Collection Summary

Title: William Lee Trenholm Papers
Span Dates: 1865-1931
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1885-1889)
ID No.: MSS43174
Creator: Trenholm, William Lee, 1836-1901
Extent: 500 items ; 4 containers ; .8 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Summary: Civil Service commissioner and comptroller of the currency. Correspondence, speeches, and other material.

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
Cannon, Henry White, 1850-1934--Correspondence.
Carlisle, John Griffin, 1835-1910--Correspondence.
Cleveland, Grover, 1837-1908.
Foster, J. W. (John Wells), 1815-1873--Correspondence.
Holls, Frederick William, 1857-1903--Correspondence.
James, Darwin R. (Darwin Rush), 1834-1908--Correspondence.
Leslie, Frank, 1821-1880--Correspondence.
Thompson, Hugh Smith, 1836-1904--Correspondence.
Trenholm family.
Trenholm, William Lee, 1836-1901.
Windom, William, 1827-1891--Correspondence.

Organizations
United States Civil Service Commission.

Subjects
Banks and banking--United States.
Civil service--United States.
Finance, Public--United States.
Money--United States.

Places
United States--Commercial policy.

Occupations
Public officials.

Administrative Information

Provenance
The papers of William Lee Trenholm, Civil Service commissioner and comptroller of the currency, were purchased by the Library of Congress in 1938.

Processing History
The William Lee Trenholm Papers were processed in 1945. The finding aid was created in 2016.
Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of William Lee Trenholm is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of William Lee Trenholm 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 Lee Trenholm Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1836</td>
<td>Born, Charleston, S.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1855</td>
<td>Graduated, South Carolina (now University of South Carolina), Columbia, S.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1864</td>
<td>Leader of 19th South Carolina Cavalry battalion; wounded at Battle of Cold Harbor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1885-1886</td>
<td>United States Civil Service commissioner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1886-1889</td>
<td>United States Comptroller of the currency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1889</td>
<td>Elected president, American Surety Co. of New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1898</td>
<td>President of the North American Trust Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901, Jan 11</td>
<td>Died, New York, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scope and Content Note

The papers of William Lee Trenholm (1836-1901) span the years 1865-1931, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1885-1889. The collection consists of correspondence, speeches, and other material pertaining mainly to Trenholm's tenure as United States Civil Service commissioner and comptroller of the currency under President Grover Cleveland. Also included are personal materials concerning his family and career as a banker. Correspondents include Henry White Cannon, John Griffin Carlisle, J. W. Foster, Frederick William Holls, Darwin R. James, Frank Leslie, Hugh Smith Thompson, and William Windom.

Arrangement of the Papers

The collection is organized chronologically in three bound volumes with a container of miscellany filed at the end.
# Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Vol. 1, 1865, Nov. 23-1886, Mar. 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 2</td>
<td>Vol. 2, 1886, Mar. 19-1889, Jan. 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 3</td>
<td>Vol. 3, 1889, Jan. 18-1931, Jan. 17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| BOX 4     | Miscellany  
Genealogical chart  
Photographs  
Printed matter  
Scrapbook and clippings |