F. Ray Risdon Collection of Lincolniana and American Political Life COL-039

Finding aid prepared by Jonathan Sudholt
Occidental College Library
1600 Campus Road
Los Angeles, CA, 90041-3314
(323) 259-2852
November, 2010
Title: F. Ray Risdon Collection of Lincolniana and American Political Life
Identifier/Call Number: COL-039
Contributing Institution: Occidental College Library
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 85.0 Linear feet 175 document boxes 3248 monographs
Date: 1799-1972
Abstract: F. Ray Risdon collected Lincolniana for almost fifty years. His collection passed to Occidental College Library in 1957, by which time he had amassed 3000 monographs, 1500 pamphlets, and 85 linear feet of non-book items. Of special interest to Mr. Risdon were the myriad ways in which people choose to commemorate President Lincoln, and this collection includes not only a wide variety of commemorative material, but also correspondence regarding the creation of a Lincolniana collection between Mr. Risdon, the Lincoln Society of Los Angeles of which he was a member, and the booksellers who helped Mr. Risdon locate the items.
Related Materials
William Jennings Bryan Collection, F.D.R. Collection, John Lloyd-Butler Railroadiana Collection, Elizabeth Chevalier Collection, Collection of U.S. Army rolls
Access
Collection is open for research.
Publication Rights
All requests for permission to publish or quote from holdings must be submitted in writing to the Special Collections Department. Permission for publication is given on behalf of Special Collections as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained.
Biographical and Administrative History
Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865) was the 16th president of the United States. Before his election to the presidency in 1860, he had been a lawyer, a member of the Illinois state legislature and the U.S. House of Representatives, and had failed in two attempts at gaining a seat in the U.S. Senate. His career tracked the major political movements of the mid-nineteenth century, as his support of the Whigs shifted to the anti-slavery Republican Party after the former party split along sectional lines in the wake of the compromises on slavery in legislation of the early 1850s. Shortly after his triumph in the 1860 election, and even before his inauguration, the Southern states began the process of secession in reaction to the first election since 1848 (of Zachary Taylor) of a president who would not favor the pro-slavery faction in Congress. Lincoln’s conduct during the Civil War has placed him among the most renowned of presidents. John Wilkes Booth assasinated him on the night of April 14, 1865, and he died the next day.
F. Ray Risdon (1888-1958) was a Los Angeles lawyer, Republican party booster, and member of the Lincoln Fellowship of Southern California. Between 1910 and the mid-1950s he amassed what Lincoln bibliographer Jay Monaghan called, “the largest private collection of Lincolniana on the Pacific Coast.” Occidental Library Special Collections purchased these materials in 1957. Risdon’s primary source for Lincolniana and other rare books and manuscripts was Dawson’s Book Shop, which opened in 1905 and is the oldest continuously operating bookshop in Los Angeles. He collected broadly, buying, in addition to books and pamphlets, art, letters, legal documents, and many items not directly relating to Lincoln, but which provide contextual information about American politics of the nineteenth century. Risdon kept records of his purchases, and these receipts, along with his correspondence with other Lincoln collectors, are also housed in the collection. After his death, the collection received funding of approximately $500 per year until the late 1960s. This money was primarily directed to the purchase of new books, so that the date range of items in this collection runs from the late-eighteenth century to Richard Nixon’s first administration.
Preferred Citation
Suggested citation of records contained in this collection is: [Identification of item], F. Ray Risdon Collection of Lincolniana and American Political Life, Special Collection Department, Mary Norton Clapp Library, Occidental College.
Subjects and Indexing Terms
Carman, Ezra Ayers, 1834-1909 -- Correspondence
Lincoln, Abraham, 1809-1865 -- History
Morse, Ephraim W., 1823-1906 -- Correspondence
Welles, Gideon, 1802-1878 -- Correspondence
Elections--United States

F. Ray Risdon Collection of Lincolniana and American Political Life COL-039

COL-039 2
Special Collections holds over 3000 monographs and 1000 pamphlets related to Lincoln, the American Civil War, and American politics. Items of note include first editions of Alexander Herndon’s biography of Lincoln, U.S. Diplomatic Correspondence of 1865, Wells’ Campaign Handbook of 1860 (with biographies of the candidates for President and Vice President), and the General Orders of the Department of the Gulf (Benjamin Butler, Commanding). While the bulk of these items focus on Lincoln, his Presidency, and the Civil War, these are not the only topics or eras represented here. Information about the full range of American political life from George Washington to the Civil Rights Movement is available for research. Items include well-known volumes from major publishing houses, as well as obscure documents from small and fine presses, and state and county governments. Likewise, a wide variety of ideological standpoints receive treatments, giving the researcher access to myriad interpretations of Lincoln and the American political life. Catalog records can be found by searching http://oasys.lib.oxy.edu/search.

Risdon collection call numbers are unusual, because they follow Risdon’s own system. To find monographs and pamphlets in the collection follow these directions:

Go to the Call Number search page. Select “Dewey or Other Call Number” from the drop-down menu. Enter ”2/x” where x=a number between 2-9, 14, or 16-19. The numbers refer to different genres. The list of call numbers and the genres to which they refer is as follows: 2/2 - Bibliography, 2/3 - Works by Lincoln, 2/4 - Works about Lincoln and the American Civil War, 2/5 - Books Lincoln Read, 2/6 - Lincoln's Family, 2/7 - Slavery, 2/8 - Oversize, 2/9 - Lincoln Societies, 2/14 - Lincoln Interest, 2/16 - Lincoln Pamphlets, 2/17 - Pamphlets to 1877, 2/18 - Pamphlets 1877-1972, 2/19 - Oversize

Series 2: Correspondence 1798-1957

Includes over 300 letters from major political and military figures of the 19th and 20th centuries. Risdon collected for autographs, which resulted in a collection of greater breadth than depth. There are, however, themes and conversations that are sustained through the series. Correspondence between Civil War generals is one such area, and letters to the 19th-century San Diego attorney Ephraim W. Morse comprise another. Other letters discuss concerns about veterans' pensions and homesteads, and the deaths of presidents and other public figures (e.g. letters from Lucretia Garfield, wife of James A. Garfield, to fellow mourners).

Box 79 1848-1865

Lincoln, Abraham to Horace Warren (believed to be a forgery) Oct 17, 1860
Adams, Charles Francis to Mrs. Harriet Taylor Upton Jan 13, 1887
Mr. Adams to Mr. Burd Apr 7
Arnold, Isaac W. to Samuel B. Ruggles Nov 18, 1861
Augur, Christopher C. to Mr. Clarkson Apr 22, 1869
Badeau, Adam to "My Dear Uzman" Mar 15, 1867
Badeau, Adam to Mr. Clarke Jun 5, 1886
Bancroft, Hubert Howe to Mr. Morse Oct 12, 1869
Banks, Nathaniel P. to [unknown] Sep 8, 1861
Banks, Nathaniel P. to Mr. Pussey May 23
Barnard, John G. to "My Dear Sir" Apr 2, 1870
Barnard, John G. to "My Dear Sir" Apr 8, 1871
Barnard, John G. to "Dear General" Jun 11, 1874
Barnard, John G. to "Dear Sir" Jul 17, 1874
Barnard, John G. to [illegible] Nov 24, 1876
Bates, Edward to Daniel J. Ross May 31, 1852
Beveridge, Albert J. to Don C. Seitz Nov 2, 1925
Bingham, Henry H. to Henry Bacon Jan 7, 1887
Bingham, Judson D., endorsements for promotion (official copy) Oct 1889
Birney, David B. to Mrs. Susan A. Dougherty Aug 11, 1864
Briggs, George N. to Mr. J. Richards Jan 28, 1861
Browning, O.H. to William J. Cullen: Indian Agent Appointment Apr 9, 1868
Bullock, Alex H. to Mr. H.L. Parish Oct 31, 1865
Bullock, Alex H. to Mr. Stedman Nov 3, 1865
Bussey, Cyrus to A.E. Bostwick Dec 31, 1887
Busteed, Richard to Susan C. Doughty Mar 28, 1864
Butler, Benjamin to James Redpath May 16, 1873
Butler, Benjamin to Nehemiah G. Ordway May 22, 1873
Butler, Benjamin to Simon Stevens July 28, 1874
Butler, Benjamin F. to Judge G.W. Nesmith Apr 23, 1890
Butler, Nicholas Murray: 1939 Christmas greetings 1939
Butler, Nicholas Murray to Mrs. John Percival Jefferson Apr 9, 1940
Cameron, Simon to William Cullen Bryant Nov 23, 1861
Chandler, Z. to Frank D. Newberry Jun 28, 1878
Childs, George W. to Henry Wilson Oct 22, 1863
Chiniquy, Charles to Reverend Patterson Sep 9, 1864
Clifford, John H. to Mister Richards Jan 15, 1861
Cobb, M.N. to Gordon William Childs Dec 30, 1862
David, C.A. to A.E. Keck Sep 19, 1895
Denison, C.W. to Samuel B. Ruggles Jul 14, 1867
Dickinson, Anna E. to Ira L. Hurd Mar 26, 1865
Dickinson, Anna E. to Luther Briggs Jun 26, 1865
Dix, John Adams to Major Brantz Mayor (Pay Dept.) Aug 28, 1863
Durant & Horner (Attorneys at Law, New Orleans) to Nathaniel P. Banks May 4, 1863
Everett, Edward to Miss Peabody Dec 24, 1845
Everett, Edward to Rev. Dr. W.B. Sprague Mar 6, 1857
Everett, Edward to Rev. Dr. W.B. Sprague Feb 25, 1859
Everett, Edward to Otis Parker Francis Mar 4, 1861
Farragut, David G. to Brigadier General Alexander Asboth Jul 16, 1864
Gardner, Henry Joseph to Mr. J. Richards Dec 26, 1860
Grant, Frederick Dent to Charles R. Deacon Sep 12, 1887
Grant, Frederick Dent to "My Dear Mrs. Townsend" Jun 30, 1895
Grant, Frederick Dent to Mr. Van Cleave Feb 17, 1909
Gurley, Phineas D. to Abraham Lincoln Aug 21, 1862
Hamlin, Hannibal to [unknown] Jan 1861
Harlan, John Marshall to James R.B. Van Cleave Feb 18, 1909
Harlan, John Marshall to James R.B. Van Cleave Mar 4, 1909
Harlan, John Marshall to James R.B. Van Cleave May 25, 1909
Healey, [illegible] to Z. Allen, Esq. Aug 2, 1848
Hendrie, James A. to F.J. Lippitt Jan 2, 1868
Howe, Julia Ward to Editor Mar 19, 1894
Hughes, Charles Evans to F. Ray Risdon Apr 27, 1922
Hughes, Charles Evans to F. Ray Risdon Mar 6, 1924
King, Preston (Republican Executive Congressional Committee) to Theo. Clancy Apr 11, 1860
King, Preston to Theodore Clancy May 11, 1860
LaFollette, Robert M., Sr. to Allen H. Wright Nov 19, 1904
Lewis, Charles Wheeler to Edwin Greble Jan 18, 1864
Lincoln, Levi Jr. to Otis Parker Francis, Esq. Mar 18, 1861
Mann, Horace to J.S. Durfee Dec 18, 1856
McCollum, Owen to Cyrus Bussey: pension Feb 14, 1893
Merritt, Mosley to Miss Mason May 9
Miller, Wendell to "Dear Stafford" Mar 11, 1876
Morton, Marcus to Edward E. Richards, Esq. Mar 18, 1861
Mulliky, Comdell to Sanborn n.d.
Newton, Isaac (Department of Agriculture) to Solomon Foot Jan 30, 1865
Pinchot, Gifford to John Carman Aug 22, 1910
Seward, Frederick W. to Samuel B. Ruggles Aug 31, 1864
Seward, Frederick W. to Samuel B. Ruggles Aug 25, 1876
Seward, William H. to Loring Willard Jun 3, 1845
Seward, William H. to Henry Willard Mar 17, 1859
Sewell, William to William Buell Franklin Jan 12, 1887
Sherman, William T. to Mrs. E.F. Hall May 1, 1886
Sigel, F. to William Gilchrist May 29, 1892
Smith, Gerrit to "Dear Friend" Jan 21, 1865
Smith, Gerrit to Robert Allen Feb 1, 1865
Sogun, John A. to Ulysses S. Grant Aug 31, 1872
Totten, Joseph Gilbert to Lieutenant J.J. Stevens Mar 31, 1848
Van Vliet, Stewart to Mrs. Huntriman May 13, 1894
Van Vliet, Stewart to Adam Badeau "Friday"
Wade, Benjamin to General Benjamin Grierson Jan 27, 1867
Warner, J.J. to A.S. Ensworth Oct 21, 1863
White, Andrew Dickson to Moncure D. Conway Apr 20, 1892
White, Andrew Dickson to Allen Thorndyeke Rice n.d.
Wilson, James Grant to John Chester Buttre Feb 27, 1889
Wilson, James Grant to Richard Watson Gilder Nov 10, 1902
Wilson, James Grant to Funk & Wagnalls Co. Oct 31, 1903
Wilson, J.H. to John William Weidemeyer Oct 11, 1888
[unknown] to General James Grant Wilson Aug 9, 1900
Wright, Silas to James K. Polk Jul 3, 1846
Wyman, Sarah M. to Horace Greeley Dec 6, 1870

Allen, George B. to "My dear son Edward" Dec 8, 1878
Beecher, Henry Ward to Mechanics Bank Dec 22, 1886
Blaine, H.S. to Allen H. Wright Nov 9, 1891
Mrs. Blaine to Board of Trade of Minneapolis Apr 13, 1893
Blair, Henry W. to General Stephen Thomas Apr 14, 1887
Booth, Edwin to Marion Andrews May 14, 1872
Brown, C.C. to C.W. Thomas (attorney of Bellville, IL) Dec 3, 1900
Buchanan, James to Lucy W. Say: Land warrant Jan 10, 1860
Burroughs, John to J.J. Shirley, M.D. Sep 10, 1890
Carlisle, John Griffin to M.D. Phillips Jul 30, 1884
Carpenter, Frank B. to "Dear Carroll" Apr 1, 1884
Cheever, George Barrell to J.M. Ashley Mar 27, 1866
Chittenden, Simeon B. to Commodore James W. Nicholson, Brooklyn Navy Yard Jul 14, 1877
Clapps, Egbert I. to William Collins Whitney Mar 17, 1885
Clay, Henry to James Riker, Jr. (typed copy) Sep 1, 1848
Cross, Osborne to Major George P. Andrews Jan 27, 1853
Curtis, George William to “Dear Madame” Mar 31, 1890
Dana, Charles Anderson to Stilson Hutchins, Esq. Mar 6, 1879
Daniel, George E. to Herbert Hoover (copy) Feb 4, 1929
Davis, David (Justice) to C.P. Jacob, Esq. undated
Devens, Charles: “First Century” undated
Dixon, James to “My Dear Sir” Mar 16, 1864
Endicott, William Crowninshield to Mayor M.D. Hamilton of San Diego Oct 14, 1887
Fairchild, Charles Stebbins to “Dear Sir” Dec 9, 1908
Francis, David Rowland to Rev. Lawrence F. Bower Apr 5, 1900
Garland, Augustus H. to Martin I. Townsend Apr 10, 1885
Garland, Augustus H. to Martin I. Townsend Jun 29, 1886
Gresham, Walter Q. to E.T. Perrine Dec 21, 1884
Hallock, Charles to City Editor-San Diego Tribune Mar 6, 1905
Hamlin, Charles and Hannibal Emery to Allen H. Wright Mar 1, 1909
Hanna, Marcus Alonzo to L.A. Sheldon Jan 4, 1896
Hayes, Rutherford B. to Mrs. M.L. Wood Mar 13, 1882
Henderson, Thomas J. to Allen H. Wright Jul 30, 1910
Hendricks, Thomas A. to Russell Sage Mar 19, 1857
Hobart, George to Earle H. Eaton, Esq. Jun 30
Holland, G.G. to John L. King Oct 22, 1866
Hoover, Herbert to F. Ray Risdon Nov 16, 1922
Hoover, Herbert to George E. Daniel Feb 14, 1929
Hughes, Charles Evans to Robert Underwood Johnson Feb 17, 1910
Johnson, Reverdy to “Gentlemen” Jan 19, 1861
Keene, Laura to Marion Andrews Jan 15, 1869
Keene, Laura to Marion Andrews Feb 27, 1869
Keene, Laura to Marion Andrews Aug 16
Keene, Laura to Marion Andrews undated
Keeys, Simon to Anna Young: on seeing Lincoln in a hospital Apr 9, 1865
Kendall, Henry (D.D.) to “Dear Brother Wright”: Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church Feb 23, 1888
King, J.L. to Mr. Bingham Feb 26, 1864
Lamon, Ward Hill to Henry H. House, Esq. Mar 30, 1886
Lamont, Daniel S. to Calvin E. Keach: regarding pardon of Seth Morrison July 23, 1884
Lamont, Daniel S. (Mrs.) to Allen H. Wright Nov 4
Lyon, Nathaniel to Francis Hinton May 30, 1851
Lyon, Nathaniel to Frank Ames Jun 5, 1860
Lyon, Nathaniel to Commanding Officer, San Diego Jan 15, 1861
MacVeagh, Wayne to Charles Elmer Rice Jun 9, 1891
Manning, Daniel (Mrs.) to Allen Henry Wright Jun 6, 1906
Oliver, Robert to “My Dear Caroline” (daughter-in-law) Aug 1, 1857
Orendorff, Alfred to Allen H. Wright Apr 1, 1909
Otto, W.T. to H.B. Anthony Feb 23, 1863
Phillips, Wendell to [illegible]: regarding Lieutenant Earle and Charles Sumner Sep 18, 1852
Pierpont, John to President of the United States (Abraham Lincoln) Jan 15, 1863
Risdon, F. Ray to Charles Evans Hughes (copy) Apr 19, 1922
Ruffin, Edmund to “Dear Harrison” Jul 16, 1824
Schofield, John McAllister to Benjamin Grierson Nov 1, 1886
Sherman, James S. to Mr. Allen H. Wright Nov 10, 1894
Sherman, James S. to Allen H. Wright Jan 29, 1904
Sherman, John to Benjamin Grierson Apr 18, 1882
Sherman, William Tecumseh to W.H. Yale Feb 22, 1889
Stanton, Edwin M. to J.M. Ashley Mar 31, 1868
Stevens, Thaddeus to "Dear Sir" Apr 25, 1868
Stimson, A.E. to W.L. Scott Mar 1, 1889
Taft, William Howard to G.A. Davidson Aug 6, 1921
Townsend, George Alfred to William John McGee Jul 5, 1885
Tyndale, Sharon, bond of $3000 to Charles R. Hurst Jul 7, 1865
Warner, Charles K. to "Dear Sir" May 20, 1908
Whitney, William Collins to Messrs. Townsend and Weed Aug 25, 1879
Wright, Allen H. to Mrs. Daniel S. Lamont Jul 30, 1913
[illegible], Judd (of Plainfield, NJ) to "Dear Mr. King" Feb 15, 1916
[illegible], William to Allen H. Wright Feb 18, 1907

Signature cards and images
Andrew, John Albion, signature n.d.
Banks, Nathaniel P., signature n.d.
Bayard, Thomas F. Sr., signature card undated
Bissell, Wilson Shannon, signature card undated
Carlisle, John G., signature card undated
Cleveland, Grover, image 1907
Colman, Norman Jay, signature card undated
Dickinson, Don M., death notice Oct 15, 1917
Fairchild, Charles S., signature card undated
Garfield, Eliza, signature cards
Gresham, Walter Q., signature card undated
Harmon, Judson, image undated
Lamar, Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus, signature card Apr 14, 1892
Lamont, Daniel S., image undated
Manning, Mrs. Daniel, President of the Board of Lady Managers, image undated
Manning, Daniel, signature card undated
Morton, J. Sterling, image 1901
Olney, Richard, signature card undated
President Cleveland's First Cabinet, image undated
Smith, M. Hoke, signature card undated
Stevenson, Adlai E. and Herbert S. Hadley, image undated
Taft, William Howard, signature cards n.d.
"Typical Americans": Mrs. Grover Cleveland, and Winthrop Murray Crane, image 1908
Vilas, William Freeman, signature card Oct 7, 1891
Signature cards for Presidents Grant, McKinley, and Fillmore n.d.

Civil War Soldiers
[unknown, Henry to "My dear Mother" Oct 21, 1864
[illegible], James to My Dear Nephew: New York Draft Riots July 14, 1863
Aunt Nellie to D.A. Pollard (3rd Co, 7th Regt) June
Moses (at "Camp near Staford Corthouse") to "Dear Brother" May 31, 1863
Paar, Benjamin L. (at Fort Barnard) to "Friend James" May 14, 1862
Treadwell, Marcus M. (12th Regt. Mass Vols) to "Friend James" May 10, 1862
Tunney, John to "My Darling Mother" about the death of Lincoln Apr 15, 1865
Watts, James W. (at Port Albany) to "Friend James" Mar 3, 1862
Wilson, Andrew, Bugler in the 18th Pennsylvania Cavalry 1863-1864

Ten letters to his family, one letter from a friend to Wilson in the hospital (though after Wilson's death), and the death notice to his family from a surgeon at Lincoln General Hospital.
Letters to Ezra A. Carman 1858-1885
  Blaine, James G. to Ezra A. Carman Apr 8, 1885
  Corbin, H.C. to Ezra A. Carman July 13, 1881
  Everts, to Ezra A. Carman Sep 8, 1879
  Garfield, James A. to Ezra A. Carman Jan 9, 1880
  Garfield, James A. to Ezra A. Carman Mar 16, 1880
  Henry, Joseph to Ezra A. Carman Dec 21, 1858
  Johnson, Bushrod Rust to Ezra A. Carman regarding Carman's Masters diploma
    Jun 27, 1859
  Slocum, Henry W. to Ezra Carman Dec 24, 1865
  Stockton, Robert F. to Ezra A. Carman Mar 1, 1865
Other letters
  S.E. Allen: Marksman's certificate for Sergeant W.N. Hutchinson Target year
    1886
  Arthur, Chester A.: commission of Edward G. Bush to Major in the US Army Apr
    11, 1882
  Arthur, Chester A.: Timber Culture Certificate for Alza M. Stewart Mar 10, 1883
  Ayer, Lewis M. Jr. to Robert Barnwell Rhett, Sr. regarding the Charleston
    Mercury Feb 6, 1858
  [illegible] to Robert Barnwell Rhett Jan 21, 1860
  Bangs, E.L. to Calvin Coolidge (copy) Sep 19, 1923
  Beecham, Eliot to Allen H. Wright Oct 24, 1919
  Blaine, James G. to George B. Lossing Oct 13, 1881
  Brewster, Benjamin H. to The President [Chester A. Arthur] Dec 12, 1884
  Brewster, Benjamin Harris to Benjamin Perley Poore Dec 18, 1884
  Buchanan, James: Land Grant to Jonathan Owen, Private in the Georgia Militia,
    for service in the Creek War Dec 1, 1857
  Buchanan, James: land grant to Elizabeth Hodges, widow of Daniel Hodges,
    Private in the Tennessee Militia May 1, 1860
  Chandler, William E. to J.D. Lyman Sep 26, 1884
  "W.E. Chandler Dead" undated
  Chapman, James Jr. to Robert Barnwell Rhett, Sr. Sep 18, 1859
  Clay, Henry: consular certificate for Thomas M. Rodney to Havana May 17, 1825
  Coolidge, Calvin to E.L. Bangs Sep 22, 1923
  Coolidge, Calvin to G.A. Davidson Sep 25, 1923
  Crowninshield, Benjamin William to Francis Silsten, Esq. Jun 9, 1837
  Davis, Henry Winters to "Sir" Oct 7, 1859
  Fillmore, Millard: regarding the Steamer California Feb 25, 1853
  Floyd, R.J. (Captain), report of San Francisco Baker's Strike undated
  Folger, Charles J. to [unknown] undated
  Frelinghuysen, Frederick T. to Henry Moore Teller: regarding a pension
    application Apr 27, 1883
  "General Garfield's Favorite Hymn" Sep 26, 1881
  Garfield, Lucretia to Mrs. Sheldon Jan 13, 1882
  Garfield, Lucretia to Joseph F. Tuttle Jan 16, 1882
  Garfield, Lucretia to Joseph F. Tuttle Jan 20, 1882
  Garfield, Lucretia to Mrs. Sheldon undated
  Garrison, William Lloyd to unknown, poem of women's suffrage Mar 31, 1878
  Graham, George to The President of the United States (James Monroe):
    proposed Military Academy entrants Feb 21, 1817
  Grant, Gilbert A. to My Dear Sir, from the Republican Central Committee of the
    State of California Aug 17, 1860
  Harding, Warren G. to G.M. Saltzgaber regarding Civil War soldier pension Aug
    8, 1916
  Harding, Warren G. to Mayor L.J. Welde, regarding naval improvement of San
    Diego Bay Apr 3, 1918
  Harding, Warren G. to E.C. Tieman Jan 10, 1920
Hay, John Milton: three pages from diaries (copies) Dec 29, 1862
Hilles, Charles D. to Mr. Allen H. Wright Dec 4, 1911
Hoover, Herbert to Mayor Harry C. Clark Jul 1, 1929
Howe, Timothy O. to E.B. [illegible] Mar 9, 1869
Hunt, William Henry to Benjamin H. Brewster Apr 7, 1882
James, Thomas L. to Joseph Harriman, Esq. Mar 23, 1881
Johnson, Andrew: seal authorization Jun 27, 1868
Johnson, Herschel V. (Governor) to Thomas H. Ellis about R.L. Hunter, surveyor Mar 27, 1857
Leyna, Ignacio M. to Juan Basilio De Leyva Febrero 23 de 1834

Language of Material: Spanish; Castilian

Madison, James: permission for the Schooner Louisiana to leave port Dec, 1809
Markham Edwin, inscribed poem to Frederick Ray Risdon August, 1922
McLean, John to William Skinner Sep 26, 1828
Risdon, F. Ray to Mrs. Woodrow Wilson requesting President Wilson’s signature Oct 20, 1917
Risdon, F. Ray to Calvin Coolidge (copy) Apr 19, 1922
Risdon, F. Ray to Calvin Coolidge (copy) May 13, 1922
Risdon, F. Ray to Calvin Coolidge (copy) Jun 20, 1922
Risdon, F. Ray to Sergeant-at-Arms Sep 3, 1923
Rosenburg Family Record 1847-1881
Rush, Richard: travel permit for William Preston Apr 3, 1817
Sayre, Jessie Wilson to Dr. Hunter (copy) Feb 1, 1926
Scudder, Henry J. to “My Darling” March, 1864
Senator [illegible] to E. Barrows, Esq. Feb 7, 1878
Southard, Samuel L. to G.N. Drury Jan 15, 1839
Taft, Helen H. to “Mr. Davidson” Sep 26, 1937
Teller, Henry Moore to Mr. Henry B. Dawson Dec 15, 1883
Thompson, Smith: bond of $630 to Thomas Pearsall Mar 24, 1798
Tompkins, Daniel: appointing Samuel Cheever and Josiah Granger justices of the peace Mar 23, 1816
Tumulty, Joseph P. to Vernon P. McCombs Aug 21, 1918
Wilson, Edith Bolling to Mrs. G. Aubrey Davidson Oct 21, 1935
Wilson, Jessie to Charles Ferguson Aug 2, 1913
Wilson, Margaret W. to Padre [Charles Ferguson] Nov 9, 1913
Wilson, Woodrow to Allen H. Wright Jan 4, 1911
Wilson, Woodrow to Mr. C.A. Davidson Dec 30, 1920
Lyric: the Dying Californian undated
postmarked envelope with T. Roosevelt stamp Oct 27, 1924

Adams, Charles Francis to General Walker
Allen, Robert to Lieutenant Colonel Judson D. Bingham July 21, 1863
Allen, Robert to Lieutenant Colonel Judson D. Bingham July 29, 1863
Allen, Robert to Lieutenant Colonel Judson D. Bingham Aug 15, 1863
Allen, Robert to Lieutenant Colonel Judson D. Bingham Oct 21, 1863
Allen, Robert to Lieutenant Colonel Judson D. Bingham Feb 2, 1864
Amory, Thomas J.C. (Thomas Jonathan Coffin) to Major William R. Gibson Jan 12, 1864
Andrew, J.A. (John Albion) to "My Dear Doctor" May 24, 1864
Babcock, O.E. (Orville Elias) to “Conner” Sep 6, 1872
Badeau, Adam to Mr. Pikes Dec 2 1879
Banks, Nathaniel Prentiss to Mr. Wrightman Jan 22, 1861
Banks, Nathaniel Prentiss to Edward De Forest Jan 31, 1867
Captain Beckwith to Seth Williams Dec 23, 1864
Bingham, Henry Harrison to Katherine Bartot Dec 10, 1890
Bingham, Judson David to Captain A. Woolfolk May 30, 1863
Brice, Benjamin William to "Maj? Dennison" (William Neil Dennison) Jan 11, 1866
Brice, Benjamin William to Major S.C. Warbeck April 27, 1865
Buckland, Ralph Pomeroy Feb 4, 1880
Bussey, Cyrus to William Worth Belknap Jan 15, 1873
Butler, Benjamin Franklin to William Buel Franklin Aug 10, 1880
Butler, Benjamin Franklin to William Buel Franklin Jan 5, 1881
Cormack, James, Jr. to Seth Williams Apr 13, 1864
Ford, Thomas, to George Gordon Meade Mar 8, 1864
Hufy, Samuel to Paymaster General Aug 18, 1865
Ingalls, Rufus to Captain Peter Perkins Pitkin Sep 29, 1862
Ingalls, Rufus to William Worth Belknap n.d.
Meigs, Montgomery C. to Robert Allen (true copy) July 28, 1863
Miles, Nelson Appleton to Mr Loury July 5, 1896
Sewell, William Joyce to Major George Montague Wheeler Feb 7, 1899
Stringfellow, Robert to General Patrick, Marsena Rudolph Dec 8, 1863
Thomas, C.W. to Capt. Judson David Bingham June 12, 1863
Thomas, C.W. to Maj. S.C. Harbert Nov 21, 1863
Totten, Joseph to James B. McPherson July 5, 1861
Totten, Joseph to Secretary of State, Ohio May 12, 1852
Totten, Joseph to Secretary of State, Ohio Dec 4, 1852
Townsend, Edward Davis to Benjamin Parley Poore Dec 9, 1875
Townsend, Edward Davis to Marcus Joseph Wrig Feb 14, 1863
Treat, R.B. to E. Henry Aug 25, 1864
Whipple, William D. to Mrs. E.F. Blackman May 4, 1890
Williams, Seth to Isreal B. Richardson Sep 13, 1861
Williams, Seth to Provost Master General Feb 25, 1863
Williams, Seth Dec 17, 1864
Williams, Seth Oct 22, 1864
Williams, Seth to Major Munroe April 10, 1845
Williams, Seth to George Gordon Meade, 1815-1872 July 29, 1863
Wilson, James Grant to John Page Nicholson July 25, 1900
Wilson, James Grant to General Lloyd Bryce 21 Aug, 1891
Wright, Horatio Gouverneur to Captain J. Dixon March 19, 1887
Wright, Horatio Gouverneur to Captain J. Dixon Mar 17, 1893

Box 83 1857-1894

Fremont, John Charles 1857-1894
Abstract: Includes letters (as noted), signature cards, newspaper clippings, and part of Fremont in the Conquest of California, and The Discovery of Gold in California.

Bryant, William Cullen to Col. John C. Fremont Oct 9, 1856
Fremont, Jessie Benton to Captain de Arnaud October 25 [no year]
J.C. Fremont to Mr. Blair Tuesday Morning
J.C. Fremont: a Bond of $6000 to Charles Gould Jan 1, 1857
Fremont, John C. to [unknown] Aug 16, 1861
Rosecrans, William S. (William Starke) 1867-1883, 1918
W.S. Rosecrans, reproduction from the original painting by Chappel
Rosecrans to E.D. Morse, of San Diego Jul 19, 1867
Rosecrans to E.W. Morse, of San Diego Aug 6, 1867
Rosecrans to E.B. Morse, of San Diego Dec 15, 1867
Rosecrans to E.B. Morse, of San Diego Jan 4, 1868
Rosecrans to E.B. Morse, of San Diego Jan 12, 1868
Rosecrans to E.B. Morse, of San Diego Apr 5, 1868
Rosecrans to E.W. Morse, of San Diego Jun 22, 1868
Rosecrans to The President and Directors of the San Diego and Gila City South Pacific and Ati Railroad Co. Sep 24, 1869
Rosecrans to E.W. Morse, of San Diego Jun 27, 1871
Rosecrans to E.W. Morse, of San Diego Jan 24, 1883
Rosecrans to A.E. Rosecrans, power of attorney
Senate Bill 4171, to appropriate the sum of $10,000 to erect a monument to mark the grave of Major General William S. Rosecrans

Welles, Gideon 1861-1867
Curtin, Andrew Gregg to Welles March 18, 1861
Corwin, Thomas to Welles 29 March, 1865
Rice, Alex H. to Welles June 3, 1865
[illegible] to Welles Nov 20, 1865
Fulton, R.E. to Welles Dec 21, 1864
Newell, W.A. to Welles Jan 5, 1867
English, James E. to Welles Oct 31, 1867
Morgan, E.D. to Welles May 5, 1863
Sprague, William to Welles Feb 12, 1862
Smith, James Youngs to Welles Dec 21, 1863
Cannon, William to Welles Oct 11, 1864
Pennington, William to Welles May 18, 1861
Goodwin, Ichabod to Welles Aug 31, 1868
Morgan, George D. to Gideon Welles Jan 31, 1861
Welles to Rear Admiral A.H. Foote: regarding four steamers at Port Royal Jun 13, 1863
Welles to John A. Andrews (Governor): regarding a request for Naval vessels to protect undefended ports in Massachusetts Feb 3, 1863
Buckingham, William A. to Gideon Welles: secession Feb 4, 1861

Other letters 1861-1924
Brown, N.W. to E.W. Morse Nov 15, 1889
Brown, N.W. to E.W. Morse Sep 21, 1892
Brown, N.W. to E.W. Morse Oct 13, 1892
Brown, N.W. to Arthur Luring Oct 13, 1892
Brown, N.W. to Stewart H. Morse Oct 27, 1892
Darnall, Tom to Mr. Morse Apr 30, 1861
Darnall, Tom to Mr. Morse Jun 15, 1861
Ensworth, A. to Mr. Morse Apr 19, 1865
Ensworth, A. to Mr. Morse regarding death of John Wilkes Booth Apr 27, 1865
Ensworth, A. to Mr. Morse May 3, 1865
Ensworth, A. to Mr. Morse regarding sale of property May 18, 1865
Heintzelman, Samuel P. to E.W. Morse Feb 15, 1877
Heintzelman, Samuel Peter to E.W. Morse Feb 18, 1877
Heintzelman, Samuel Peter to E.W. Morse Mar 20, 1877
Heintzelman, Samuel Peter to E.W. Morse Dec 20, 1877
Heintzelman, Samuel P. to E.W. Morse Dec 21, 1877
Lincoln, Robert Todd 1899-1924
Abstract: Letter to the Attorney General in his capacity as Sec. of War, two copies of letters from R.T. Lincoln to a Mr. Burnham, brief correspondence with F. Ray Risdon, and a copy of a letter to Deweitt Miller repudiating Herndon's book.

Government appointments 1862-1893
Abstract: Four letters regarding appointments to clerkships, and one for the quartermaster of 2nd Brigade, 2nd Division, 6th Army Corps.
Invitations, power of attorney, and autograph letters

Abstract: Four autograph letters, documents from the State Bank of Ill (1839), Burton B. Linville power of attorney to Abraham Lincoln, a statement from Andrew Johnson about the Hermitage in Tennessee, and an invitation from Henry Clay (Dec 1827)

Autographs

Abstract: Approximately 30 autographs (names only).

Box 131: Frank B. Cowgill

Box 132: Ralph G. Lindstrom

Box 152: Risdon's Lincolniana correspondence and receipts 1910-1925

Box 153: Risdon's Lincolniana correspondence and receipts 1925-1940

Box 154: Risdon's Lincolniana correspondence and receipts 1941-1949

Box 155: Risdon's Lincolniana correspondence and receipts 1950-1957

Box 156: Lincolniana collectors other than Risdon

Boxes 171-174: Risdon personal papers

Series 3: Certificates & Military Registers 1799-1866

Scope and Contents

This series consists of two boxes. The first documents the Civil War experience of the 34th Massachusetts Volunteers Infantry Regiment through quarterly logistical reports, monthly supply receipts, and muster rolls. These reports track supplies at the company level as they went on the march, engaged in combat, or performed garrison duties. Most reports are from their encampment at Harper's Ferry, VA, but other locations include Fort Lyon, VA, Camp Upton Hill, VA, and "In the field." The second box houses approximately 500 small civilian legal documents. These include stock and bond papers, oaths of allegiance, transportation receipts, customs forms, and other administrative documents.

Box 1: 34th Mass. Inf. Quartermaster Reports Oct 1862-July 1865

Box 74: fugitive slave reports, ship customs documents, military orders, poll tax receipts, oaths of allegiance, stock papers, and local government receipts (especially Illinois) 1799-1866
Series 4: Campaign Literature, Paraphernalia, & Songs 1824-1968

Scope and Content
Risdon collected memorabilia from every campaign between 1824 and his death in 1958. Most items are leaflets and ribbons, others include buttons, medallions, and postcards.

Box 10: campaign years 1824, 1836, 1840, 1844, 1848, 1852, 1856, 1860

Box 11: campaign years 1864, 1868, 1872, 1876, 1880, 1884

Box 12: campaign years 1888, 1892, 1896, 1900, 1904

Box 13: campaign years 1908, 1912, 1916, 1920

Box 14: campaign years 1924, 1928, 1932, 1936

Box 15a: campaign years 1940, 1944


Series 5: Memorials (commemorative)

Scope and Contents
Items in this series include broadsheets, ribbons, radio transcripts, and silkscreens. Also included are lists of pamphlets that are not yet cataloged (see box descriptions for specific titles).

Box 17: Advertisements
Scope and Contents
Lists of presidents, first ladies, and other important political figures. These lists are printed by private companies and include advertisements. Companies include Alka-Seltzer, S.S.S. (a skin beautifier), and Blade Paper & Printing Co., among many others.

Box 18: Washington
Scope and Contents
Box 19: Washington
Scope and Contents

Box 20: Washington
Scope and Contents

Box 21: Fillmore, Pierce, Buchanan, and Johnson
Scope and Contents

Box 22: Adams, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, and J.Q. Adams
Scope and Contents

Box 23: Jackson, Van Buren, W.H. Harrison, Tyler, Polk, Taylor
Scope and Contents

Box 24: Grant
Scope and Contents

Box 25: Hayes and Garfield
Scope and Contents
Sermons and eulogies on Garfield. Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society celebrating Hayes.
**Box 26: Garfield**

Scope and Contents

Eulogies

**Box 27: Garfield**

Scope and Contents

Eulogies.

**Box 28: Garfield**

Scope and Contents

Sciopticon slides.

**Box 29: Arthur, Cleveland, and B. Harrison**

**Box 30: McKinley**

Scope and Contents

McKinley Day Banquet programs, McKinley National Memorial posters, and certificates of membership to McKinley commemoration organizations.

**Box 31: McKinley**

Scope and Contents

Speeches by McKinley, Finance Committee Reports, and Chittenden Hotel promotional material.

**Box 32: William Jennings Bryan**

Scope and Content

Addresses by and about Bryan, reports on convention, and uncataloged pamphlet: Proceedings in the House of Representatives on the Life, Character, and Public Services of William Jennings Bryan. 1926.

**Box 33: Teddy Roosevelt**

Scope and Contents

Sketches, poems, and commemorative addresses.

**Box 34: T. Roosevelt**

**Box 35: T. Roosevelt, calendars**

**Box 36: T. Roosevelt, messages**
Series 5: Memorials (commemorative)

Box 37: Taft

Box 38: Wilson

Box 39: Wilson

Box 40: Harding

Box 41: Harding

Box 42: Coolidge

Scope and Contents
Includes uncataloged pamphlet: Coolidge: His First Biography. Addresses by His Excellency, Calvin Coolidge.

Box 43: Coolidge

Box 44: Hoover

Box 45: F.D. Roosevelt

Box 46: Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, L.B. Johnson

Box 47: Nixon

Box 49: Poetry

Box 50: Lincoln anniversary speeches

Box 51: Freemasons on Lincoln, and other speeches

Series 6: Newspapers, Broadsides, Playbills, & Posters

Scope and Contents
Includes scripts for films and plays, promotional materials for those productions, and thousands of news clippings from the late 19th century to the mid-20th century.

Box 57: Lincoln on stage
Series 6: Newspapers, Broadsides, Playbills, & Posters

Box 57: Lincoln on stage

Box 58: Lincoln on stage

Box 59: Books serialized in magazines

Box 119: Highland Democrat annual Lincoln dinner reports 1904-1925

Box 125: News clippings about Lincoln 1865-1953

Box 126: News clippings about Lincoln 1865-1960

Box 135: 19th-century newspapers

Box 136: clippings about Lincoln

Box 137: Scrapbooks of Lincoln clippings

Box 138: Scrapbooks of Lincoln clippings

Series 7: Pictorial Works

Scope and Contents

Many of the items that relate to Lincoln are post-bellum artistic representations of the Lincoln myth as much as the man. There are also photographs of Lincoln, the Supreme Court, and major government officials such as General John J. Pershing. The series houses accordion booklets with reproduction drawings of Civil War generals. It also contains images of later figures and scenes, including photographs from President McKinley’s inauguration, and stereopticon slides of the White House and its visitors, American cityscapes, and the Spanish-American War.

Box 54: Lincoln Photographs

Box 55: Magazine photographs of Lincoln

Box 56: Scenes from the life of Lincoln

Box 60: Scenes from the life of Lincoln

Box 61: Pictures of Lincoln statues and shrines
Series 7: Pictorial Works

Box 61: Pictures of Lincoln statues and shrines

- Box 109: early 20th-century photographs of political and intellectual figures
- Box 110: lithographs of Union generals and other public figures
- Box 112: five albums of civil war generals and soldiers
- Box 115: Reproductions of Lincoln images

Box 116: Photographs of Lincoln and Civil War

Boxes 157-170: stereopticon slides (boxes 164-170 of American political figures)

Oversize

Scope and Contents

Sixteen framed images of Lincoln and other political figures.

Series 8: Sheet Music

Scope and Contents

Campaign and war songs are often in broadsheet and pamphlet format, of which the collection holds over 200. Large books of sheet music for piano and voice are found in boxes 75-78.

Box 16: Campaign and funeral songs of presidents

Abstract: Campaign and War songs

Box 52: Civil War Songs

Box 53: Lincoln songs from campaigns and funeral

Box 75: piano sheet music, classical and show tunes, 20th century

Box 76: Vocal music by Thomas P. Westendorf

Box 77: Lincoln memorial music

Box 78: 19th-century music for the piano
Series 8: Sheet Music
Box 78: 19th-century music for the piano

Series 9: Keepsakes & Ephemera
Scope and Contents
Includes commemorative objects in honor of Lincoln, and a few items about holidays and other public figures. Many of these items date from the 20th century, and were purchased on visits to historic sites around the country.

Box 62: Lincoln calendars

Box 63: Lincoln envelopes

Box 64: Lincoln ribbons and other memorabilia

Box 65: Lincoln pennies, buttons, and watch fobs

Box 66: Lincoln Association Badges

Box 67: Lincoln buttons & ribbons

Box 68: Lincoln mementos made of wood

Box 69: Lincoln medallions, and mementos made of wood

Box 70: Thanksgiving Day Proclamations

Box 71: Autographs of famous people

Box 72: Autograph Albums

Box 73: photostats and facsimiles

Box 111: Civil War Battlefield memorabilia

Box 117: programs, invitations, and battlefield memorabilia

Box 118: Thanksgiving Day Proclamations 1865-1920
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 120</td>
<td>Paperweights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 121</td>
<td>Chatauqua cards, calendars, autograph albums</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 122</td>
<td>Little Journeys to the Homes of American Authors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 123</td>
<td>Lincoln memorabilia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 124</td>
<td>Lincoln memorabilia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 127</td>
<td>Ephemera from Lincoln shrines 1920-1950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 128</td>
<td>Memorabilia including wood from Lincoln's law office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 129</td>
<td>Memorabilia including marble from Lincoln's sarcophagus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 130</td>
<td>Keepsakes of the Republican Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 133</td>
<td>Numismatic and Philatelic material, Lincoln calendars 1915-1919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 134</td>
<td>Poetry and congressional resolutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 139</td>
<td>Lincoln Clubs (of Los Angeles, Boston, and Colorado)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 140</td>
<td>Lincoln Fellowship of Southern California 1940-1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 141</td>
<td>Lincoln Fellowship of Southern California 1950-1959</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 142</td>
<td>Lincoln Memorial University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 143</td>
<td>Lincoln Day Observances (California)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 144</td>
<td>Lincoln calendars</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Series 9: Keepsakes & Ephemera
Box 144: Lincoln calendars

Box 145: Lincoln Day Observances (National Republican Club)
Box 146: Lincoln Day Observances (D.C., New York, and Illinois)
Box 147: Lincoln Day Observances (elsewhere in U.S.A.)
Box 148: Lincoln Day Observances (elsewhere in U.S.A.)
Box 149: Lincoln postcards
Box 150: Lincoln greeting cards
Box 151: Commercial uses of Lincoln's name

Series 10: Realia
Scope and Contents
Busts, statues, and other oversize items representing Lincoln and other political figures.