BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Addison Davis James was born on 27 February 1849 in Butler County, Kentucky, the fourth of twelve children born to Thomas M. and Eliza (Harreld) James. He was raised on a farm and received a common school education in Morgantown and Greenville, Kentucky. In 1867 he opened a drugstore in Morgantown and studied medicine with R. B. Morehead. In 1869 he graduated from the Louisville University of Medicine. He practiced medicine from 1871 to 1884 in Penrod, Muhlenberg County, Kentucky. From 1880 to 1884, he took an active role in the politics of his Congressional district. In 1884 he was appointed surgeon for the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railroad Company. In 1888 he served as a capable Republican organizer in southern Indiana, with headquarters in Oakland City. He was elected to serve in the 1890 Kentucky Constitutional Convention. The following year he was elected to the Kentucky General Assembly, a seat that he resigned in order to serve on the World’s Fair Commission. In 1893 he was elected to the Kentucky Senate and was re-elected to a succeeding term. In June 1897 he was appointed U.S. Marshal for the western section of Kentucky and was re-appointed to a second four-year term in 1901. In 1906 he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from the Third District.

Dr. James married Hattie Penrod on 6 October 1869, and they had four children: Mollie, Anna, Clarence and Mandie. Hattie died on 7 January 1881, and Dr. James married Bell Penrod, a sister of his former wife, on 15 March 1882. Dr. James died in 7 June 1910 and is buried in the James Cemetery, located about ½ mile from Penrod, Kentucky

COLLECTION NOTE

The collection consists of photocopies of a letter press book that belonged to Addison Davis James. The book contains approximately 100 letters written while James was the U.S. Marshall for Western Kentucky. The letters are basically chronological, but the order of the pages was retained. Although in two folders, the contents are numbered continuously just as they were in the original volume, which was 358 pages in length.
James writes to various Republican politicians about matters in the western section of Kentucky. Correspondents include President Theodore Roosevelt, Vice-president William Howard Taft, and other federal office holders. A large number of the letters are addressed to fellow Kentuckian John W. Yerkes, who at the time was serving as Commissioner of Internal Revenue in Washington. The letters address political issues and political patronage in the Commonwealth. If two or more letters were written to an individual, his name was included in the subject analytics of this finding aid.

SHELF LIST

BOX 1  Addison James Letter Press Book  1901-1903  2 items
Folder 1  Inventory  1 item
Folder 2  Letter press book  1901-1903  1 item  (p. 1-184)
Folder 3  Letter press book  1904-1905  1 item (cont’d)  p. 185-358

BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD

MSS  JAMES, Addison Davis,  1901-1905
400  1849-1910

Photocopy of a letter press book kept by Addison Davis James during the time he was U.S. Marshal for Western Kentucky. James was a physician and a prominent Republican from Muhlenberg County, Kentucky.

½ box. 3 folders. 2 items. Photocopies.
2007.255.1

SUBJECT ANALYTICS

Allison, Young Ewing, 1853-1932 – Letters to
Beckham, John Crepps Wickliffe, 1869-1940 – Letter to
Belknap, Morris Burke, 1856-1910 – Correspondence
Coffman, Jacob Bradley, 1862-1912 – Letters to
Combs, Leslie, 1852-1913 – Letter to
Cortelyou, George Bruce, 1862-1940 – Letters to
DuPont, T. Coley – Letters to
Ernst, Richard P., 1858-1943 – Letter to
Fisher, Frank – Letters to
Flexner, Bernard, 1865-1945 – Letter to
Franks, E. T. – Letters to
Galloway, John Marshall, 1844-1918 – Letter to
Happy, James H. – Letters to
Knott, Richard Wilson, 1830-1911 – Letter to
Lewis, John W. – Letters to
Long, George W. – Letters to
Mapother, Wible Lawrence, 1872-1926 – Letter to
Motley, Charles P. – Letter to
Mullin, Willis S. – Letters to
Political patronage, 1901-1905
Politics – Kentucky, 1901-1905
Powers, Caleb, 1869-1932 – Relating to, 1904
Preston, L. W. – Letters to
Republican Party – Kentucky, 1901-1905
Roberts, Samuel J. – Letters to
Roberts, T. L. – Letters to
Roosevelt, Theodore, 1858-1919 – Correspondence
Sapp, Charles E. – Letters to
Shelman, E. H. – Letters to
Snooks, S. J. – Letters to
Sparks, T. J. – Letters to
Stone, William J. – Letters to
Taft, William Howard, 1857-1930 – Correspondence
U.S. Marshals – Relating to, 1901-1905
White, William Lee – Letters to
Wickliffe, W. A. – Letters to
Wilkins, Walker – Letters to
Yerkes, John Watson, 1854-1922 – Letters to

Jeffrey 04/09/2012