

**Title:** Orton Family Papers

**Reference Code:** Mss-1021

**Inclusive Dates:** 1827 – 1930s

**Quantity:** 000.23 cu. ft. total

**Location:** Sm Mss (0.03 cu. ft.)  
LC, Sh. 006 (0.2 cu. ft.)

**Abstract:** Harlow Orton's family included his wife, daughter Diana and four sons: Daniel, Myron, John and Harlow, Jr. They lived in New York state before eventually spreading out across Ohio and Indiana, where they studied and practiced law. By 1840, Diana and her husband, a Mr. Mason, had settled in Milwaukee, where he worked in Sylvester Pettibone's limestone quarry. She urged her brothers to relocate to Milwaukee, and by the early 1850s, Myron, John and Harlow were living in Milwaukee. John delved into the real estate business but most of his time in Milwaukee was tied up in a legal feud between Orton and Josiah Noonan over the Humboldt Paper Mill. John passed away in 1885. Harlow Orton served in the state legislature and was elected associate justice on the Wisconsin Supreme Court. He became Chief Justice in 1894 and remained in that capacity until he died on July 4, 1895.

**Scope and Content:** The collection consists primarily of correspondence of sons Myron H., John J. and Harlow, Jr. to their father, Harlow. Most of the correspondence discusses family matters in New York, Ohio, and Indiana. The first Milwaukee correspondence dates from 1840. In addition, there is the military appointment of Anson R. Jones in 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, Wisconsin Infantry, 1862; indenture of land sold to Myron Orton; research notes on the family; and Eva M. Orton's scrapbook with clippings and photos relating to the Orton, Buckner, and Baume families, 1880s-1930s.

**Access and Use:** No restrictions

**Language:** English