

William Banks Caperton Papers

A Finding Aid to the Papers in the Naval Historical Foundation Collection in the Library of Congress



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2009**

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm70014951>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009157>

Prepared by Laura J. Kells

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2009
Revised 2010 April

Collection Summary

Title: William Banks Caperton Papers

Span Dates: 1873-1939

ID No.: MSS14951

Creator: Caperton, William Banks, 1855-1941

Extent: 1,100 items

Extent: 5 containers plus 7 oversize

Extent: 2.8 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm70014951>

Summary: United States Navy officer. Correspondence, largely with William Shepherd Benson, reports, orders to duty, and newspaper clippings, chiefly relating to Caperton's naval career, particularly his command of the cruiser squadron, Atlantic Fleet, detailed in 1915-1916 to restore order in Haiti.

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

Benson, William Shepherd, 1855-1932.

Caperton, William Banks, 1855-1941.

Organizations

United States. Navy--Foreign service--Haiti.

United States. Navy. Atlantic Fleet.

Places

Haiti--History--American occupation, 1915-1934.

Haiti--Politics and government.

Occupations

Naval officers.

Provenance

The papers of William Banks Caperton, United States Navy officer, were deposited in the Library of Congress by the Naval Historical Foundation in 1968. An addition was received in 1994. The deposit was converted to a gift in 1998.

Processing History

The papers of William Banks Caperton were arranged and described in 1995. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

Transfers

Photographs have been transferred to the Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as part of the William Banks Caperton Papers in the Naval Historical Foundation Collection.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of William Banks Caperton is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of William Banks Caperton 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 Banks Caperton Papers, Naval Historical Foundation Collection, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of William Banks Caperton (1855-1941) span the years 1873-1939 and consist of correspondence, reports, speeches, orders to duty, and clippings and other printed matter. The focus is on Caperton's naval career, with particular emphasis on his command of the cruiser squadron of the Atlantic Fleet which was detailed in 1915-1916 to restore order in Haiti and then in Santo Domingo during revolutions in those countries. A major correspondent is William Shepherd Benson.

Arrangement of the Papers

The collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material and chronologically therein.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Correspondence, 1908-1939, undated <i>See also Oversize</i> (9 folders)
BOX 1	Naval service record
BOX 1	Miscellany, 1913-1916, 1922, 1933-1937, undated <i>See also Oversize</i>
BOX 2	Orders to duty, 1873-1919 (2 folders)
BOX 2	Printed matter
BOX 2	Clippings, 1915-1922, 1929-1930, 1937 <i>See also Oversize</i> (4 folders)
BOX 2	Miscellany, 1917-1922 <i>See also Oversize</i>
BOX 2	Pamphlets
BOX 2	1895, 1900, 1913-1922 (2 folders)
BOX 3	1923-1931, undated (2 folders)
BOX 3	"The Salvo," 1918
BOX 3	Proclamations, 1915-1916
BOX 3	Reports
BOX 3	1915-1916 (4 folders)
BOX 4	(5 folders)
BOX 4	1920 (2 folders)
BOX 5	Undated
BOX 5	Scrapbook, 1915-1918
BOX 5	Speeches, 1917-1919 <i>See also Oversize</i>
BOX 5	Various material, 1916, 1935-1937, undated
BOX OV 1	Oversize
BOX OV 1	Correspondence, 1909 (Container 1)
BOX OV 2	Naval service record
BOX OV 2	Miscellany, 1913 (Container 1)
BOX OV 3-OV 4	Printed matter
BOX OV 3-OV 4	Clippings, 1915-1918 (Container 2)
BOX OV 5-OV 6	Miscellany, 1917 (Container 2)
BOX OV 7	Speeches, 1917 (Container 5)