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## Edwards Collection (MSS 22)

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Manuscripts & Folklife Archives  
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Kentucky Library & Museum  
Western Kentucky University  
Bowling Green, KY 42101

*Descriptive Inventory*

**MSS 22 EDWARDS Collection**

5 boxes, 35 folders, 156 items, 1841-1940

Gift of Mrs. Florence Edwards Gardiner, Horse Cave, Kentucky

***BIOGRAPHY***

The son of Isaac N. and Annie (Bohannon) Edwards, William T. Edwards (1830-1927) was born in Barren County, Kentucky. Later, he practiced medicine in the Horse Cave community of Hart County. Dr. Edwards' first wife was Flora Poynter; his second wife was Mrs. Bunch Wilson; and his third wife was Rosa Meers. He died on March 8, 1927, leaving no children.

William's younger brother, Martin Van Buren Edwards (1840-1928), was born in Barren County, Kentucky, also. Working on his father's farm until he was eighteen years old, Martin then began to study medicine under the protectorship of his brother, Dr. W. T. Edwards, in Hart County. Martin enlisted as a private in the Confederate Ninth Kentucky Volunteer Cavalry in 1862. Returning to Horse Cave at the close of the war, he entered the drug trade. In 1872, he enrolled in the Medical department of the University of Louisville, graduating with high honors in the class of 1878. Martin practiced medicine in Horse Cave until his death. He married Lissie G. (Smith) Richey of Metcalfe County on October 19, 1880, and they had no children.

Cyrus Edwards (1846-1939), surveyor and farmer, was the son of Alexander (b.1810) and Julian (Chism) Edwards and was a second cousin of Martin and William. Born in Barren County, Cyrus enlisted in the Union Army on December 26, 1863, at Louisville and was discharged there in September 1865. After the Civil War, Cyrus directed a crew of surveyors in the West for a few years, was in Chicago at the time of the disastrous fire, and maintained an active interest in the activities of the

Grand Army of the Republic. On December 20, 1877, he married Cinderella Crain, the daughter of Nathaniel and Cynthia (Keller) Crain. Their children were Louis, Florence, and Eva.

#### Bibliographical Notes

Perrin, W. H., Battle, J. H., and Kniffen, G. C., *Kentucky, History of a State*, (3d ed., 1886).

Edwards, Cyrus. *The Edwards Family of Barren County*, 1924.

Gardiner, Florence Edwards. *Cyrus Edwards' Stories of Early Days*, 1940.

*U. S. Census*, Barren County, 1850.

*Directory of Births and Deaths Registered in Kentucky*, 1926-1930.

### **THE COLLECTION**

The major portion of this collection is comprised of twelve account books dating from 1870 to 1919, of Drs. Martin Van Buren Edwards and William T. Edwards, who practiced medicine in Horse Cave, Kentucky. Letters, statements, bills, receipts, and fliers were found between the books' pages.

Among the materials of Cyrus Edwards, there are items pertaining to his Grand Army of the Republic activities centered around the Robert Storie Post at Hiseville (including speeches from 1888 to 1930, a journal, history, and resolutions), an account book recording his actions as executor of several estates from 1898 to 1921 and about two hundred pages of Hart County surveys from 1893 to 1920.

Additionally, some of the items concerning Horse Cave, Kentucky, include a minute book of the Board of Trustees from 1871 to 1892 and a bank ledger from 1873 to 1874.

### **SHELF LIST**

#### **Box 1      Cyrus Edwards (1846-1939) and Miscellaneous**

Folder 1	Letter to Cyrus Edwards from Frank M. Thomas	Jan. 29, 1914	1 item
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Folder 2	Journal of Robert Storie Post, Grand Army of the Republic, No. 104, Department of Kentucky	1888-1891	1 item
Folder 3	Hart County Surveys by Cyrus Edwards	1893-1920	p.37-238
Folder 4	Account book, Cyrus Edwards, Executor of Various Estates	1898-1921	1 item
Folder 5	History and Several Resolutions, Robert Storie Post, Hiseville, Grand Army of the Republic	1901-1902	6 items
Folder 6	Speeches, Cyrus Edwards, Grand Army of the Republic	1903,1915, 1930	3 items
Folder 7	Gardiner, Florence (Edwards), Foreword to book Cyrus Edwards' <i>Stories of Early Days</i> - typed carbon	1940	1 item
Folder 8	Stock certificates Louisville Turnpike road	1841-1842	6 items
Folder 9	Deposition relative to murder of Dr. Alexander Sanderson, trial of John C. Hamilton	1887	2 items
Folder 10	Open letter to telephone subscribers of Horse Cave, Kentucky	n.d.	3p.
Folder 11	Minute Book, Board of Trustees Caverna-Horse Cave, Kentucky	1871-1892	358p.
Folder 12	Ledger, Caverna Deposit Bank	1873-1874	78p.
<b>Box 2</b>	<b>Dr. Martin Van Buren Edwards (1840-1928)</b>		
Folder 1	Correspondence removed from Account books in Boxes 2, 3, and 4	1883-1912	25 items
Folder 2	Letters to M. V. Edwards re: Little Mattie Mining Stock	1901-1902	4 items

Folder 3	Two tax receipts and charts removed from Dr. M. V. Edwards' Account book, 1885-1889	1891	3 items
Folder 4	Miscellaneous items removed from Dr. M. V. Edwards' Account book, 1891-1896	1890-1894	10 items
Folder 5	Miscellaneous receipts, statements etc. removed from Dr. M. V. Edwards' Account book, 1891-1896	1894-1896	17 items

4 Account Books of Dr. M. V. Edwards -  
Patient and Personal

#6	12"	1883-1912	109p.
#7	14"	1885-1889	228p.
#8	14"	1888-1890	292p.
#9	14"	1891-1896	292p.

**Box 3 Dr. M. V. Edwards**

Folder 1	Miscellaneous bills, receipts, statements and flyers removed from Account book M. V. Edwards, 1895-1902	1894-1902	35 items
Folder 2	Statements of a/c removed from M. V. Edwards Account Book, 1907-1912	1911-1913	5 items
Folder 3	Statements removed from M. V. Edwards Account Book, 1912-1918	1913-1915	7 items

3 Account Books, M. V. Edwards

#4	14"	1895-1902	501p.
#5	14"	1907-1912	350p.
#6	13 1/2"	1911-1918	344p.

**Box 4 Dr. M. V. Edwards**

BSB

Folder 1	Drug order, poem, and flyer removed from M. V. Edwards Ledger of Drugstore and patients' accounts	1879-1880	3 items
#2	Ledger, M. V. Edwards, Drugstore and patients' accounts	1871-1881	p.1-410 p.541-615 p.659-687
Folder 3	Account book, M. V. Edwards, Coal, Butter and Milk	1918-1919	1 item

**Box 5 Dr. William T. Edwards (1830-1927)**

BSB

Folder 1	Account Book, Personal, Dr. W. T. Edwards, Walnut Hill, Hart County, Ky. 3 1/2" x 6"	1853-1859	1 item
Folder 2	Statement of Dr. W. T. Edwards removed from Patients' Account Book, 1870-1871	1869	1 item
Folder 3	Receipts, bills, statements and flyers removed from W. T. Edwards Patients' Account Book, 1904-1912	1901-1912	10 items
#4	Account Book-Patients' - Dr. W. T. Edwards 12"	1870-1871	165p.
#5	Account Book-Patients' and Drugs - Dr. W. T. Edwards 16"	1904-1912	p.1-133 p.277-317

**CATALOG CARD**

MSS EDWARDS Collection 1841-1940  
22

12 patients' account books of Dr. Martin Van Buren and William T. Edwards, brothers, of Horse Cave, Ky. are the nucleus of this collection which also includes several G.A.R. Dept of Ky. Robert Storie Post #104, Hiseville items, material from Cyrus Edwards, a second cousin, and several Horse Cave items.

See inventory for details  
5 boxes, 35 folders, 156 items

**SUBJECT ANALYTICS**

Account book - Edwards, Cyrus - Executor various estates - 1898-1921  
Account books, 1883-1919  
Banks and banking - Caverna  
Caverna - Banks and banking  
Caverna - Town Board of Trustees  
Drugstores  
Edwards, Cyrus, 1846-1939  
Edwards, Martin Van Buren, 1840-1928  
Edwards, William T., 1830-1927  
Grand Army of the Republic, Dept of Ky, Robert Storie Post #104, Hiseville  
Hamilton, John C., d. 1818, Deposition, 1878  
Hart County - Physicians  
Hart County - Surveys and surveying  
Hiseville  
Horse Cave  
Louisville Turnpike Road - Stock Certificates  
Physicians - Hart County  
Storie, Robert, Post No. 104, G.A.R.  
Speeches - Edwards, Cyrus  
Telephone companies  
Thomas, Frank Morehead, 1868-1921