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
Extent: 1 container
Extent: .4 linear feet
Extent: 1 microfilm reel
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm75012427
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 LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

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 B. (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.

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The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of James Gordon Bennett is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).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

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

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