Descriptive Summary
Title: Stoneman Family Papers
Dates: 1891-1920
Collection Number: mssHM 71383-71454
Creator: Stoneman Family
Extent: 72 items in 1 box
Repository: The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. Manuscripts Department
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, California 91108
Phone: (626) 405-2191
Email: reference@huntington.org
URL: http://www.huntington.org
Abstract: This small collection contains papers of the family of American Civil War Major General George Stoneman (1822-1894), dating from 1891 to 1920, including legal agreements; estate and financial records; correspondence, chiefly penned after Stoneman's death and directed to his estate administrator; and some ephemera. Notable participants include William B. Allison, Thomas Updegraff, and the United States Army.
Language of Material: The records are in English.
Access
Open to qualified researchers by prior application through the Reader Services Department. For more information, contact Reader Services.
Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item]. Stoneman Family Papers, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.
Provenance
Purchased from Henry Carter, April 1969.
Biographical Note
Although best known for his service in the Union cavalry during the Civil War, Major General George Stoneman (1822-1894) extended his career into civil and political spheres after the war. Near the end of the conflict, he married Mary Oliver Hardisty of Baltimore, Maryland, with whom he eventually had four children: George J., Adele, Katherine, and Cornelius. After poor health forced him to resign as commander of the Department of Arizona in 1871, Stoneman relocated with his family to the "Los Robles" estate in the greater Los Angeles area. His political career in California began with his appointment as Railroad Commissioner in 1879, and culminated in his tenure as the state's Democratic governor from 1883 to 1887. Domestic, health, and financial troubles vexed Stoneman by the end of this governorship, apparently compelling him to seek respite in his native New York circa 1892. While staying with his sister, Charlotte S. Williams, wife of New York Senator Benjamin H. Williams, his health continued to worsen, precluding his return to California. He suffered a stroke in April 1894 from which he was unable to recover. Stoneman died in Buffalo, NY on September 5, 1894 and was interred at Bentley Cemetery in Lakewood, NY. His brother, John T. Stoneman, assumed the role of administrator of the ex-general's estate from the time of Stoneman's death to 1897.
• Stoneman family letters, 1885-1899. (Call number: mssStonemanFamilyletters)
• Stoneman family papers addenda, 1830-1985. (Call number: mssStoneFamilyAddenda)
Scope and Content
This small collection contains papers of the family of American Civil War Major General George Stoneman (1822-1894), dating from 1891 to 1920, including legal agreements; estate and financial records; correspondence, chiefly penned after Stoneman's death and directed to his estate administrator; and some ephemera. Notable participants include William B. Allison, Thomas Updegraff, and the United States Army.
The papers consist of the following series:
1. The chronologically-arranged documents reveal the range of legal, financial, and estate-related transactions initiated by or concerning the Stoneman Family and their associates. Included in this series are legal agreements,
banking statements, inventories of the Stoneman’s estate, and general financial records.

2. The chronologically-arranged correspondence includes personal and business letters to and by the Stoneman Family members and their associates. Two letters dated January 1889 were written by General George Stoneman while he was still living in Los Angeles. Most of the letters were penned after the generals’ death in September 1894, and directed to John T. Stoneman, administrator of his brother’s estate.

3. Finally, ephemera are subdivided into two sections: newspaper clippings and miscellaneous. The first subdivision includes 15 obituaries and accounts of the funeral of George Stoneman, all of which were reported in Buffalo, NY newspapers. The second subdivision contains one invoice to A. Chapin to pay E. Stow, signed by James Crawford and dated Jan. 19, 1891; one postcard dated Dec. 13, 1919 and addressed to Asahel Chapin; a typewritten postcard addressed to A. Chapin from L. Ernest Thornton, Deputy Secretary of State of Maine, and dated Jan. 5, 1920; the stamped face of a mutilated envelope addressed to A. Chapin from the District Court of Elkader, Iowa, and postmarked Apr. 13, 1894; one letter-sized envelope addressed to Florence S. Chapin of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; and three oversized, fragile envelopes that originally housed the papers of this collection.

**Arrangement**
The collection is arranged chronologically.

**Indexing Terms**
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Huntington Library’s Online Catalog.

**Personal Names**
Stoneman family.
Stoneman, George, 1822-1894.
Updegraff, Thomas, 1834-1910.

**Corporate Names**
United States. Army -- Pay, allowances, etc.

**Subjects**
Inventories of decedents' estates -- New York (State)

**Geographic Areas**
California -- History -- 19th century -- Sources.

**Genre**
Account books 19th century.
Bank statements 19th century.
Legal documents California 19th century.
Legal documents New York 19th century.
Letters (correspondence) California 19th century.
Letters (correspondence) New York 19th century.

**Papers**

1891, Jan. 1. Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. California Commandery. Dues of $15.00 assessed to General George Stoneman. HM 71383
1891-1893. Cedar Rapids National Bank Account with George Stoneman. HM 71384
1893-1894. Bank of America formerly Los Angeles County Bank. Six banking statements sent to John T. Stoneman, acknowledging credits to Mary O.H. Stoneman’s account. HM 71385 a-f
1894, June-Sep. First National Bank, Los Angeles, Ca. Five banking statements sent to John T. Stoneman, concerning credits to Mary O.H. Stoneman’s account. HM 71386a-e
1894, July 30. First National Bank in Decorah, Iowa. Banking statement sent to Asahel Chapin concerning $18.33 entered for collection on behalf of H. and M. Murray. HM 71387

1894, Dec. 11. In the matter of the accounting of Charlotte S. Williams, Committee of George Stoneman, a Lunatic. Note: John T. Stoneman’s copy of the original. HM 71388

1895, July 11. Stoneman, John T. Memorandum of payment claim of $166.50 owed to Dr. D.H. Harrington. HM 71389

1895. Agreement between John T. Stoneman and Mary O.H. Stoneman and heirs concerning the disposition of three personal effects of the deceased George Stoneman. HM 71390

1896, Feb. 4. Stoneman, Mary O.H., et al. Permission granted to John T. Stoneman to use estate funds to pay for a monument to be erected at the grave of George Stoneman. HM 71391

1896, Apr. 20. Stoneman, John T. Final report of the administrator in the matter of the estate of George Stoneman, deceased, and filed in the Surrogate’s Court of the County of Erie, New York as well as in Clayton County, Iowa. HM 71392

1896. Agreement between John T. Stoneman and Mary O.H. Stoneman and heirs concerning the disposition of three personal effects of the deceased George Stoneman, the transfer of those funds to Henry Chace, Esq., and John T. Stoneman’s request to be discharged as administrator of the estate. HM 71394


1889, Jan.8. Stoneman, George, 1822-1894. 1 letter to “My dear Brother.” Note: addressee most likely John T. Stoneman. HM 71396


1889, Jan 28. Stoneman, George, 1822-1894. 1 letter to “My dear Brother.” Note: addressee most likely John T. Stoneman. HM 71398

1891, July 23. Stoneman, Mary O.H. 1 letter to “My Dear Brother John.” Note: addressee most likely John T. Stoneman. HM 71399


1894, July 5. Updegraff, Thomas, 1834-1910. 1 letter to “Friend Chapin.” Note: addressee is likely Asahel Chapin. HM 71403

1894, July 25. Williams, Charlotte S. 1 letter to “Dear Brother.” Note: addressee most likely John T. Stoneman. HM 71404

1894, Aug. 15. M.P.D. 1 note on a postcard to A. Chapin. Note: addressee is likely Asahel Chapin; author not identified other than his initials. HM 71405

1894, Aug. 29. Stoneman, John T. 1 letter (draft) to United States. Postmaster General. HM 71406

1894, Sep. 13. Blaisdell, H. M. 1 note on a postcard to A. Chapin. Note: addressee is likely Asahel Chapin. HM 71407


1894, Oct. 22. Updegraff, Thomas, 1834-1910. 1 letter to “My Dear Chapin.” Note: addressee is likely Asahel Chapin. HM 71411


1894, Nov. 2. Stoneman, John T. 1 letter to J.D. Lawler. Note: addressee likely John D. Lawler, president of the First National Bank of Mitchell, SD, one-time territorial governor of Dakota, and son-in-law of General SD Sturgis. HM 71413

Stoneman Family Papers mssHM 71383-71454
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Letters</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1894</td>
<td>Nov. 19-Dec. 22</td>
<td>Stoneman, Mary O.H.</td>
<td>2 letters to &quot;Dear Brother John.&quot; Note: address most likely John T. Stoneman. HM 71414-71415</td>
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<tr>
<td>1895</td>
<td>Jan. 24</td>
<td>Security Savings Bank, San Francisco, Ca.</td>
<td>Reply to Mary O.H. Stoneman stating that the bank has no funds in the name of General George Stoneman. HM 71416</td>
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<tr>
<td>1895</td>
<td>Feb 4-5</td>
<td>Williams, Charlotte S.</td>
<td>2 letters to &quot;Dear Brother.&quot; Note: address most likely John T. Stoneman. HM 71417-71418</td>
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<tr>
<td>1895</td>
<td>Feb 10</td>
<td>Stoneman, Mary O.H.</td>
<td>1 letter to &quot;Dear Brother John.&quot; Note: address most likely John T. Stoneman. HM 71419</td>
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<tr>
<td>1895</td>
<td>Feb 11</td>
<td>Williams, Charlotte S.</td>
<td>1 letter to &quot;Dear Brother.&quot; Note: address most likely John T. Stoneman. Included: autograph statement delineating the expenses related to the settlement of the estate of George Stoneman. HM 71420</td>
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<tr>
<td>1895</td>
<td>Feb 21-Mar. 4</td>
<td>Stoneman, Mary O.H.</td>
<td>3 letters to &quot;Dear Brother John.&quot; Note: address most likely John T. Stoneman. HM 71421-71423</td>
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<tr>
<td>1895</td>
<td>Mar. 13-25</td>
<td>Barlow, B.A.</td>
<td>2 letters to John T. Stoneman. HM 71424-71425</td>
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<tr>
<td>1895</td>
<td>Apr. 12</td>
<td>Stoneman, Mary O.H.</td>
<td>1 letter to &quot;Dear Brother John.&quot; Note: address most likely John T. Stoneman. HM 71426</td>
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<tr>
<td>1895</td>
<td>Apr. 22-23</td>
<td>Williams, Benjamin H.</td>
<td>1 letter to &quot;My Dear Brother.&quot; Included: two invoices and receipts issued by J.L. Hudson, Clothier (Oct. 1-Nov. 6, 1894) and Humphrey House (Oct. 16, 1894), respectively. Note: address most likely John T. Stoneman. HM 71427</td>
<td></td>
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<td>1895</td>
<td>May 1-24</td>
<td>Stoneman, Mary O.H.</td>
<td>3 letters to &quot;Dear Brother John.&quot; Note: address most likely John T. Stoneman. HM 71428-71430</td>
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<tr>
<td>1895</td>
<td>May 25</td>
<td>Williams, Charlotte S.</td>
<td>1 letter to &quot;Dear Brother.&quot; Note: address most likely John T. Stoneman. HM 71431</td>
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<tr>
<td>1895</td>
<td>June 1</td>
<td>Stoneman, Mary O.H.</td>
<td>1 letter to &quot;Dear Brother John.&quot; Note: address most likely John T. Stoneman. HM 71432</td>
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<tr>
<td>1895</td>
<td>July 13-17</td>
<td>Williams, Benjamin H.</td>
<td>2 letters to John T. Stoneman. HM 71433-71434</td>
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<td>1895</td>
<td>July 26-Aug. 19</td>
<td>Stoneman, Mary O.H.</td>
<td>2 letters to &quot;Dear Brother John.&quot; Note: address most likely John T. Stoneman. HM 71435-71436</td>
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<tr>
<td>1895</td>
<td>Sep. 25</td>
<td>Stoneman, M[ary] J[ane].</td>
<td>1 letter to &quot;Dear Brother.&quot; Note: address most likely John T. Stoneman. HM 71437</td>
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<tr>
<td>1895</td>
<td>Sep. 29</td>
<td>Stoneman, Mary O.H.</td>
<td>1 letter to &quot;Dear Brother John.&quot; Note: address most likely John T. Stoneman. HM 71438</td>
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<tr>
<td>1895</td>
<td>Oct. 11</td>
<td>Stoneman, Adele.</td>
<td>1 letter to &quot;Dear Uncle John.&quot; Note: address most likely John T. Stoneman. HM 71439</td>
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<tr>
<td>1895</td>
<td>Oct. 24-Dec. 27</td>
<td>Stoneman, Mary O.H.</td>
<td>3 letters to &quot;Dear Brother John.&quot; Note: address most likely John T. Stoneman. HM 71440-71442</td>
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<td>1896</td>
<td>Feb. 24</td>
<td>New York (State). Surrogate Court (Erie County).</td>
<td>1 letter to John T. Stoneman. HM 71443</td>
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<td>1896</td>
<td>Apr. 3</td>
<td>Chace, Henry.</td>
<td>2 letters to John T. Stoneman. HM 71444-71445</td>
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<tr>
<td>1896</td>
<td>Apr. 6</td>
<td>Stoneman, George J.</td>
<td>1 letter to &quot;Dear Uncle John.&quot; Note: address most likely John T. Stoneman. HM 71446</td>
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<tr>
<td>1896-1897</td>
<td>Chace, Henry.</td>
<td>8 letters to John T. Stoneman. HM 71447-71454</td>
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<td>1894</td>
<td>Sep.</td>
<td>Fifteen newspaper clippings, most of which are obituaries announcing the death and funeral of George Stoneman.</td>
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<td>1891-1920</td>
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<td>One invoice to A. Chapin to pay E. Stow, signed by James Crawford and dated Jan. 19, 1891; one postcard dated Dec. 13, 1919 and addressed to Asahel Chapin; a typewritten postcard addressed to A. Chapin from L. Ernest Thornton, Deputy Secretary of the State of Maine, and dated Jan. 5, 1920; the stamped face of a mutilated envelope addressed to A. Chapin from the District Court of Elkader, Iowa, and postmarked Apr. 13, 1894; one letter-sized envelope addressed to Florence S. Chapin of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; and three oversized, fragile envelopes that originally housed the papers of this collection.</td>
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