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**Myaamia Collection:  
Lambillotte-Willard Collection of  
Turtle-Wells Family Papers  
1825-1916**

**OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION**

Title: Lambillotte-Willard Collection of Turtle-Wells Family Papers  
Dates: 1825-1916  
Media: Correspondence, Legal Documents, Financial Documents  
Quantity: 5.77 linear feet (6 boxes total)  
Location: Closed Stacks

**COLLECTION SUMMARY**

This collection contains primary documents relating to William Wells Wolcott and his father James Wolcott, both of Maumee, Ohio.

**PROVENANCE OF THE COLLECTION**

This collection was donated by the Lambillotte-Willard Family, who are descendants of both William and James Wolcott.

**BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION**

William Wells Wolcott was born ca. 1821 to Judge James Wolcott and Mary (Amehkoonsahkwa) Wells, but soon after the family moved to Fort Wayne, Indiana (Kiihkayonki). He was the grandson of Myaamia adoptee Captain William (Eepiihkaanita) Wells and his wife Weenankapita and the great-grandson of Myaamia War Leader Mihšihkinaahkwa also known as Little Turtle.

His father, James Wolcott, born in 1790 in Connecticut, was a judge in Fort Wayne, and William and his family lived there until 1826. It was then that they moved to Maumee, Ohio, which is located near present day Toledo. After their relocation, James Wolcott opened and ran a freight business on the Maumee River, with his two ships, the General Harrison and the James Wolcott. Even though Wolcott had left his judgeship and entered the business world, he still offered legal help to his friends and family, especially in matters of land his Myaamia relatives had been given in treaties with the Americans. Along with his business endeavors, James was also very active in local politics. In 1838 he was elected as the President of the first Village Council and in 1843 he became the Mayor of Maumee.

On February 19, 1843 Mary Wells Wolcott died in Maumee. Soon after this William married Eliza Border, an Englishwoman who had immigrated to the Maumee area. William and Eliza had three children: Effie born in 1850, Zoe born in 1851, and Byron born in 1853.

As he got older William entered the family business and worked in the shipping industry with his father. After James Wolcott's death in January 05, 1873, William took over the business. Along with this, he followed his father's footsteps in entering the politically arena, being a member of the Maumee City Council for many years and active in politics from the 1880's into the 20<sup>th</sup> century along with his brother, James M. Wolcott and his son Byron Wolcott. William died February 1, 1924 in Maumee.

#### **SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE COLLECTION**

The legal documents encompass both James Wolcott's only papers in the collection and some of William Wolcott's papers. James' documents tend to focus on land acquisition issues and members of his family, including his wife's relatives, granting him power of attorney in their legal and land concerns. However, most of the documents are related to William's legal affairs. These include correspondence between William and a law firm based in Houston, Texas, Brashear & Ashe, involving the case of Molly Trapp, who was a friend of the family that had relocated to Texas. However, the most prominent legal document in the collection is that written by William Wolcott in 1894 to prove his status as a Myaamia person and therefore, entitled to the benefits of his citizenship. Because his family had moved away from any Myaamia community, they had been removed from the rolls several years back. William, however, still had relatives in the community and wished for his family to be placed back on the rolls as Myaamia people. These legal documents extend from 1825 until 1898.

The personal correspondences are either letters written to and from William Wolcott and his wife Eliza Border Wolcott, or letters to and from James or William Wolcott to their Myaamia relatives either living in Fort Wayne (Kiihkayonki) or the Miami Reservation in Kansas (Waapankiakamionki) depending on whether it was before or after the Myaamia forced removal in 1846. These letters vary in years stretching from 1844 until 1888.

Most of the business documents relate to James and later William's commercial shipping business. Wolcott owned freight ships, most notably the General Harrison, and used them to transport people and objects on the Maumee River. Most of these documents are financial in nature; however, within the series there are also several manifests of different voyages, which

give a clear idea of the number of people or cargo that ships like the General Harrison could carry. Along with those, there are several political documents relating to Lucas County and the political influence of the Wolcott Family. William, his brother James, and his son Byron, were all on the Maumee City Council, with James and Byron both being Mayors of Maumee. Overall these documents extend from 1825 until 1916.

### ORGANIZATION OF THE COLLECTION

Series I: Legal Documents and Personal Correspondence

Series II: Business and Political Papers

### RELATED MATERIALS

See also the Myaamia Collection: Godfroy Family Papers. Printed materials from the Myaamia Collection are cataloged separately and can be located using the Libraries' online catalog.

### ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

**Access:** This collection is open under the rules and regulations of the Walter Havighurst Special Collections, Miami University Libraries.

**Preferred Citation:** Researchers are requested to cite the *Myaamia Collection: Lambillotte-Willard Collection of Turtle-Wells Family Papers* and *Walter Havighurst Special Collections, Miami University Libraries* in all footnote and bibliographic references.

**Provenance:** The collection was donated by the Lambillotte-Willard family.

**Processed By:** John Bickers, August-October 2013; 2014

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### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note both the box and folder numbers shown below.

#### Series I: Legal Documents and Personal Correspondence

Box	Folder	Title	Summary of Contents	Date
1	1	Legal Documents from	Letters and Documents relating to Wm Wells's	1825-1839

Box	Folder	Title	Summary of Contents	Date
		the 1820s and 1830s	death and James Wolcott's legal practice. Includes documents relating James Raridan, John Johnston, Alex Sackett, Lenas and Rosanne Henderson and Ann Farrand (Hackley).	
6	1	Estate of William Wells		1826
3	1	Legal Documents	Letters and Documents relating to James Wolcott, James and Phebe Riley, Ann Turner (Wells), Rebecca Hackley (Wells), Allen Hamilton, Y.P. Wells, William Wells, Mary Wolcott (Wells), Richard Hathaway, S. Hanna, Jack Hackley, John Pearson, R. Turner, Louis and David Oren, John W. Tyler, A.W. Eckhert, and William W. Wolcott	1823-1898
1	2	Legal Documents from the 1840s-1860s	Documents relating to James Wolcott's legal practice.	1846-1864
1	3A	Personal Correspondence	Letter from Jack Hackley to James Wolcott Sr	March 03, 1844
1	3B	Personal Correspondence	Letter from Henry C. Wolcott to William W. Wolcott asking him to come to visit for dinner and a shooting match	January 16, 1850
1	3C	Personal Correspondence	Letter from William W. Wolcott to his wife Eliza Wolcott (Border) regarding an eight to ten day delay in his returning home.	April 28, 1850
1	3D	Personal Correspondence	Letter to Eliza Wolcott (Border) from her mother, Sarah Border, about her life at home along with information about her sister Carrie Clark	July 17, 1853
1	3E	Personal Correspondence	Letter to Eliza Wolcott (Border) from her mother, Sarah Border, about the awful conditions at home regarding food and sanitary water	September 19, 1853
1	3F	Personal Correspondence	Letter to Eliza Wolcott (Border) from her sister, Carrie Clark, regarding living conditions at home	February 18, 1854
1	3G	Personal Correspondence	Letter to Eliza Wolcott (Border) from her mother, Sarah Border, about terrible conditions at home and that James (brother?) is sick	May 12, 1854
1	3H	Personal Correspondence	Letter to Eliza Wolcott (Border) from her sister, Carrie Clark, talking about living in Toledo and hoping to see her family	September 24, 1854
1	3I	Personal Correspondence	Letter to Eliza Wolcott (Border) from her mother, Sarah Border, about her time going into town	June 19, 1861

Box	Folder	Title	Summary of Contents	Date
1	3J	Personal Correspondence	Letter to Eliza Wolcott (Border) from her mother, Sarah Border, about life at home	April 19, 1864
1	3K	Personal Correspondence	Letter to Eliza Wolcott (Border) from her mother, Sarah Border, as a response to a letter from Eliza	December 24, 1865
1	3L	Personal Correspondence	Letter to Eliza Wolcott (Border) from her sister, F. McNelly, inquiring about Eliza's life and telling her about home	May 28, 1866
1	3M	Personal Correspondence	Letter to Eliza Wolcott (Border) from William W. Wolcott regarding his return home from a business trip	July 21, 1866
1	3N	Personal Correspondence	Letter a Wolcott, probably James, from Oliver M. Farrand informing him of a receipt he had mailed him	October 11, 1870
1	3O	Personal Correspondence	Letter to Eliza Wolcott (Border) from her mother, Sarah Border, about the death of family friends	December 24, 1875
1	3P	Personal Correspondence	Letter to Eliza Wolcott (Border) from Zoe Church (Wolcott) asking when Eliza will come visit the new baby	August 30, 1878
1	3Q	Personal Correspondence	Letter to Oliver Farrand from James Wolcott about Myaamia family names	March 18, 1886
1	3R	Personal Correspondence	Letter to James Wolcott from Oliver Farrand as a response to the last letter. Tells story about getting a name from Myaamia leader, Bigleg.	March 20, 1886
1	3S	Personal Correspondence	Letter to William W. Wolcott from William Carter regarding the Fort Defiance Centennial	May 05, 1894
1	3T	Personal Correspondence	Unknown	December 31, 1891
1	3U	Personal Correspondence	Unknown	December 31, 1892
1	3V	Personal Correspondence	Letter to Eliza Wolcott (Border) from her sister, Carrie Clark, about visiting eachother	May 18, ----
1	3W	Personal Correspondence	Letter to Eliza Wolcott (Border) from Zoe Church (Wolcott) about Eliza coming to visit	N/A
3	2A	Family Correspondence	Letter to Margianna R. Wells from Allen Hamilton about her husband, Y.P. Wells's estate in regards to Mrs. Hackely and Turner	January 11, 1843
3	2B	Family Correspondence	Letter to Eliza Wolcott (Border) from William Wolcott about his business trip	May 24, 1850
3	2C	Family Correspondence	Letter to Eliza Wolcott (Border) from G. Border about life at home	1851

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Summary of Contents</b>	<b>Date</b>
3	2D	Family Correspondence	Letter to Eliza Wolcott (Border) from her mother, Sarah Border, about her staying in Hamilton	February 17, 1852
3	2E	Family Correspondence	Letter to James Wolcott from Marianna R. McEntire, widow of Y.P. Wells, about his poor representation of her as her attorney and concern that he is possibly cheating her due to his own self-interest. Response to the Letter from James Wolcott stating that it is simply that the case has not proceeded past a certain point.	May 17, 1854
3	2F	Family Correspondence	Letter to Eliza Wolcott (Border) from William Wolcott about his business trip in Fort Wayne	May 15, 1855
3	2G	Family Correspondence	Letter to Smith and Mary Anne Gilbert from Peter and Anne Blystone about getting annuities on the Kansas Miami Reservation	December 20, 1857
3	2H	Family Correspondence	Letter to Smith and Mary Anne Gilbert from Peter and Anne Blystone about getting land on the Kansas Miami Reservation	March 02, 1858
3	2I	Family Correspondence	Letter to William Wolcott from Eliza Wolcott (Border) about her visit to her family	August 31, 1859
3	2J	Family Correspondence	Letter to Eliza Wolcott (Border) from her sister, F. McNelly, asking about her health and the family	June 23, 1861
3	2K	Family Correspondence	Letter of Unknown origins to the writer's sister	December 08, 1864
3	2L	Family Correspondence	Letters to Eliza Wolcott (Border) from her mother, Sarah Border, asking about home and about Effie Wolcott	Oct 26, 1865 & Mar 14, 1866
3	2M	Family Correspondence	Letter of Unknown origin	December 05, 1887
3	2N	Family Correspondence	Letter to Eliza Wolcott (Border) from her sister, Carrie Clark, asking about the family and talking about James, possibly husband?	March ----
1	4	Legal Documents from 1871-1879	Documents involving William W., James M., and Byron Wolcott	1871-1879
1	5	Legal Documents 1880-1898	Documents involving, William W., and James M. Wolcott, John Wentworth, H. W. Beckwith & son, W. H. Smith & son, L. G. Richardson, F. H. Hurd, Victor Metzger, Mrs. Laterop, A. W. & E. H. Eckert	1880-1898
1	6	Wm Wolcott's correspondence with M.	Letters between William W. Wolcott and Molly Trapp and her attorney Brashear & Ashe	1890

Box	Folder	Title	Summary of Contents	Date
		Trapp		
1	7	Wm Wolcott's correspondence with M. Trapp	Letters between William W. Wolcott and Molly Trapp and her attorney Brashear & Ashe	1891-1892
1	8	Pre-Wells-Wolcott Petition Related Papers	Documents from Leith & Whitaker, Judge M.R. Waite, H. W. Beckwith, Victor Metzger, and miscellaneous	Ca. 1883-1888
1	9	Wells-Wolcott Petition pages 1-14	Part of a legal brief by William W. Wolcott to have his family placed upon the rolls of the Miami Nation	1894
1	10	Wells-Wolcott Petition pages 22-34	Part of a legal brief by William W. Wolcott to have his family placed upon the rolls of the Miami Nation	1894
1	11	Wells-Wolcott Petition pages 39-75	Part of a legal brief by William W. Wolcott to have his family placed upon the rolls of the Miami Nation	1894
1	12	Wells-Wolcott Petition pages 395-416	Part of a legal brief by William W. Wolcott to have his family placed upon the rolls of the Miami Nation	1894
1	13	Wells-Wolcott Petition pages 395-416 Draft	Part of a legal brief by William W. Wolcott to have his family placed upon the rolls of the Miami Nation	1894
1	14	Wells-Wolcott Petition Papers referenced	Part of a legal brief by William W. Wolcott to have his family placed upon the rolls of the Miami Nation	1894
1	15	Wells-Wolcott Petition unknown	Part of a legal brief by William W. Wolcott to have his family placed upon the rolls of the Miami Nation	1894
1	16	Wells-Wolcott Petition unknown	Part of a legal brief by William W. Wolcott to have his family placed upon the rolls of the Miami Nation	1894
1	17	Wells-Wolcott Petition unknown	Part of a legal brief by William W. Wolcott to have his family placed upon the rolls of the Miami Nation	1894
1	18	Wells-Wolcott Petition unknown	Part of a legal brief by William W. Wolcott to have his family placed upon the rolls of the Miami Nation	1894
3	3	Wells-Wolcott Petition	Part of a legal brief by William W. Wolcott to have his family placed upon the rolls of the Miami Nation	1894
1	19	Personal Correspondence:	Letters stating that Edward Church's children will not be able to attend school until tuition is	1894-1895

Box	Folder	Title	Summary of Contents	Date
		Education	paid	
1	20	Letters of Administration	Document granting Zoe Church the administration of her late husband, Edward Church's estate [original in quarantine]	August 11, 1921
1	21	Miscellaneous Legal Documents	Documents involving William Wells, William W. Wolcott, W. D. Henderson, and miscellaneous	N/A
1	22	Miscellaneous Documents and Envelopes		N/A

### Series II: Business and Political Papers

Box	Folder	Title	Summary of Contents	Date
2	1	Business Papers 1820s	Receipt concerning James, and William W. Wolcott, Rebecca Hackley, and Anne Turner	1828
4	1	Business Papers 1837-1847	Bills, Receipts, and Letters regarding James Wolcott, Fongth[?] & Hazard, J. Henderson, O.L. Fowles, George Wolcott, J. P. Bishop, and W. B. Dick	1837-1847
2	2	Account Book 1837-1910		1837-1910
2	3	Business Papers 1840-1847	Bills and receipts of the Steamboat General Harrison and James Wolcott business dealings with E. C. Sacket	1840-1847
2	4	Account Book 1843-1878		1843-1878
2	5	Steamboat General Harrison Account Book with James Spencer		1846
2	6	Steamboat General Harrison Account Book		1848
2	7	Steamboat General Harrison Account Book		1848-1882
2	8	Steamboat General Harrison Manifests 1848		1848
2	9	Steamboat General Harrison Account Book with C. Boorum		1848
2	10	Business Papers 1848 part 1	Receipts and Bills of the Steamboat General Harrison	1848
2	11	Business Papers 1848 part 2	Receipts and Bills of the Steamboat General Harrison	1848
4	2	Business Papers 1848-1849	Receipts and Bills regarding the Steamboat General Harrison	1848-1849



<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Summary of Contents</b>	<b>Date</b>
2	12	Business Papers 1849	Primarily receipts and Bills of the Steamboat General Harrison	1849
4	3	Business Papers 1851-1854	Letters and receipts regarding S.B. & F.G. Prentiss, John Morgan, John E. Hunter, Daniel Cook, James Wolcott, W.V. Way, Sam Huffman, and William W. Wolcott	1851-1854
2	13	Business Papers 1850-1859	Receipts and Bills of the Steamboat General Harrison along with bills owed by or to William W. and James Wolcott	1850-1859
2	14	Account Book 1850-1861		1850-1861
2	15	Business Papers 1860s	Bills and Receipts involving William W. Wolcott, Valentine Brown, Allen Hamilton, Otto Reidemeister, W.G. Worley, Henry B. Wolcott, W.B. Glazia, H. Osborn, D.R. Austin, D. Cook, Harry Chase, Joseph Schapp, G.K. Smith, John Stine, James O'Neill, Harvey Collins, James Irons, John Leith, Dicks & Johnson, James M. Wolcott, James Adams, George Wolcott, William Gaiger, Wheeler French, Margaret McGraw, M. Haus, and William Pugh	1863-1869
4	4	Business Papers 1864-1869	Documents, Bills, and Receipts regarding Otto Reidemeister, William W. Wolcott, M.B. Doyle, J.T. Whaley, and George Wolcott	1864-1869
2	16	Business Papers 1870-1879	Bills and receipts involving William W., Byron, and George Wolcott, H. Norton, J.P. Waynesfield, George Turner, Wheeler French, Oliver Farrand, J. D. Ford, J.S. Hull, David Donaldson, R & E.T. Waite, W.D. Randall, C.W. Shoemaker, Geo. Myers, Geo. Euritt, J.A. and J.H. Davis, Pike & Hall, and Samuel Charton	1870-1879
4	5	Business Papers 1874-1879	Documents, Bills, and Receipts regarding William W. Wolcott, David Donaldson, Mark Hause, T. Clark, Otho Klemm, James M. Wolcott, George Euritt, John Newton, and J.B. Sawyer	1874-1879
2	17	Account Book 1874-1911		1874-1911
2	18	Account Book 1876		1876
2	19	Business Papers 1880-1889	Bills and receipts involving Victor Metzger, Clayton W. Everett, The Toledo American, S.C. Winn, John Cameron, J.C. and J.H. Davis, and Mary A. and W. Gilbert.	1880-1889
4	6	Business Papers 1887-1895	Contracts and Receipts involving John J. Miller, Horace Smith, Charles Schieley, John B. Smith,	1887-1895

Box	Folder	Title	Summary of Contents	Date
			William W. Wolcott, and D.D. Trowbridge	
2	20	Account Book 1889		1889
2	21	Business Papers 1890-1899	Bills and receipts involving James M., and William W., Wolcott, F.T. Van Fleet, L.G. Richardson, J. Krust, Edward Church, J. Davis, and Frank H. Hurd.	1890-1899
2	22	Business Papers 1900-1918	Bills and receipts involving Edward E., Mrs. Ed. (Zoe Wolcott), and Erastus Church, Mrs. Freddie Magee, Dr. O.M. Main, and Francis J. Scheller.	1900-1918
4	7	Business Papers 1901-1904	The Estate of Joseph L. Wolcott, Tax forms for 1903, and a Contract between Edward Church and E. Koch.	1901-1904
2	23	Freight Lists #1-11, 13	Freight Lists of the Steamboat General Harrison	N/A
2	24	Steamboat General Harrison Account Book with C. Boorum		N/A
2	25	Miscellaneous Business Papers		N/A
5	1	Steamboat General Harrison Manifests		N/A
5	2	Miscellaneous Business Papers		N/A
5	3	Receipts from W. W. Wolcott		N/A
2	26	Assorted Checks 1894-1913		1894-1913
2	27	Political Papers 1877-1889	Documents relating to the City Council of Maumee City, which William W., James M., and Byron Wolcott were members.	1877-1889
5	4	Political Papers 1879-1904	Documents relating to the City Council of Maumee City, which William W., James M., and Byron Wolcott were members.	1879-1904
2	28	Political Papers 1890-1916	Documents relating to the City Council of Maumee City, which William W., James M., and Byron Wolcott were members.	1890-1916
2	29	Miscellaneous Political Papers		N/A
5	5	Miscellaneous Political Papers		N/A
5	6	Miscellaneous Papers		N/A