

Archives and Special Collections

Dickinson College

Carlisle, PA

COLLECTION REGISTER

Name: **Black, John, Jr. (1842-1915)** MC 2007.2

Material: Papers (1855-1917)

Volume: 0.25 linear feet (Document Box 1 and 1 Oversized Folder)

Donation: Gift of Frances Hickey and Lydia Hickey Rice, 1975
Gift of Frances Hickey, 1982

Usage: These materials have been donated without restrictions on usage.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

John Black, Jr. was born on November 30, 1842 in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, to John and Jane Black. The young John Black had one older sister, Isadora, and four older brothers: Reuben, Thomas, William, and James. Black graduated from Lancaster High School in 1858. He then enrolled at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, in 1858, where he joined the Sigma Chi fraternity and the Union Philosophical Society. He left Dickinson in 1860 without completing a degree and returned to Lancaster to begin his career as a druggist.

Black worked at Heinitsh's Drug Store from 1860 to 1862. In August 1862, he enlisted as first sergeant in Company C of the 122nd Pennsylvania Volunteers. He served in the Battle of Fredericksburg and received a wound in the temple at the Battle of Chancellorsville. After mustering out in May 1863, Black briefly returned to Heinitsh's Drug Store, before serving from June to August 1863 as captain of the 47th Regiment of the Pennsylvania Militia of 1863. Following his service in the militia, Black returned to Heimitsh's store until May 1864. He was then appointed hospital steward at Haddington Hospital in Philadelphia, where he served from May 1864 to June 1865. After his discharge, he returned to Lancaster to continue his career as a druggist, a career that lasted 50 years.

On May 5, 1865, Black married Jane Harrison Carter Callaman. The couple had two sons: Henry Calder Black, who died in 1943, and Charles Deacon Black, who died in 1871. Jane died in 1885. On March 16, 1892, Black married Lydia Ann Fry Chandlee, the widow of Warren Bryan Chandlee. Lydia had one daughter from her previous marriage, Martha J. Chandlee, who married William Newton Hickey. One daughter, Alice Fry Black, was born to Lydia and John Black on June 1, 1893.

Black was an active member of many groups and organizations, including the Presbyterian Church, the Grand Army of the Republic, Sons of America, Knights of Phythias, Knights of the Golden Eagle, and the Algonquin Club. He also served as commander of Lancaster's Admiral Reynolds Post of the Grand Army of the Republic.

In January 1915, John Black fell and fractured his hip. He died January 22, 1915.

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

The John Black collection is housed in one document box and one oversized folder. It has been organized into seven series: High School, College, Military and Pension, Family, Miscellaneous, Photographs, and Artifacts. The collection was a gift of Black's granddaughters, Frances Hickey and Lydia Hickey Rice, in 1975 and 1982.

The first of these series is High School papers. It contains the transcription of a *Daily Evening Express* article regarding Lancaster High School's 1858 commencement, which mentions that John Black gave a graduation speech on the "Trials of Genius." It also includes a reunion program from 1908, listing Black as a member of the 1858 class.

The College series contains an 1855 scholarship certificate for four years tuition to Dickinson College and a letter of "honorable dismissal" from Dickinson, signed by President Charles Collins on June 5, 1860.

The third series contains Military and Pension papers. It includes an 1865 discharge certificate from the army, as well as a pension certificate and pension notices dating from 1905 to 1926. The military discharge certificate is first in the series, followed by the pension documents in chronological order.

The Family series consists of correspondence and biographical information. There are personal letters to and from Black's son-in-law, William Hickey, dating from 1908 to 1915; a sympathy letter to Black in 1913; and two condolence letters to widow Lydia and daughter Alice after John Black's death in 1915. The letters are arranged into three groups alphabetically by family member: Alice Black, John Black, and Lydia Black. Letters are arranged chronologically within each group. The biographical information in this series consists of an undated manuscript with transcription that contains some family history and detailed information on Black's life (an excerpt from *Biographical Annals of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania*).

The Miscellaneous portion of the collection contains blank labels from Black's drug store.

The Photographs series includes several images of Black dating from approximately 1860 to 1911, as well as photographs of his parents, his wife Lydia, and his daughters Martha and Alice. In addition, this series includes an image of Black's 1887 certificate documenting him as a registered pharmacist. These photographs have been designated PC 2007.2 and are housed separately from the rest of the collection.

The Artifacts series contains Black's Sigma Chi fraternity pin. It has been designated AC 2007.2 and is housed separately from the rest of the collection.

One oversized item, an 1887 certificate documenting Black's qualifications as a pharmacist, has been separated from the rest of the collection and has been designated OC 2007.2.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

BOX 1 - MC 2007.2

HIGH SCHOOL

- Folder 01) Transcription from *Daily Evening Express* re: Lancaster High School commencement – July 17, 1858
Lancaster High School Class of 1858 reunion program – Jun. 26, 1908

BOX 1 - MC 2007.2 (cont.)

COLLEGE

- Folder 02) Scholarship certificate for four years tuition – July 30, 1855
Letter of “honorable dismissal” from Dickinson College – Jun. 5, 1860

MILITARY AND PENSION

- Folder 03) Discharge certificate – Jun. 19, 1865
- Folder 04) Preliminary report to aid widows in pension – Nov. 8, 1905
Acknowledgement of receipt of pension application – Sep. 22, 1916
Pension certificate to Lydia Black – Feb. 14, 1917
Pension notice – July 1926

FAMILY

Correspondence

- Black, Alice
 - Folder 05) Letter from John Gillespie – May 23, 1915
- Black, John
 - Folder 06) Letters to Will Hickey – July 28, 1908-Jan. 20, 1911 (3)
 - Folder 07) Letter from Will Hickey – Jan. 20, 1915
Letter from Nathan Ramsey – Jan. 1, 1913
- Black, Lydia
 - Folder 08) Letter from Will Hickey – Jan 24, 1915
- Biographical Information
 - Folder 09) Manuscript of family history with transcription

MISCELLANEOUS

- Folder 10) Cards from Black’s Drug Store

PHOTOGRAPHS - PC 2007.2

- Folder 01) John Black, Jr. – c1860-1911 (7)
- Folder 02) John Black, Sr. – c1860
Jane Ephut (Mrs. John Black, Sr.) – c1860
Lydia Ann Chandlee Fry (Mrs. John Black, Jr.), Martha J. Chandlee (Mrs. William N. Hickey), and Alice Fry Black - c1900
- Folder 03) Image of John Black’s registered pharmacist certificate – May 24, 1887

ARTIFACT BOX 1 - AC 2007.2

- Item 01) Sigma Chi fraternity pin – c1858

OVERSIZED - OC 2007.2

- Folder 01) Certificate of Registered Pharmacist – Oct. 31, 1887

This collection register was prepared by Kate Pettegrew, April 2007.