Isaiah West Taber Family Photographs, ca.1880-1895

Processed by Chris McDonald.
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Isaiah West Taber Family Photographs, ca. 1880-1895, ca.1880-1895

Collection number: BANC PIC 1992.001--PIC

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Collection Summary
Collection Title: Isaiah West Taber Family Photographs
Date: ca.1880-1895
Collection Number: BANC PIC 1992.001--PIC
Photographer: Isaiah West Taber
Extent: 44 photographic prints, various sizes, most mounted; 1 platinum bas-relief print, framed, 22 x 22 cm.; 1 newsprint clipping, mounted, 26 x 21 cm; 3 porcelain dishes, 10 x 17 cm. or smaller.46 digital objects

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Languages Represented: Collection materials are in English

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Preferred Citation
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Digital Representations Available
Digital representations of selected original pictorial materials are available in the list of materials below. Digital image files were prepared from selected Library originals by the Library Photographic Service. Library originals were copied onto 35mm color transparency film; the film was scanned and transferred to Kodak Photo CD (by Custom Process); and the Photo CD files were color-corrected and saved in JFIF (JPEG) format for use as viewing files.
Related Material
The Bancroft Library has extensive holdings of Taber photographs. See the on-line catalog for other collections.

Acquisition Information
The Taber Family Photographs were received as a gift from Ruth M. Cuneo, via Doris Maslach, in 1992.

Biography
Isaiah West Taber was born in New Bedford, Massachusetts August 17, 1830. Taber went to sea at the age of fifteen and spent several years working on whaling ships in the North Pacific. He came to California in 1850, where he spent four years working first as a miner, then a farmer. Taber returned to New Bedford in 1854 where he studied dentistry and began a dental practice. An interest in amateur photography eventually became his life-work. He settled in Syracuse, New York, where he opened his first studio. In 1864 he returned to California at the inducement of the photographers Bradley and Rulofson, whom he worked for until 1871. Taber established the "Taber Gallery" at No. 12 Montgomery Street in 1871. His highly successful business was well-known for portraiture and a vast stock of California and Western views -many of which were the unacknowledged works of other photographers. Taber’s success and stature in California and abroad are evident in his being awarded the photographic concession of the Midwinter Fair of 1893-94 in San Francisco, his being sent to London in 1897 to photograph the pageant of the Queen Victoria Jubilee, and his commission to photograph King Edward VII. Taber's career ended in 1906 when his entire collection of glass plates, view negatives and portraits on glass were destroyed in the San Francisco earthquake and fire. He died February 22, 1912.


Scope and Content
The Taber Family Photographs collection contains 45 photographic prints taken mostly by Isaiah W. Taber circa 1880-1895. The bulk of the collection features individual and group portraits of Taber, his wife, and his two daughters, Daisy and Louise --including a "bas-relief" portrait of the photographer. Other photographs include views of Taber's Oakland residence, interior views of Taber's photographic parlors, a portrait of Sumner Bugbee and his wife posing before their Oakland residence, portraits of unidentified persons, and a Chinese vegetable peddler in San Francisco. Also included are photographic reproductions of C.A.M. Taber's 1848 sketches of Sacramento and San Francisco, and a photographic reproduction of a print of the Taber Family coat of arms. Non-photographic material includes a newsprint clipping advertising San Francisco's Taber Gallery, and three porcelain dishes illustrated with views derived from photographs of Yosemite Valley.

The collection also includes two portraits of Taber by "Suski", and an unidentified group portrait by John Koch.

Arms of the Family of Taber. [Photographic reproduction by Isaiah West Taber. April 25, 1884.] BANC PIC 1992.001:01--PIC
I.W. Taber's Photograph Parlors, San Francisco, California. [Newsprint advertisement from unidentified source.] BANC PIC 1992.001:02--PIC
[Fireplace at Taber residence? Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:03--PIC
Residence of I.W. Taber, Oakland, Cal. Roses in April. [Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:04--PIC
Residence of I.W. Taber. Madison St., Oakland, Cal. [Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:05--PIC
[Interior of Isaiah West Taber residence. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:06--PIC
[Photograph gallery at residence of Isaiah West Taber. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:07--PIC
[Outdoor dining area. Residence of Isaiah West Taber. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:08--PIC
[Baby portrait of Louise Taber. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:09--PIC
[Portrait of Louise Taber as child. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:10--PIC
[Portrait of Louise Taber as child. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:11--PIC
[Portrait of Louise Taber as child. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber. Removed from mount.] BANC PIC 1992.001:12--PIC
[Portrait of Louise Taber as child? Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:13--PIC
[Portrait of Louise Taber as child? Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:14--PIC
Daisy Taber, 9 years. Louise Taber. [Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:15--PIC
[Portrait of Mrs. I.W. Taber? Photograph by Isaiah West Taber?] BANC PIC 1992.001:16--PIC
[Portrait of Mrs I.W. Taber. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:17--PIC
[Portrait of Louise Taber as child. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:18--PIC
[Portrait of Louise and Isaiah West Taber. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:19--PIC
[Group portrait of Mrs. I.W. Taber with daughters Daisy, left, and Louise, right. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:21--PIC
[Portrait of Louise, left, and Daisy Taber with doll. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:22--PIC
[Portrait of Daisy, left, and Louise Taber. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:23--PIC
[Taber family in Oakland. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:24--PIC
Residence of I.W. Taber, Oakland, Cal. Garden Scene. [Louise, left, and Daisy Taber. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:25--PIC
Residence of I.W. Taber, Oakland, Cal. Roses in April. [Louise, left, and Daisy Taber. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:26--PIC
[Daisy and Isaiah Taber. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:27--PIC
[Children playing in yard of Taber residence. Daisy Taber at right; Louise Taber in hammock? Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:28--PIC
[Daisy, left, and Louise Taber, in yard of Taber residence. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:29--PIC
[Daisy, left, and Louise Taber, in yard of Taber residence. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:30--PIC
[Mrs. I.W. Taber. In garden of Taber residence? Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:31--PIC
[Portrait of Isaiah West Taber. Photograph by Suski.] BANC PIC 1992.001:33--PIC
[Portrait of Isaiah West Taber. Photograph by Suski.] BANC PIC 1992.001:34--PIC
[Isaiah West Taber. Self-portrait. Platinum "Bas-Relief" print.] BANC PIC 1992.001:35--PIC
[Mrs. I.W. Taber. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:36--PIC
[Taber family portrait. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber. Date stamped March 4, 1895.] BANC PIC 1992.001:37--PIC
[Photograph gallery. Taber residence? Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:38--PIC

Isaiah West Taber Family
Photographs, ca.1880-1895
Sacramento in October, 1848. From a Pencil Sketch by C.A.M. Taber, Made at the Time. [Photographic reproduction by Isaiah West Taber of original sketch by Charles Austin Mendell Taber. Copyright 1882.] BANC PIC 1992.001:39--PIC ark:/13030/tf6q2nb7z3
San Francisco in October, 1848. From a pencil sketch by C.A.M. Taber, Made at the Time. [Photographic reproduction by Isaiah West Taber of original sketch by Charles Austin Mendell Taber. Copyright 1882.] BANC PIC 1992.001:40--PIC ark:/13030/tf509nb5z7
[Group portrait, unidentified military officers. Taber photo; John Koch, photographer. 1880.] BANC PIC 1992.001:42--PIC ark:/13030/tf438nb697
[Portrait of unidentified child standing on pedestal. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:43--PIC ark:/13030/tf9h4nb9n1
[Portrait of unidentified man. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:44--PIC ark:/13030/tf6v19p4nt
[Portrait of unidentified woman. Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:45--PIC ark:/13030/tf438nb6br
Sumner Bugbee, Esq. House in Oakland (Cal.). 146 Lake Street. [Photograph by Isaiah West Taber.] BANC PIC 1992.001:46--PIC ark:/13030/tf867nb8c4