign County Historical Archives.

Access:

The records are accessible to the public within applicable copyright restrictions and limited to use at the Champaign County Historical Archives of The Urbana Free Library.

Historical Note:

Calling cards were small, decorative cards (about the size of today's business cards) that individuals used to present themselves to others. These cards usually included the name of an individual and sometimes an address. A common practice in the 18th and 19th centuries, particularly amongst the upper class, individuals would leave a calling card when visiting someone's home or workplace, and sometimes short messages were written on the cards to specify the meaning of a visit. These cards became essential social accessories of the time and often served as status symbols.

Scope and Content Note:

The Calling Cards collection includes 57 calling cards of individuals from Champaign County and Illinois, giving insight into the social standards of the time in the area. Calling cards in this collection were owned by men, women, and married couples. Some individuals have more than one calling card in the collection.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged alphabetically.

Subject Terms:

Manners and customs—19th century.
Visiting cards

Name Terms:

Brown, George H.
Bryant, Alice
Bullock, Altha
Busey, Lib
Busey, Samuel, Jr.



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Cone, Katie
Davis, Gracie M.
Deere, Mary L.
Deere, M.L.
Dogan, Mollie
Downs, Della L.
Elder, Ida E.
Epperson, C.S.
Fletcher, Nettie
Harrison, William H.
Hollister, Willie
Ingersoll, Joseph
Jaquith, Lottie M.
Job, Arminda J.
Joh, Margret E.
Joh, Nettie E.
Kirkpatrick, Charles S.
Kirkpatrick, Fannie L.
Kirkpatrick, Hattie B.
Kirkpatrick, J.C.
Kirkpatrick, Jesse C.
Kirkpatrick, M.C.
Kirkpatrick, M.F.
Maguire, William Chester
McClain, Annie G.M.
McClain, Charles A.
McClain, Emma
Miller, E.P.
Parks, M.S.
Richards, G.N.
Seeger, Augusta R.
Stedman, W.H.
Toy, Mr. and Mrs.
Trower, Sallie
Trust, Mollie
Walther, Emil
Warnock, S.C.
Watson, George L.
Whitcomb, Lucy
Whitney, Henry C.



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Container List:

Box 1

Folder 1: Calling Cards A-F, undated

Folder 2: Calling Cards H-K, undated

Folder 3: Calling Cards M-S, 1878-1880 and undated

Folder 4: Calling Cards T-W, undated