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**DAKE FAMILY PAPERS**  
**1406-1974**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The Dake Family Papers (1406-1974) are centered around Jabez P. Dake (1828-1894), and his wife, Elizabeth (Church) Dake (1826-1908), and several family members, including William C. Dake (1852-1910), and related families of Church, Dudley, Fletcher, Morris, Wiggin, Wilson, and Wyatt. The Jabez P. Dake family of Nashville, Tennessee, were prominent in the field of homeopathic medicine, and their papers were donated by Mary Dudley Dake Fletcher, of Nashville, Tennessee.

The materials in this finding aid measure .84 linear feet. There are no restrictions on the materials. Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the Dake Family Papers may be made for purposes of individual or scholarly research.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Dake Family Papers, consisting of approximately 215 items, and spanning the years 1406-1974, are composed of accounts (bills and receipts); marriage announcements; correspondence; genealogical charts; military records; obituaries; photographs; printed materials; school records; scrapbooks of cards; biographical sketches; and writings.

The Papers refer to members of the Dake family and other related families such as Church, Dudley, Fletcher, Morris, Wiggin, Wilson, and Wyatt. Jabez P. Dake (1827-1894) married Elizabeth Church (1826-1908) in 1851, and had five sons, all of whom became doctors. Their names were William C., Walter M., Jabez P. Jr., Charles, and Frank B.

A sketch written about the life of Jabez Philander Dake (Box 2, folder 18) could be used as an introduction to the collection. An obituary written by close friend and associate Bushrod W. James, also provides biographical and personal recollections about J.P. Dake.

Born in Johnstown, New York, well educated in New York and Pennsylvania, Dake moved to Nashville, Tennessee, in 1869, having already received many honors in the field of homeopathic medicine. Dake was an art and literary enthusiast; actively involved with the Nashville Chamber of Commerce; member of the prestigious "Round Table;" and well-traveled in Europe and Japan surveying various methods of medicine.

The collection contains 39 pieces of correspondence, most of which is addressed to William C. Dake, who was married to Adelaide Wiggin, of Janesville, Wisconsin. The bulk of the correspondence is written by Mr. and Mrs. R. Wiggin to the William C. Dake family. Some of the letters written by Mr. and Mrs. Jabez P. Dake are photocopies.

Genealogical charts of the Dake, Church, Wiggin, Wilson and Wyatt families are included along with a chart of the Wilbur F. Creighton family extending back to 1406.

There are approximately 123 photographs in the collection of the Dake family; pictures from an album belonging to Mary Dudley Dake Fletcher; the Dake residence at the corner of Cedar Street and Vine Street in downtown Nashville (the present location of the War Memorial Building); and several unidentified people. Many of the photographs are not labeled with information.

A booklet written by J.P. Dake on "Acute Diseases," in 1859, gives simple descriptions and remedies for common people in language that could be easily understood. Also, a pamphlet on "Cholera: It's Treatment in the Absence of a Homeopathic Physician," by C.M. Dake, in 1849, is a short treatise on the most advanced remedy for cholera.

A scrapbook of post cards, either bought or sent, from places all over the world beginning in 1924 until 1973, is included which belonged to Mary Dudley Dake Fletcher. Some attempt has been made to label the cards as they are arranged by country.

The Dake Family Papers are centered around Jabez P. Dake (father), and William C. Dake (son), the two best known doctors of the Dake family in Nashville, Tennessee. The photographs are substantial in number, but most provide little information about the people in the collection. The correspondence and other printed materials are in good readable condition and are useful for understanding the time period.

## CONTAINER LIST

### Microfilm Roll # 1

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#### Box 1

1. Accounts – Bills, notes & receipts – Wilson, B.F., 1877-1880
2. Announcements – Marriage – Governor & Mrs. Austin Peay, Clarksville, TN, 1923
3. Correspondence – Burns – Church (copies), 1828-1870
4. Correspondence – Dake, Elizabeth C. & Jabez P. (copies), 1860-1894
5. Correspondence – Wiggin, R., 1894-1898
6. Correspondence – Wiggin, Mrs. R., 1878-1896
7. Correspondence – Wilson, 1901-1929
8. Genealogical Data – Ancestry chart – Dake, Church, Wiggin, Wilson, Wyatt families, 1908-1931
9. Genealogical Data – Pedigree chart – Creighton, Wilbur F., 1406-1974
10. Military Records – Rosters – Survivors of Ashby's Tennessee Cavalry Brigade, 1898-1910
11. Obituaries – Dake, Jabez P., 1894
12. Photographs – Dake, David Merritt, 1890
13. Photographs – Photo album – Fletcher, Mary Dudley Dake, 1880s-1890s

#### Box 2

1. Photographs – Dake, Wiggins, Wilson, Saunders, 1880s-1922
2. Photographs – Dake, Jabez P., 1863
3. Photographs – Glass negative – Dake, Jabez P., 1890
4. Photographs – Prints from negative – Dake, Jabez P., 1890
5. Photographs – Dake, William C., 1890
6. Photographs – Dake residence, 1899
7. Photographs – Dake residence, 1899
8. Photographs – Dake office (?), 1899
9. Photographs – Gregory, William P., 1904-1920
10. Photographs – The Ladies of the Hermitage, 1890s
11. Photographs – Morris, Rebekah Henderson, n.d.
12. Photographs – Miscellaneous unidentified, 1890s
13. Printed Materials – Booklet – “Acute Diseases,” by J.P. Dake
14. Printed Materials – Booklet – “Green Pastures,” by Rev. James Smith, 1862

### Microfilm Roll # 2

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#### Box 2

15. Printed Materials – Pamphlet – “Cholera: It's Treatment,” by C.M. Dake, 1862
16. School Records – Essays – Dake, William C., 1862
17. Scrapbooks – Album of cards – Fletcher, Mary Dudley Dake, 1924-1973
18. Sketches – Biographical – Dake, Jabez P., n.d.
19. Writings – Editor's Town Topics – Anonymous, n.d.

## NAME INDEX

This is a name index of the correspondence only in the Dake Family Papers, together with the dates of the letters and information regarding their contents. The figures in parentheses denote the number of letters, if more than one. The last numbers refer to the box and folder in which the material is to be found.

- Burns, B.M. to William C. Dake, 1863, re: from Pittsburg, PA; photocopy of a personal letter from a friend, 1-5
- Church, C.L. (2) to William C. Dake, 1861-1870, re: from Salem, OH; photocopies of personal letters from grandmother, on William's ninth birthday; contemplating a visit from William soon, 1-5
- Church, William I. (uncle) to William C. Dake, 1858, re: from Albany, NY; photocopy of personal letter with advice, 1-5
- Dake, Elizabeth C. (mother) (2) to William C. Dake, 1860-1863, re: photocopies of personal letters to her son; mentions several family members, 1-6
- Dake, Jabez P. (father) (4) to William C. Dake, 1863-1894, re: from Boston, MA; photocopies of personal letters; mentions visiting the site of the "Battle of Bunker Hill," Long Warf, Charlestown, religious services; from Salem, OH; family news; mother had an attack of cholera; from Nashville, TN; description of trip to Nashville; plans to survey Middle-Tennessee to begin a new practice; from St. Ignace, MI. (1894); an original letter mentioning a visit to Detroit; several business associates; plans to travel to Minnesota and Canada with Judge Jackson, 1-6
- \_\_\_\_\_ (husband) to Elizabeth (Church) Dake, 1865, re: from Boston, MA.; photocopy of personal letter to wife about a business trip; money matters, 1-6
- Wiggin, (mother-in-law) (3) to William C. Dake, 1878-1896, re: from Janesville, WI.; personal and family matters; mentions that her grandfather was Johnathon Wilson; health matters, 1-7
- Wiggin, R. (father) (21) to Adelaide (Wiggin) (Dake), 1894-1898, re: from Janesville, WI.; family news; mentions Bessie (granddaughter); hot summer weather; playing golf; mentions Richard (grandson); mentions the Baptist convention; mentions the "Centennial;" received pictures of Richard and Bessie; church news; mentions the health of Mrs. Payne; 1898 mentions a visit by Richard; mentions Dr. Wills, 1-8
- Wilson, Morris (father) to Elizabeth Wilson, 1916, re: from French Lick, IN.; personal news, 1-9
- Wilson, Mrs. Morris to Judge J.M. Anderson, 1917, re: from Nashville, TN; a personal letter about a court case involving her and some false accusations, 1-9
- Bessie (mother?) to Elizabeth C. Dake, 1929, re: from Nashville, TN; personal news; advice about health matters, 1-9
- Jane (cousin) to William C. Dake, 1901, re: from Allegheny, NY; personal letter mentioning various family graves and checking the condition of tombstones, etc.; mentions several family members; includes drawing of grave locations in cemetery, 1- 9