

THE WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

REGISTER: Dawson Kelly Family Papers Series II

MS. NO.: 4910

Processor: Regina Costello

Editor: Michael McCormick

Date: November 19, 2002

Dawson Kelly (1895-1977) was born on March 10, 1895, in Cleveland, Ohio, grandson of Daniel Kelly who had emigrated from Ireland. Dawson's parents were William Kelly, who worked as a plumber, and Mary Dawson. Dawson married Anna Melia (ca. 1896-1923) on June 23, 1920. She and her sister Mary Melia immigrated to Cleveland from Ireland ca. 1912, when she was about sixteen years of age. Anna Melia worked as a switchboard operator for five years, and was employed for a short time by the Cleveland Vocational Bureau in 1919. For more information the reader should consult the register to MS 4661 Dawson Kelly Family Papers.

The Dawson Kelly Family Papers Series II, 1864 -1995, consists of baptismal data, certificate of naturalization, correspondence, essays, a family record, data regarding inventions by William A. Kelly, a magazine article on the Talty family (a good friend of the Kelly family), and newspaper clippings.

The collection is arranged by document type and then chronologically.

This collection is of value to researchers studying Irish American history in northeast Ohio. The letters of correspondence will be of value to those seeking sociological, economic and historical data pertaining to Irish and Irish Americans in the late nineteenth century. Those interested in inventions of the latter half of the nineteenth century will find the information pertaining to medical equipment inventions by William A. Dawson to be of interest. Individuals seeking genealogical data on the Kelly family will find the family record, essays and newspaper clippings to be useful. Researchers interested in the assimilation of immigrants, especially from Ireland, may also find this collection valuable.

Six photographs have been removed to the photograph and print collections.

Provenance: Peggy (Margaret) Kraft, 2002.

Number of Containers: 1      Oversize Folders: 0      Oversize Volumes: 0

Size: 0.20 linear feet / 0.06 linear meters

Restrictions: None.

Container

1

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|--------|-----|---|
| Folder | 1:  | Baptismal data, Kelly family, St. Bridget's Church, Cleveland, photocopy, undated.  |
| Folder | 2:  | Certificate of Naturalization, Daniel Kelly, (William A. Kelly's father) 1897.  |
| Folder | 3:  | Correspondence, Elizabeth Dawson (Dawson Kelly's great grandmother) to her son Patrick Dawson, (Dawson's grandfather), photocopy, 1864.           |
| Folder | 4:  | _____, Bridget Dawson (Dawson Kelly's aunt) to Catherine Brennan (Bridget's Godmother in Ireland), photocopy, 1866.                               |
| Folder | 5:  | _____, Elizabeth Dawson to Catherine Brennan, photocopy, 1866.  |
| Folder | 6:  | _____, Peter & Roseanna McDonald to Patrick Dawson, photocopy, 1875.  |
| Folder | 7:  | _____, William A. Kelly to Richard O'Toole, (a relative of Marcella's, William A. Kelly's mother) photocopy, 1913.                                |
| Folder | 8:  | _____, Margaret Fitzgerald to Dawson Kelly, photocopy, 1957. This letter is in response to the above letter from Richard O'Toole, 44 years later. |
| Folder | 9:  | _____, Peter & Roseanna McDonald to Patrick Dawson, photocopy, undated.   |
| Folder | 10: | Essay, general information about the Irish in Cleveland, Leah Krulick, undated.   |
| Folder | 11: | _____, "The History of the Patrick Dawson and the Daniel Kelly Families in Cleveland, Ohio," Dawson Kelly, photocopy, 1967.                       |
| Folder | 12: | Family record, William A. and Mary Josephine Kelly, undated.  |

- Folder 13: Flyer, inventions by William A. Kelly, photocopies, undated.
- Folder 14: Magazine article, "The Talty family in Ohio," *Northern Ohio Live*, photocopy, 1995.
- Folder 15: Newspaper clippings, photocopies, *Plain Dealer*, February 14, 1977, *Cleveland Press*, undated.