

Collection: Twichell Collection

Accession Number: 1991.69

Finding Aid

Date Range: 1889-1948**Bulk Date:** 1907-1932**Creator:** William Twichell and family**Containers:** 1 legal flip top document box**Storage Location:** PCHS Library and Archives**Other Numbers:** 1991.69.1; 1991.69.2; 1991.69.3; 1991.69.4**Aid Created By:** Karen Vick, volunteer**Biographical Information:**

William S. Twichell was born in Sullivan County, New York, on December 9, 1865. A graduate of the State Teachers College at Albany, NY, he came to Paterson as Supervisor of Music in all of the Paterson public schools from 1895 to 1899. During that time, he began the School No. 9 band, which performed at numerous public events in the city of Paterson. In 1889, he became Principal of School No. 7. Subsequently, he was Principal of Schools No. 3, 6, 12, and Lincoln School (No. 9).

During his career in education, Twichell developed a music teaching system, particularly for the voice, that gained the attention and admiration of musicians and music educators. He also created a penmanship system that was used widely in the Paterson schools. He wrote educational guides for both vocal musical development and penmanship. He retired from the Paterson public schools around 1932, and moved to Florida.

Twichell was married to Isabell Brown in 1898. They had two sons, William Jr. and Jack, who both married, and one daughter, Florence. The Twichells had four grandchildren: Molly, Lynn, Jack and Patricia Twichell.

Scope and Content:

This collection includes various newspaper articles saved either by family members or friends, most of which concern Mr. Twichell's career as an educator in Paterson. There are handwritten

and typed letters, some professional and some personal. Some of his own publications are included, as well as school publications. A few personal items related to his 50th wedding anniversary and his retirement are in the folders. Noteworthy are newspaper articles extolling the talents of the School No. 9 band and others that honor William Twichell as principal, and the contributions he made to the Paterson public schools.

Series:

The collection is organized into six folders containing similar items. These include newspaper articles, photographs, school booklets and personal letters.

The box also contained a few items that seem unrelated to the subject matter. These include items concerning a Mr. William James Matthews, and a copy of the Paterson Centennial magazine, dated 1892.

When accepted by PCHS in 1991, this collection was divided into four object ids:

1991.69.1- Various School Items

1991.69.2-Various Photographs

1991.69.3- Various Personal items/awards, letters and booklets

1991.69.4- Various Newspaper clippings

Due to the small size of this collection, and the related nature of the items, the collection will hereafter be identified as 1991.69