Collection Summary
Title: James Gordon Bennett Papers
Span Dates: 1845-1934
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1861-1864)
ID No.: MSS 12427
Creator: Bennett, James Gordon, 1795-1872
Extent: 225 items ; 1 container ; .4 linear feet ; 1 microfilm reel
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Summary: Newspaper publisher. Correspondence, clippings, drafts of articles, and printed material reflecting Bennett’s career as publisher of the New York Herald.

Selected Search Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People
Banks, Nathaniel Prentiss, 1816-1894--Correspondence.
Bennett, James Gordon, 1795-1872.
Bennett, James Gordon, 1841-1918--Correspondence.
Halpine, Charles G. (Charles Graham), 1829-1868--Correspondence.
Hudson, Frederic, 1819-1875--Correspondence.
McClellan, George Brinton, 1826-1885.
Ritchie, Thomas, 1778-1854--Correspondence.
Weed, Thurlow, 1797-1882--Correspondence.
Wood, Fernando, 1812-1881--Correspondence.

Subjects
American newspapers--New York (State)

Places
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Journalists.
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.
United States--Politics and government--1861-1865.

Titles
New York herald.

Occupations
Publishers.

Administrative Information
Provenance
The papers of James Gordon Bennett, publisher, were acquired by purchase in 1919 and 1931, by gift from J. Franklin Jameson, 1934, and by transfer from the papers of Manton Marble in 1938. The collection includes photocopies made in 1931 of originals retained by Forest G. Sweet.

Processing History
The Bennett Papers were processed and prepared for microfilming in 1987. The finding aid was revised in 2004.
Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of James Gordon Bennett is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of James Gordon Bennett are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Microfilm

A microfilm edition of these papers is available on 1 reel. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, James Gordon Bennett Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1795, Sept. 1</td>
<td>Born, Keith, Scotland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1819</td>
<td>Moved to Halifax, Nova Scotia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1822</td>
<td>Moved to New York, N.Y., via New England</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1823</td>
<td>Worked for Charleston Courier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1827-1828</td>
<td>Editor, New York Enquirer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1829-1832</td>
<td>Editor, Morning Courier and New York Enquirer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1832</td>
<td>Issued first number of New York Globe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1835</td>
<td>Founder, New York Herald</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1835-1867</td>
<td>Editor, New York Herald</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1840</td>
<td>Married Henrietta Crean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1864</td>
<td>Declined appointment as U.S. minister to France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1867</td>
<td>Retired from New York Herald</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1872, June 1</td>
<td>Died, New York, N.Y.</td>
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Scope and Content Note

The papers of James Gordon Bennett (1795-1872) span the years 1845-1934, with the bulk of the items concentrated in the period 1861-1864. The collection consists chiefly of correspondence to Bennett as publisher of the New York Herald from
staff reporters at the army headquarters of George Brinton McClellan in Washington and in the field during the Civil War. Included are letters addressed to Bennett’s assistant and business manager, Frederick Hudson, and a copy of a letter from Bennett to Thomas Ritchie, 1845. Also in the papers are drafts of articles, clippings, and pamphlets.

Correspondents include Nathaniel Prentiss Banks, James Gordon Bennett (1841-1918), Charles G. Halpine, Thurlow Weed, and Fernando Wood.

**Arrangement of the Papers**

This collection is arranged by type of material.
## Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no.19,765

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>General correspondence, 1845, 1861-1864, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REEL 1</td>
<td>(8 folders)</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Articles, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>REEL 1</td>
<td>Speech by Simon Cameron, 1861</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Minutes, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REEL 1</td>
<td>Notes, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Printed matter, &quot;Documents-Federal Generals and a Good Press,&quot; 1934</td>
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<tr>
<td>REEL 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Clippings, 1862-1863, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REEL 1</td>
<td></td>
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