Collection Summary

Title: David Glasgow Farragut Papers
Span Dates: 1816-1869
ID No.: MSS53769
Creator: Farragut, David Glasgow, 1801-1870
Extent: 400 items ; 1 container ; 0.4 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English, with some Spanish
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Summary: Naval officer. Correspondence, letterbooks, biographical file, invitations, and other material relating primarily to Farragut's naval activities, especially his role in the protection of American interests in Mexico during the pre-Civil War period.

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
Barron, James, 1769-1851--Correspondence.
Baudin, Charles, 1784-1854--Correspondence.
Dahlgren, John Adolphus Bernard, 1809-1870--Correspondence.
Dallas, Alexander James, 1759-1817--Correspondence.
Draper, Lyman Copeland, 1815-1891--Correspondence.
Farragut, David Glasgow, 1801-1870.
Folsom, Charles, 1794-1872--Correspondence.
Ingraham, Duncan N. (Duncan Nathaniel), 1802-1891--Correspondence.
Jones, William D.--Correspondence.
Lenthall, John, 1807-1882--Correspondence.
Mallory, Stephen R. (Stephen Russell), 1813-1873--Correspondence.
Maury, Matthew Fontaine, 1806-1873--Correspondence.
McLane, Robert M. (Robert Milligan), 1815-1898.
Morris, Charles, 1784-1856--Correspondence.
Paulding, James Kirke, 1778-1860--Correspondence.
Santa Anna, Antonio López de, 1794?-1876--Correspondence.
Toucey, Isaac, 1796-1869--Correspondence.
Woolsey, Melancthon B. (Melancthon Brooks), 1817-1874--Correspondence.

Organizations
Boxer (Brig)
Erie (Sloop of war)

Subjects
Ordnance, Naval.

Places
France--Foreign relations--Mexico.
Mexico--Foreign relations--France.
Mexico--Foreign relations--United States.
Mexico--History--1821-1861.
United States--Foreign relations--Mexico.

Occupations
Naval officers.
Administrative Information

Provenance
The papers of David Glasgow Farragut, naval officer, were deposited in the Library of Congress by the Naval Historical Foundation in 1969. The collection was converted to a gift in 1998.

Processing History
The papers of David Glasgow Farragut were arranged and described in 1974. The finding aid was revised in 2003.

Copyright Status
The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of David Glasgow Farragut is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions
The papers of David Glasgow Farragut 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, David Glasgow Farragut Papers, Naval Historical Foundation Collection, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1801, July 5</td>
<td>Born, Campbell’s Station, Tenn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1810</td>
<td>Appointed midshipman, United States Navy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1811-1814</td>
<td>Duty on the Essex (frigate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1815-1820</td>
<td>Duty on the Independence (ship-of-the-line), Washington (ship-of-the-line), and Franklin (ship-of-the-line), Mediterranean Station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1823</td>
<td>Executive officer, Sea Gull (side wheel gunboat), West India Squadron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1824</td>
<td>Married Susan C. Marchant (died 1840)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1825-1826</td>
<td>Duty on the Brandywine (frigate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1828-1830</td>
<td>Duty on the Vandalia (sloop-of-war), Brazil Station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1833</td>
<td>Executive officer, Natchez (sloop-of-war)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1834</td>
<td>Returned to the United States with the Boxer (schooner)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1838</td>
<td>Commanded the Erie (patrol gunboat), Home Squadron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1841</td>
<td>Promoted to commander</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1842 Commanded the *Decatur* (sloop-of-war), South American Station

1843 Married Virginia Loyall

1847 Commanded the *Saratoga* (sloop-of-war), Home Squadron


1854 Ordered to California to establish United States Navy Yard at Mare Island, Vallejo, Calif.

1858-1860 Commanded the *Brooklyn* (screw sloop), Home Squadron

1862 Commanded the West Gulf Blockading Squadron

1862 Attacked and passed Forts Jackson and St. Philip and captured New Orleans, La.
Promoted to rear admiral

1863 Passed the batteries at Port Hudson

1864 Attacked the defenses of Mobile Bay, entered the bay, and dispersed the Confederate fleet
Received the surrender of Fort Morgan
Promoted to vice admiral

1866 Promoted to admiral

1867-1868 Commanded the European Squadron

1870, Aug. 14 Died, Portsmouth, N.H.

**Scope and Content Note**

The papers of David Glasgow Farragut (1801-1870), span the years 1816-1869 and consist of correspondence, letterbooks, a biographical file, invitations, and a copy of an 1867 act of the municipal government of Ciudadela, Minorca, honoring Farragut. The correspondence includes three letters to Farragut from Charles Folsom, American consul in Tunis, a photostatic copy of a personal letter from Farragut to Lyman Copeland Draper, and a letter from Farragut to Melancthon B. Woolsey.

The letterbooks contain copies of letters sent and received, general orders, and circulars. The first letterbook, kept initially on the *Boxer* (schooner), contains copies of letters, general orders, and circulars dated 1816-1840, but consists largely of autobiographical and genealogical notes. Most of the entries in the second letterbook, 1829-1839, were made on the *Erie* (patrol gunboat). Farragut commanded the *Erie* with orders to proceed to Mexican waters in order to protect American citizens and property endangered by the war between Mexico and France. The second letterbook contains copies of letters to William D. Jones, American consul in Mexico, James Barron, and Alexander James Dallas describing the attack and capture of the castle of San Juan de Ulloa by the French. There are also letters to James Kirke Paulding, Antonio López de Santa Anna, and Charles Baudin concerning this war.

The third letterbook, 1852-1853, kept while Farragut had ordnance duties, includes memoranda on Dahlgren’s lock and on the testing of batteries, remarks on various types of naval weapons, and copies of letters to Charles Morris and John Adolphus Bernard Dahlgren. In the fourth letterbook, 1859-1861, are Farragut’s orders to proceed to Mexico, then in revolution. His chief duty was to transport Robert M. McLane, the new American minister to Mexico. There are also copies of letters to Duncan N. Ingraham, John Lenthall, Stephen R. Mallory, Matthew Fontaine Maury, and Isaac Toucey.
# Container List

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Contents</th>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Biographical file, 1867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Copie del Acta del Ayuntamiento de la ciudad de Ciudadela declaranda hijo de la misma al Almirante de Los Estados-Unidos de America David G. Farragut, 1867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Correspondence, 1818-1819, 1858, 1864 (3 folders)</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Invitations, 1869</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Letterbooks</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>1816-1840</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td><em>Natchez</em> (sloop-of-war) and <em>Erie</em> (schooner), 1829-1839</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Ordnance inspector, 1852-1853</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td><em>Brooklyn</em> (screw sloop), 1859-1861</td>
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