

James D. Doty fonds

1828-1838

6 cm of photocopies of textual records

Biographical Sketch

James D. Doty, politician and speculator was born in Salem, Washington County, New York in 1799 and died in Salt Lake City, Utah, in 1865. He began practicing law at Detroit, Michigan Territory in 1819 and in 1823 became a judge of the judicial district of Northern Michigan. He became Wisconsin's delegate to Congress in 1839 and served until 1841. After Wisconsin achieved statehood, Doty served as a representative in Congress from 1849 to 1853. He had much interest in the Indian tribes of the Michigan and Wisconsin areas.

Scope and Content

Series A 16/1/1-4 - Letters and manuscripts - 6cm. - 1828-1838

- 1) Doty's personal correspondence, 1829-1838 (93 fol.)
- 2) Collection of notes written by Doty on the history of the Indians of central America with comparative notes on the indigenous peoples of North America. Also included are notes on the development of the fur trade in the Michigan territory (47 fol), undated.
- 3) Notes for the preparation of an English/French/Indian dictionary. Includes single words and common phrases which would be used in connection with travels in the wilderness areas of Michigan Territory and the fur trade. Includes references to nine Indian languages. Table of contents. Undated (89 fol.).
- 4) Doty's Journal (pages 28-35, 54-83, 86-155) and Commonplace Book. Bound in spiral binder. Primarily concerns the Indian tribes of the Great Lakes area from Lake Superior to Lake Michigan, c.1828-1929.

Additional Information

Copy/Repository - Originals in Huntington Library, San Marino, California, HM 312-16.

Custodial History - Formerly catalogued into the museum collection, 972.122.225 and 972.78.97