

Jacob P. Dunn Collection

1881-1955
.25 lin. feet

Mss. 217

Abstract

This collection of Jacob P. Dunn, an early silver prospector and later newspaper editor, contains correspondence and other material all relating to Dunn's mining interests in Colorado.

Background Note

Jacob Piatt Dunn, Jr. was born in Lawrenceville, Indiana on April 12, 1855. He received a B.S. from Earlham College in 1877, and in 1876 received his LL.B. from the University of Michigan. He came to Colorado in 1879 and spent several years prospecting for silver, both with his two brothers and with other associates, in the course of which he acquired some mining claims. In addition, he worked on various Colorado newspapers among which were the *Denver Republican* and the *Leadville Chronicle*. It is uncertain exactly when he returned to Indiana from Colorado. In 1886 he became Secretary of the Indiana Historical Society, a post which he held until his death. In 1888 he received a M.S. from Earlham College; and from 1889-1893 he was the State Librarian of Indiana. He married Charlotte E. Jones in 1893. He worked on the *Indianapolis Sentinel* as an editorial writer from 1893 until 1904 when he became the City Comptroller for Indianapolis. He held this post until 1906, and again from 1914 until 1916. He authored numerous books, among which were *Massacre of the Mountains* (1886) and *Indiana* (1888), and many pamphlets. He died on June 6, 1924.

Scope and Content

This collection consists of correspondence, deeds, location certificates, affidavits of labor and improvements and tax statements and receipts. All the material relates, in one way or another, to Dunn's mining interests in Colorado. The Monarch mining district, named for the first large gold mine discovered in the area (1878), reached its peak in 1893 and then began to decline. It was here in the early days of the boom that Jacob P. Dunn and his brothers came looking for silver. This collection is of interest for the information it provides on some of the activities of the small-scale prospector of that time. There is a great deal of correspondence (1914-1917) regarding the Indianapolis lode, one of Dunn's claims, between Dunn and the president of the Jewell Tunnel and Mining Company who desired to work the claim.

Subjects

Dunn, Jacob Piatt, 1855-1924
Mines and mineral resources--Colorado
Correspondence
Deeds

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Additional Information:

Provenance

Gift of Caroline Dunn, 1955.

Preferred Citation

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Processing Information

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