Collection Summary
Title: Donald McDonald Dickinson Papers
Span Dates: 1863-1917
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1887-1898)
ID No.: MSS18440
Creator: Dickinson, McDonald, 1846-1917
Extent: 350 items ; 3 containers ; 1.2 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Summary: Lawyer and U.S. postmaster general. Correspondence and miscellaneous material relating mainly to
Dickinson's tenure as postmaster general and as senior counsel for the U.S. Bering Sea Commission.

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
Dickinson, Donald McDonald, 1846-1917.
Field, Stephen J. (Stephen Johnson), 1816-1899--Correspondence.
Lansing, Robert, 1864-1928--Correspondence.
Olney, Richard, 1835-1917--Correspondence.

Organizations
Bering Sea Commission.
United States. Postmaster General.

Subjects
Bering Sea controversy.
Sealing--Bering Sea.
Sealing--Law and legislation.

Occupations
Cabinet officers.
Lawyers.

Administrative Information

Provenance
The papers of Donald McDonald Dickinson, lawyer and U.S. postmaster general, were purchased by the Library of
Congress from 1936 to 1939.

Processing History
The Donald McDonald Dickinson Papers were processed circa 1955. The finding aid was created in 2016.

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The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Donald McDonald Dickinson is governed by the Copyright Law of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

Access and Restrictions
The papers of Donald McDonald Dickinson 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, Donald McDonald Dickinson Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date Event
1846, Jan. 17 Born, Oswego, N.Y.
1867 Graduated, University of Michigan Law School, Ann Arbor, Mich.
1880-1885 Member, Democratic National Committee from Michigan
1887-1889 Postmaster general
1897 Senior counsel, U.S. Bering Sea Commission
1902 Member of U.S. court to adjust controversy between the U.S. and the Republic of Salvador
1917, Oct. 15 Died, Detroit, Mich.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Donald M. Dickinson (1846-1917) span the years 1863-1917, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1887-1898. The collection consists of official, political, and personal correspondence and miscellaneous biographical material. Included are letterbooks of personal correspondence during the period Dickinson was postmaster general. There is also correspondence with Robert Lansing and Richard Olney relating to Dickinson's duties as senior counsel for the U.S. at the Bering Sea Commission and typed copies of letters from Stephen J. Field.

Arrangement of the Papers

The collection is organized by type of material.
## Container List

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<th>Container</th>
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<td>Biographical sketches</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Report to Secretary of State John Sherman on awards of the Bering Sea Commission, 1897</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Obituary</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Appointment certificate, delegate to Convention on Western Waterways from Michigan, 1899</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Typed copy of letters from Stephen J. Field to Dickinson, 1887-1896</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Letterpress copies of postmaster general correspondence</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
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