

Notes re. Viola Stow's autograph album, "Leaves of Affection"

This autograph album was owned by Viola *Stow* Dufour (1841-1912) of Switzerland County, Indiana. Its earliest dated entry is December 27, 1859; the latest is March 7, 1892. This was the second such album that Viola owned (the first having been started in fall, 1853). Upon the receipt of this album, the older book was retired, more or less. "Leaves of Affection" captures Viola's last half year at the Elizabethtown Female Seminary; her graduation on July 19th, 1860; her 1860 engagement to Frank Dufour, and the period before her marriage to him in October 1862. A few entries date to the 1870s and 1880s, when child-rearing duties would have dominated her attention.

The identifications provided below are minimal; more detailed information about some of these individuals may be found in the "Who's Who" guide to the Stow Family Archive, or in the notes accompanying the Stow letters. Towns mentioned are all in Switzerland County unless otherwise indicated. The Elizabethtown Female Seminary was located in Hamilton County, Ohio. (E. Stepleton, 2019)

Signers:

E. J. Jager (Walnut Hill, 1860)

Eleanor Johnson *Taylor* Dufour Jager (1807-1867) was, in 1860, the widow of Jean David Dufour, the wife of Thomas Jager, and the mother of Frank Dufour and Eleanor Dufour. In 1862 she became Viola Stow's mother-in-law. According to Julia LeClerc Knox, author of *The Dufour Saga*, Eleanor was a talented writer.

Unknown Nov. 7 1881.
(unidentified)

Page with multiple, undated signatures:

Edward Manser Cincinnati, O

Edward Manser (1840-1872) was Viola Stow's first cousin, the eldest son of her uncle William Manser (1808-1874) of Cincinnati, Ohio.

...ie Manser

Georgetta "Georgie" Manser (1842-1903) was a sister of Edward Manser (see above).

J. W. Dorman Gallatin Co. Ky

John Wickliffe Dorman (1838-1925) often visited Stowtown during fair week. He was a farmer; his parents were Peter and Lucy C. Dorman.

Clara McCulloch

Clara McCulloch (1843-1860) was a daughter of George McCulloch (1808-1891) of Jacksonville. She was a childhood friend of Viola's; both attended the Elizabethtown Female Seminary.

Mary Latham

Mary Latham (b. abt. 1841 in Indiana) was the daughter of John Latham (b. 1810, New Jersey) and Hester Latham (b. 1825, New York). The family resided in Rising Sun (Ohio County, Indiana) where Mr. Latham was a shoemaker. Mary is recorded as being a teacher at Rising Sun in 1870 and 1880, but after that we lose sight of her.

Lemuel Bledsoe

Lemuel Bledsoe (1832-1906) was a merchant at Florence, Indiana. He married Viola's cousin, Julia Stow, in 1860.

H. Stow

This could be either J. Howard Stow (1833-1898), Viola's cousin, and eldest son of Horace Stow (1805-1898); or Hattie Stow, also a child of Horace, b. abt. 1848.

Mattie Hunt

(unidentified)

Loring B.

Loring B. Stow (1838-1860), Viola's brother.

S. R. Washer

Solomon R. Washer, Jr. (1836-1929), a close neighbor and childhood schoolmate.

John Kincaid Vevay Ia

John Wesley Kincaid (1836-1910) was a son of Irish immigrants James and Catharine Kincaid.

M. E. M.

Probably Mary Elizabeth *Barrett* Manser (1815-1910), the wife of Viola's uncle William Manser (1808-1874) of Cincinnati.

Page with multiple signatures:

Tom. H. Bonham Dec 28th '59 Elizabethtown Ohio

Thomas Hunt Bonham (1838-) was a native of Elizabethtown, Hamilton County, Ohio and the son of Rev. John L. and Charlotte Bonham. At Farners College in 1858-1859 he had been Loring Stow's roommate and friend. By 1860, Thomas Bonham was farming in Hamilton County with his wife Lucy *Little* Bonham. In 1861 their only child, Arthur Loring Bonham, was born.

Mary L. Krutz

Mary Krutz (1845-1870) was a daughter of William B. Krutz, Sr. (1820-1899), a merchant and miller at Florence. She married Charles Hedges in 1867 and then moved to Iowa.

Kittie H. Bonham E_town Ohio July 19th 1860

Katurah "Kitty" Bonham (1834-1883) was the daughter of John LeFever Bonham (1790-1856) and Charlotte *Baldwin* Bonham (1801-1878); she was the sister of Rev. John Clinton Bonham and Thomas Bonham. She never married, and resided with her widowed mother at Elizabethtown, Ohio.

Anna Backman Aurora Ind

(unidentified) It appears someone may have re-inscribed the name after it was erased or had faded. There *was* a Vianna G. Blackman of Aurora (Dearborn County, Indiana) who had attended the Elizabethtown Female Seminary in 1859.

Frank Dufour Walnut Hill Ind.

Viola's fiancé and, after October 1862, her husband. Francis "Frank" Rudolph Dufour (1836-1907) was a son of Swiss immigrant Jean David Dufour (1788-1845) and Eleanor J. Taylor (1807-1867).

Sallie Whiteside Columbus Ind.

"Sallie F. Whiteside" of Columbus, Indiana appears as a student listed in the 1859-1860 catalog for Elizabethtown Female Seminary. The 1860 census for Columbus, Indiana registered a Susan Whitesides, age 15, as the daughter of Abram Whitesides, age 50. Mr. Whitesides was a miller. She appears to have married Frank Butler in 1870.

Sophia L. McCulloch Jacksonville. Ind.

Sophia McCulloch (1841-1907) was a daughter of George McCulloch of Jacksonville She was a sister to Clara McCulloch (see above). Sophia married Philander Sage in 1870.

Eusebia Rous Vevay Ind

Eusebia Rous (1843-1871) was the daughter of Orlando Rous (1812-1875), a Yorkshire native who worked as a carpenter and farm laborer, and resided in Vevay.

Emma Shawver Indianapolis Ind.

Harriet Emma *Kingsley* Shawver (1843-1929) was born in Switzerland County, a daughter of Adriel Kingsley. Her husband, Christoph Shawver, was a saddler in Indianapolis.

Edward Manser Cincinnati Dec 27-59

Edward Manser (1840-1872) was Viola Stow's first cousin, the eldest son of her uncle William Manser (1808-1874) of Cincinnati, Ohio. Note that this is the earliest dated entry in the book.

H. Stow North Madison Ind.

Either J. Howard Stow (1833-1898), Viola's cousin, and eldest son of Horace Stow (1805-1898); or Hattie Stow, also a child of Horace, b. abt. 1848.

Edward H. Stow Marion Ind

Edward Stow (1841-1861) was a son of Horace Stow and Almira *Kingsley* Stow, and thus was Viola's cousin. He died in Louisville, Kentucky shortly after joining the 39th Indiana Infantry.

Lizzie Riggs Sullivan Ill.

Elizabeth Maria "Lizzie" M. Riggs (1841-1860) was a student at Elizabethtown Female Seminary in 1859-1860, and perhaps in other years as well. In any case, she died of typhus on September 14, 1860 in Cincinnati. Her father was Moses Baird Riggs (1816-1867), a merchant; her mother was Ruth Anna *Roudebush* Riggs (1820-1910).

Abbie "Bly" Shelbyville Indiana

Abigail Blythe (1841-1896) was a daughter of S. Benjamin Blythe and Ruth *Bennett* Blythe. She attended Elizabethtown Female Seminary at least in 1859-1860, if not in other years as well.

T. H. Bonham. Elizabethtown Ohio

Thomas Hunt Bonham (1838-) was a native of Elizabethtown, Hamilton County, Ohio, the son of Rev. John L. and Charlotte Bonham. At Farners College in 1858-1859, he had been Loring Stow's roommate and friend. By 1860, Thomas Bonham was farming in Hamilton County with his wife Lucy *Little* Bonham. In 1861 their only child, Arthur Loring Bonham, was born.

Page with multiple signatures:

Miss Belle Dufour Vevay Ind March 7.92

Viola's youngest daughter, Belle Dufour (1883-1979); note that this is the latest dated entry in the book.

Lella Dufour Vevay Ind

Lella (1867-1942) was another of Viola's daughters. She married Benjamin Bledsoe in May 1891; thus her autograph must pre-date that event.

Ed. Golay I.A. University

Charles Edward Golay (1848-1900) was a son of Constant Golay and Louisa Antoinette *Morerod* Golay. He had at least ten siblings; their births range from 1832 to 1853. Ed was attending Indiana Asbury in 1871 as a freshman - whether he graduated cannot be determined from the records at hand.

Belle Dufour East Enterprise Ind

Belle Dufour (1883-1979) again, this time signing from East Enterprise. She was Viola's daughter.

Ella Bliss Stow Town Ind

Eleanor Bliss (1834-1912), Viola Stow's neighbor and close friend. She was the daughter of Thomas and Ann *Buttles* Bliss. In 1864 she would marry her neighbor, William Harvey Melick (1838-1906), son of William and Maria *Sedam* Melick. Both the Melicks and the Blisses farmed lands adjacent to the Stows. This autograph must pre-date Ella's 1864 marriage.

A. J. Schenck

Andrew Jackson Schenck (1842-1908) of Vevay. His father was U. P. Schenck, the great hay magnate and merchant of Vevay. In his youth, Andrew was a steamboat pilot and captain, having received his license in 1866. Later he entered into full partnership with his father, and was also a bank officer, shareholder of several Vevay businesses, etc.

Josie E. Golay May 6 69

Josephine Elise Golay (1847-1911) was a daughter of Constant and Louisa Antoinette Golay. In 1873 she married Moses Crawford.

Miss Mollie Blagg July 26th 71 Gallipolis Ohio

There were two young Mary Blaggs in Gallipolis (and indeed, in the same household) in 1870. The household was headed by John and Clarissa Blagg. Mary Blagg, age 19, appears to have been their daughter; Mary H. Blagg, age 18, was their daughter-in-law, married to Levi Blagg. The elder Mr. Blagg was at times a miller (1850); boatman (1860); and candy retailer (1870). Miss Mary "Mollie" Blagg (b. abt. 1851), apparently the daughter and the signer of Viola's book, cannot be traced after 1870.

Miss Rella Lamb July 26th 71 Aurora

America Cerella Lamb (1847-1928) was a daughter of Dr. James Lamb of Aurora, Dearborn County, Indiana. She married Fredrick Treon in 1878.

Amie Golay July 26th 71 Vevay

Amie Morerod Golay (1843-1910) was a son of Louisa and Constant Golay. He married Sophia Dickason in 1874.

E. H. Mead July 26th 71 Vevay Ind

Edwin Howe Mead (1849-1893) was the son of William and Emily *Howe* Mead. He married Hannah B. Armstrong in 1875. In 1870 he was a wharf boat clerk at Vevay; in 1880 a druggist at Shawneetown, Illinois.

Sophia Dickason July 26 '71 Vevay Ind

Sophia Elizabeth Dickason (1853-1928), was a daughter of John Dickason (1827-1914) of Vevay. Her father was a "patent right dealer." She married Amie Golay in 1874.

Lella Dufour Vevay Ind

Lella (1867–1942) was one of Viola's daughters; she married Benjamin Bledsoe in 1891.

Page with multiple signatures:

Clara Dufour. Vevay. Ind.

Clara Dufour (1867–1944) was one of Viola's daughters. She married William Sanders in 1895.

Maria Sedam

Maria Sedam (1837–1890) was a daughter of Nicholas and Sarah Sedam of East Enterprise. She married Irvin Littlefield in 1868.

Belinda Sedam

Belinda Sedam (1835–1891) was a daughter of Nicholas and Sarah Sedam of East Enterprise. In 1866 she married James Myers.

Mary H. Lewis Elizabethtown Ohio

Mary "Mollie" H. Lewis (1842–1927) was the daughter of Joseph Lewis (1810–1866) of Elizabethtown, a saddler and a trustee of the Elizabethtown Female Seminary. Mary attended the school, where she was a classmate of Viola Stow. In December 1867 she married Anderson B. Wamsley, a farmer, with whom she had at least five children.

Ella Bliss A Devoted Friend

Eleanor Bliss (1834–1912) was the daughter of Thomas and Ann *Buttles* Bliss. In 1864 she married her neighbor, William Harvey Melick (1838–1906), son of William and Maria *Sedam* Melick. Both the Melicks and the Blisses farmed lands adjacent to the Stows. "A Devoted Friend" is absolutely correct in that Ella and Viola would remain lifelong friends and confidants.

Cora Shaw Walnut Ridge

Cora Shaw (1832–1909) was a daughter of William and Linda *Rous* Shaw. She did not marry.

Lizzie Melick Allensville Ind

Elizabeth Melick (1841–1910) was a daughter of William Melick and Maria *Sedam* Melick. The Melicks were immediate neighbors of the Stows at Stowtown. Lizzie never married.

M. L. K.

Mary Krutz (1845–1870) was a daughter of William B. Krutz, Sr. (1820–1899), a merchant and miller at Florence. She married Charles Hedges in 1867 and then moved to Iowa.

Eliza Bor...

(unidentified)

Lieut. Ew^d Manser 75th Regt. O.V. U.S.A.

Edward Manser (1840–1872) was Viola Stow's first cousin, the eldest son of her uncle William Manser (1808–1874) of Cincinnati, Ohio. His "75th Regt." inscription is interesting because we have no record of his serving in that group. What we have to date indicates that he served as a private in Company A of 6th Regt., Ohio Infantry for 3 months in 1861 (April–June). On 26 August 1862 he was promoted to Captain of Company C, 83rd Regt., Ohio Infantry. However he soon opted to join the Navy, where he served as an officer in the Mississippi Squadron from December 1862–1864. Ed was discharged on 4 June 1864 due to poor health (tuberculosis). It thus appears that he may have been a Lieutenant with the 75th at some time between June 1861 and August 1862.

Ella Walnut Hill. June 12th 1860.

Eleanor Dufour (1838-1900), Viola's friend and later, sister-in-law. Eleanor was the youngest child of Jean David Dufour (1788-1845) and Eleanor J. *Taylor* Dufour (1807-1867). It seems that Loring Stow was courting Ella at the time of his death in 1860, while her brother Frank was likewise seeing Viola Stow. In December 1862 Eleanor married Charles Alfred Thiebaud (1837-1873) of Vevay.

Lotta Beal Jersey City Heights N.J. Vevay, August 5, 1886

Charlotte C. Beal (1862-after 1920) was a daughter of Frederick and Frida Beal. In 1870 and 1880 the Beals were living in New Albany, Indiana where Frederick was a prosperous butcher and farmer. Apparently at some time during the 1880s Charlotte moved to Jersey City and there remained for the rest of her life. She never married.

Alice Vevay, August 5, 1886
(unidentified)

Belle

Belle Dufour (1883-1979), Viola's daughter.

Mary A. K. August 15th /60

Viola's cousin, Mary Adelia *Manser* Keckeler (1832-1923) of Cincinnati.

Olive Jan 23 - 91. Vevay

Olive Dufour (1880-1961), Viola's daughter. She married Walter Trafelet in 1903.