

Blair & Rives Records
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2006

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm78012922>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms007079>

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Collection Summary

Title: Blair & Rives Records

Span Dates: 1821-1905

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1830-1848)

ID No.: MSS12922

Creator: Blair & Rives

Extent: 800 items

Extent: 3 containers

Extent: 1.2 linear feet

Extent: 3 microfilm reels

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm78012922>

Summary: Publishing firm. Correspondence, speeches, business records, and printed matter relating to the firm founded by Francis P. Blair and John C. Rives and its publications, including the *Globe* and the *Congressional Globe*, concurrent Washington, D.C., newspapers.

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

Blair, Francis Preston, 1791-1876--Correspondence.

Church, John R. (John Robert), 1899- --Correspondence.

Fogg, Godfrey M.--Correspondence.

Harris, John C.--Correspondence.

Jackson, Andrew, Jr., 1809-1865--Correspondence.

Rives, John C. (John Cook), 1795-1864--Correspondence.

Organizations

Bank of the United States (1816-1836)

Blair & Rives.

Subjects

American newspapers--Washington (D.C.)

Publishers and publishing--Washington (D.C.)

Places

United States--History--1815-1861.

Titles

Congressional globe.

National intelligencer (Washington, D.C. : 1898)

United States telegraph.

Provenance

The records of Blair & Rives, a publishing firm founded in Washington, D.C., by Francis P. Blair (1791-1876) and John C. Rives (1795-1864), were purchased by the Library of Congress in 1921. Additional manuscripts were acquired through purchase and a gift, 1966-1968.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Blair & Rives is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Blair & Rives 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 three reels. 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 number, Records of Blair & Rives, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The records of Blair & Rives, Washington, D.C., publishers of the daily Washington, D.C., *Globe* and weekly *Congressional Globe* newspapers, span the years 1821-1905, with the bulk of the material from 1830 to 1848. The collection consists of general correspondence, 1821-1871, and miscellany, 1826-1905.

The general correspondence consists chiefly of the day-to-day business operations of the *Globe*. Many letters are readers' responses to issues discussed in the newspaper and usually concern national political topics, especially the rechartering of the Second Bank of the United States. There are also letters between Francis P. Blair (1791-1876) and John C. Rives about financial matters. Letters written from the period 1847-1855 by Andrew Jackson (1809-1865), Francis P. Blair, his son Frank P. Blair, and Godfrey M. Fogg, concern their efforts to protect President Andrew Jackson's homestead, the "Hermitage," from creditors. Other letters, 1828-1848, sent to Benjamin B. French, Henry S. Foote, and John E. Norris, the secretary of Washington's Jackson Democratic Association, concern that organization's activities. Correspondents also include Mark Alexander, Henry Baldwin, James L. Blair, Benjamin Gratz Brown, John R. Church, Warren R. Davis, Henry Dilworth Gilpin, Duff Green, William H. Haywood, Jr., John C. Harris, William A. Harris, John W. Hungerford, Ralph Isaac Ingersoll, Amos Kendall, Robert Mayo, Alfred O. P. Nicholson, David Settle Reid, Thomas Ritchie, Benjamin G. Shields, Lawrence Taliaferro, William Wirt, and Silas Wright, Jr.

The miscellany contains legal documents, bills and receipts, and printer's copy and proofs for government and private printing work produced in the Blair & Rives establishment. Also in the miscellany is genealogical material relating to the Arthur Donaldson, Franklin Rives, John Tree, and Hubell families, and research notes by Jeannie (Mrs. Franklin) Rives concerning the history of Washington, D.C., during the Civil War.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material.

Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 19,717

Container	Contents
BOX 1 REEL 1	General correspondence
BOX 1 REEL 1	1821-1833 (9 folders)
BOX 2 REEL 2-3	1834-1854 (10 folders)
BOX 3 REEL 3	1855-1871, undated fragments (3 folders)
BOX 3 REEL 3	Miscellany
BOX 3 REEL 3	Legal documents, memoranda, bills and receipts, 1826-1858
BOX 3 REEL 3	Printed matter, printer's copy, and proofs, 1829-1873, undated (4 folders)
BOX 3 REEL 3	Printing orders and lists, 1866-1872, undated
BOX 3 REEL 3	Rives and Tree family papers, circa 1899-1905