

Collection #
M 0123
BV 1369–1371
OM 0161

**ELIZABETH JANE MILLER HACK
PAPERS, 1875–1941**

Collection Information	1
Biographical Sketch	2
Scope and Content Note	2
Contents	3

Processed by

Charles Latham

March, 1990

Paul Brockman and Betty Alberty

March, 2013

Visuals Revised by Dorothy A. Nicholson

August 2014

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department

William Henry Smith Memorial Library

Indiana Historical Society

450 West Ohio Street

Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 2 manuscript boxes, 3 bound volumes, 2 oversized manuscript folders, 1 photograph box, 1 OVA photograph box, 1 OVB photograph folder

COLLECTION DATES: 1875–1941

PROVENANCE: Mrs. G. S. Marsh (Ms. Eleanor Hack), Henderson, Kentucky, June 1968 and June, 1975

RESTRICTIONS: None

COPYRIGHT:

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.

ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1968.0804; 1975.0609

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

This collection traces the careers of three members of the Miller family, which often lived in Indianapolis.

Samantha West Miller (1850–1928) was married to Timothy Miller (d. 1912). The family lived in New Ross, Indiana, but moved to Indianapolis in 1883, and lived on Prospect St. Mrs. Miller did some free-lance writing, and published a magazine called The Cabinet Maker. She was involved in the Women's Relief Corps and was an active sponsor of patriotic activities. After a strenuous campaign, she obtained an appointment on one of the women's juries for the Chicago Columbian Exposition of 1893.

Her son, **Ralph Miller** (1874–1903), attended public schools, and graduated in 1893 from Indianapolis High School (later Shortridge), where he had served as drillmaster for the High School Cadets. He was employed by the Bobbs Merrill Company. In 1898 he enlisted in the 128th Indiana Regiment and became a sergeant-major. After the war, in 1900, he enlisted in the regular army, serving in the cavalry in the Philippines, and rose from private to sergeant to lieutenant. He died in 1903 of kidney infection.

Ralph Miller had two brothers, Otto and Percy, and one sister, **Elizabeth Miller** (1879–1961). The latter graduated from Manual Training High School and took classes at Butler University and Indiana University. In 1904, under the name Bessie Miller, she had an historical-religious novel, *The Yoke*, published by Bobbs Merrill. This was followed by *Saul of Tarsus* (1906), *The City of Delight* (1908), *Daybreak* (1915), and *The Science of Columbus* (1921). In 1907 Purdue University invited her along with James Whitcomb Riley, Meredith Nicholson, George Ade, and Charles Major to an Authors' Reading. She married Oren Hack in 1908 and had a daughter and three sons. In the 1920s the family lived in Boggs town. Though she wrote comparatively little after her marriage, Mrs. Hack continued her association with local literary figures like Laura Smith, Anna Nicholas, and Esther Griffin White.

Sources:

Information in Collection.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists primarily of documents and letters of Hack and her family in Indianapolis from the period 1894–1920 and includes correspondence about her writing and family matters and her diaries from 1894–1903 as well as copies of her magazine and newspaper stories. Also contained are the papers of Ralph Miller from 1895–1903 including his diaries and papers from the Philippines, 1903.

CONTENTS

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Samantha West Miller Correspondence, 1875–93	Box 1, Folder 1
Samantha West Miller Correspondence, 1894	Box 1, Folder 2
Samantha West Miller Correspondence, 1895–98	Box 1, Folder 3
Samantha West Miller Correspondence, 1898–99	Box 1, Folder 4
Samantha West Miller Correspondence, 1900–01	Box 1, Folder 5
Samantha West Miller Correspondence, 1902–05	Box 1, Folder 6
Printed Materials with writings by Bessie Miller	Box 1, Folder 7
Newspaper Clippings	Box 1, Folder 8
Elizabeth Jane Miller Correspondence, 1906–12	Box 1, Folder 9
Elizabeth Jane Miller Correspondence, 1912–16	Box 1, Folder 10
Elizabeth Jane Miller Correspondence, 1918–19	Box 1, Folder 11
Elizabeth Jane Miller Correspondence, 1930–40	Box 1, Folder 12
Elizabeth Jane Miller Correspondence, 1941, n.d.	Box 1, Folder 13
Diaries, 1894; 1895	Box 1, Folder 14
Newspaper Clippings, Business Cards, Letters, Telegrams	Box 1, Folder 15
Manual for Subsistence Department U.S.A.; Roll Book for 158 th Regiment; Indiana National Guard Soldiers' Handbook; Ralph Miller Notebook, 1891	Box 2, Folder 1
Ralph Miller Diaries, 1896; 1897	Box 2, Folder 2
Ralph Miller Diaries, 1898; 1899	Box 2, Folder 3
Ralph Miller Diaries, 1900; 1901	Box 2, Folder 4
Ralph Miller Diaries, 1902; 1903	Box 2, Folder 5
Ralph Miller Scrapbook	BV 1369

Ralph Miller School Notebook	BV 1370
Ralph Miller School Notebook	BV 1371
Ralph Miller, commission as Second Lieutenant, 13 April 1899	OM 0161, Folder 1
Diplomas and Certificates for Miller Family	OM 0161, Folder 2
Timothy Miller Family and interior and exterior views of their home at 348 Prospect Street	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 1
Mr. & Mrs. Oren Hack with children, John and Virginia and grandmother Hack seated in automobile ca. 1911	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2
Oren Hack and his law partner Elliott R. Hooten	
Elizabeth Miller Hack, 2 portraits Western Association of Writers group photos with James Whitcomb Riley and Will W. Pfrimmer	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 3
Horace Bell, 3 portraits	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 4
Wallace Foster, 2 portraits Ralph Miller, 2 portraits, "159 th Indiana Volunteers marching out, Indianapolis May 16, 1898" Ralph Miller at Camp Thomas, Chickamauga, Tenn. "Camp Ralph Miller" banner	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 5
Boggs town School Photographs: ca. 1910–1937	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 6
School north of Boggs town, Oren Hack the teacher	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 7
4 Indiana postcards Print of Grant's birthplace Portrait of Major Wilbur Boggs town Presbyterian Church exterior view Elm Garage at Market and Capitol in Indianapolis Portrait of Conrad Pfrimmer and group portrait with him seated center left Group portrait of Indiana Law School officers, 1910 Group portrait of men and boys eating watermelon Unidentified family group in an automobile	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 8

Two banquet photographs:
Democratic Rally Association, 1918
Indiana Democratic Editorial Association, 1919

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 9

European postcards and photographs of Italy, France,
and artworks

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 10

Group photograph at "Home of Washington,
Mt. Vernon, Va." ca. 1890s

OVA Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

"A case under consultation, a clinic" [men in office,
Parry Manufacturing Co. maps on wall, ca. 1890s]

OVA Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 2

Lieut. Ralph Miller tombstone
Feb. 8, 1874–Aug. 13, 1903

OVA Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 3

Wallace Foster portrait
mounted photos from Miller branch of family,
college chemistry or science classroom on verso

OVA Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 4

Marsh Family Sawmill, Boggstown, Indiana, two
photos, family members identified on verso

OVA Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 5

Elizabeth Hack Miller and other students,
Manual High School, Indianapolis, ca. 1890s

OVB Photographs:
Folder 1