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005 Small Manuscripts Collection  
006 Townsend Collection  
140 Townsend Family Papers  
143  
200 1829  
210 1946  
220 1840-1890  
240 3.55 cf.  
241 6 @ 0.47 boxes, 1 @ 0.24 box, 1 @ 0.49 box  
261 Personal and business papers of the family at Townsend, lower New Castle County, mainly late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.  
270 Of special importance are the letters to and from Samuel Townsend: politician, canner, and peach grower. Some of the records reflect his activities against the temperance movement, within the Democratic Party, and against African-American equality. Other items of interest include a printed response defending the naming of the town of Townsend, a record of the yields of each milk cow, "Proceedings of the Appoquinimink Hundred Union Meeting," 1861, "Lists of Appointments to Office, 1827-1839," a broadside advertising the sale of Samuel Townsend's real estate after his death, 1883, and a soldier's account of his feelings during a Civil War battle, 1862.

The letters and documents of John Townsend, brother of Samuel Townsend, are also records of interest, depicting his work as a business man and farmer. A majority of the documents reveal his transactions for produce, grain, and the transportation of these items. A collection of checks reflects the vastness of his business, revealing the range of goods that he was purchasing as well as receiving. A majority of the records are business papers and receipts, including payment of taxes and other purchases of goods. There are also several small account books, detailing the extent of John Townsend's business and providing insight on the quantity of products he was selling and producing. Of special note are the several envelopes addressed to both John and Samuel Townsend. These documents are a combination of some personal letters and a bulk of business transactions, illustrating the importance of the business to the Townsend family.

Other families that were mentioned in the collection include Carter, Fenimore, Lockwood, Polk and Shallcross. Documents related to these families were that of personal papers and correspondences. Several of these letters mention the purchasing of produce, such as peaches, presumably from the Townsend business. Some papers are receipts for the purchasing of bags of guano from the Pacific Guano Company, demonstrating the agricultural connection between these families and the Townsend family.

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330 Mostly arranged by name of family member, thereunder numerically by folder heading  
331 No index.  
332 Handwritten, printed.  
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360 Fair condition. Acid, water, storage damage.

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420 2009138;  
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440  
990 September 6, 2000  
995 April 23, 2003; August 17, 2009; February 6, 2015  
Jam/sem