Collection Summary
Title: David Ames Wells Papers
Span Dates: 1795-1898
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1860-1886)
ID No.: MSS45062
Creator: Wells, David Ames, 1828-1898
Extent: 9,000 items
Extent: 24 containers
Extent: 6 linear feet
Extent: 9 microfilm reels
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm80045062
Summary: Economist, author, and public official. Correspondence, printed material, writings, and other papers concerning economics, with particular emphasis on taxation, the tariff, and free trade.

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
Adams, Charles Francis, 1835-1915--Correspondence.
Adams, Henry, 1838-1918--Correspondence.
Atkinson, Edward, 1827-1905--Correspondence.
Barnard, Frederick A. P. (Frederick Augustus Porter), 1809-1889--Correspondence.
Bayard, Thomas F. (Thomas Francis), 1828-1898--Correspondence.
Beecher, Henry Ward, 1813-1887--Correspondence.
Bellows, Henry W. (Henry Whitney), 1814-1882--Correspondence.
Bowles, Samuel, 1826-1878--Correspondence.
Bryant, William Cullen, 1794-1878--Correspondence.
Conkling, Roscoe, 1829-1888--Correspondence.
Dana, Richard Henry, 1815-1882--Correspondence.
Evarts, William Maxwell, 1818-1901--Correspondence.
Field, Cyrus W. (Cyrus West), 1819-1892--Correspondence.
Field, Stephen J. (Stephen Johnson), 1816-1899--Correspondence.
Fish, Hamilton, 1808-1893--Correspondence.
Garfield, James A. (James Abram), 1831-1881--Correspondence.
George, Henry, 1839-1897--Correspondence.
Gould, Jay, 1836-1892--Correspondence.
Greeley, Horace, 1811-1872--Correspondence.
Hale, Edward Everett, 1822-1909--Correspondence.
Hawley, Joseph R. (Joseph Roswell), 1826-1905--Correspondence.
Hoffman, John T. (John Thompson), 1828-1888--Correspondence.
Howells, William Dean, 1837-1920--Correspondence.
Lieber, Francis, 1800-1872--Correspondence.
Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth, 1807-1882--Correspondence.
Mallet, Louis, 1823-1890--Correspondence.
Marble, Manton, 1834-1917--Correspondence.
McCulloch, Hugh, 1808-1895--Correspondence.
Nordhoff, Charles, 1830-1901--Correspondence.
Orton, William, 1826-1878--Correspondence.
Owen, Robert Dale, 1801-1877--Correspondence.
Read, John Meredith, 1837-1896--Correspondence.
Reid, Whitelaw, 1837-1912--Correspondence.
Sands, Mahlon--Correspondence.
Schurz, Carl, 1829-1906--Correspondence.
Tilden, Samuel J. (Samuel Jones), 1814-1886--Correspondence.
Villard, Henry, 1835-1900--Correspondence.
Wells, David A. (David Ames), 1828-1898.
White, Andrew Dickson, 1832-1918--Correspondence.
White, Horace, 1834-1916--Correspondence.
Young, John Russell, 1840-1899--Correspondence.

**Subjects**
Economics.
Free trade.
Tariff.
Taxation.

**Occupations**
Authors.
Economists.
Public officials.

**Provenance**
The papers of David Ames Wells, economist, author, and public official, were given to the Library of Congress in 1938 by the Trustees of the City Library Association, Springfield, Massachusetts. An item purchased in 1914 was transferred to the collection in 1998.

**Processing History**
The papers of David Ames Wells were revised in 1998 and the finding aid updated in 2010.

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

**Access and Restrictions**
The papers of David Ames Wells 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, excluding the addition, is available on nine reels. Consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition.
Preferred Citation
Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, David Ames Wells Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date | Event
--- | ---
1828, June 17 | Born, Springfield, Mass.
1847 | Graduated, Williams College, Williamstown, Mass.
1848 | Joined staff of Springfield Republican, Springfield, Mass.
1857 | Partner, G. P. Putnam & Co.
1860 | Married Mary Sanford Dwight
1864 | Published *Our Burden and Strength*. New York: Loyal Publication Society
1865 | Appointed chairman, National Revenue Commission
                  Appointed special commissioner of the revenue
1869 | Chairman, New York State Tax Commission
1871 | Published *Local Taxation*. New York: Harper & Brothers
1876 | Unsuccessful candidate for Congress
                  Receiver, Alabama & Chattanooga Railroad
1878 | Member, Board of Arbitration of Associated Railways
1898, Nov. 5 | Died, Norwich, Conn.

Scope and Content Note
The papers of David Ames Wells (1828-1898) span the years 1795-1898, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1860-1886.

The correspondents represented in the collection include many of the leading politicians, economists, and journalists of the mid-nineteenth century. Some of the letters are social in nature, but many relate to such topics as economics, taxation, tariffs, and free trade.

Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 15,662. Reel numbers in parentheses represent original numbering of microfilm reels.

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