Collection Summary
Title: William Banks Caperton Papers
Span Dates: 1873-1939
ID No.: MSS14951
Creator: Caperton, William Banks, 1855-1941
Extent: 1,100 items ; 5 containers plus 7 oversize ; 2.8 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Summary: United States Navy officer. Correspondence, largely with William Shepherd Benson, reports, orders to duty, and newspaper clippings, chiefly relating to Caperton's naval career, particularly his command of the cruiser squadron, Atlantic Fleet, detailed in 1915-1916 to restore order in Haiti.

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
Caperton, William Banks, 1855-1941.

Organizations
United States. Navy--Foreign service--Haiti.

Places
Haiti--History--American occupation, 1915-1934.
Haiti--Politics and government.

Occupations
Naval officers.

Administrative Information
Provenance
The papers of William Banks Caperton, United States Navy officer, were deposited in the Library of Congress by the Naval Historical Foundation in 1968. An addition was received in 1994. The deposit was converted to a gift in 1998.

Processing History
The papers of William Banks Caperton were arranged and described in 1995. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

Transfers
Photographs have been transferred to the Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as part of the William Banks Caperton Papers in the Naval Historical Foundation Collection.

Copyright Status
The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of William Banks Caperton is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).
Access and Restrictions

The papers of William Banks Caperton 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.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, William Banks Caperton Papers, Naval Historical Foundation Collection, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of William Banks Caperton (1855-1941) span the years 1873-1939 and consist of correspondence, reports, speeches, orders to duty, and clippings and other printed matter. The focus is on Caperton's naval career, with particular emphasis on his command of the cruiser squadron of the Atlantic Fleet which was detailed in 1915-1916 to restore order in Haiti and then in Santo Domingo during revolutions in those countries. A major correspondent is William Shepherd Benson.

Arrangement of the Papers

The collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material and chronologically therein.
## Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
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| BOX 1     | Correspondence, 1908-1939, undated *See also Oversize*  
(9 folders) |
| BOX 1     | Naval service record |
| BOX 1     | Miscellany, 1913-1916, 1922, 1933-1937, undated *See also Oversize* |
| BOX 2     | Orders to duty, 1873-1919  
(2 folders) |
| BOX 2     | Printed matter |
| BOX 2     | Clippings, 1915-1922, 1929-1930, 1937 *See also Oversize*  
(4 folders) |
| BOX 2     | Miscellany, 1917-1922 *See also Oversize* |
| BOX 2     | Pamphlets |
| BOX 2     | 1895, 1900, 1913-1922  
(2 folders) |
| BOX 3     | 1923-1931, undated  
(2 folders) |
| BOX 3     | "The Salvo," 1918 |
| BOX 3     | Proclamations, 1915-1916 |
| BOX 3     | Reports  
1915-1916  
(4 folders) |
| BOX 4     | 1920  
(5 folders) |
| BOX 4     |  
(2 folders) |
| BOX 5     | Undated |
| BOX 5     | Scrapbook, 1915-1918 |
| BOX 5     | Speeches, 1917-1919 *See also Oversize*  
(4 folders) |
| BOX 5     | Various material, 1916, 1935-1937, undated |
| BOX OV 1  | Oversize |
| BOX OV 1  | Correspondence, 1909 (Container 1) |
| BOX OV 2  | Naval service record |
| BOX OV 2  | Miscellany, 1913 (Container 1) |
| BOX OV 3-OV 4 | Printed matter |
| BOX OV 3-OV 4 | Clippings, 1915-1918 (Container 2) |
| BOX OV 5-OV 6 | Miscellany, 1917 (Container 2) |
| BOX OV 7  | Speeches, 1917 (Container 5) |