Collection Summary

Title: William Medill Papers
Span Dates: 1834-1864
ID No.: MSS32524
Creator: Medill, William, 1802-1865
Extent: 2,300 items
Extent: 6 containers
Extent: 2.4 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/mm78032524
Summary: Lawyer, United States representative and governor of Ohio, and United States government official. Correspondence, account books, and miscellaneous material primarily relating to Medill’s service as assistant postmaster general (1845), commissioner of Indian affairs (1845-1850), and first comptroller of the United States treasury (1857-1861).

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
Allen, William, 1803-1879--Correspondence.
Buchanan, James, 1791-1868.
Day, Luther, 1813-1885--Correspondence.
Dodge, Augustus C. (Augustus Caesar), 1812-1883--Correspondence.
Faran, James John, 1808-1892--Correspondence.
Johnson, Richard M. (Richard Mentor), 1780-1850--Correspondence.
Mason, John Y. (John Young), 1799-1859--Correspondence.
Medary, S. (Samuel), 1801-1864--Correspondence.
Medill, William, 1802-1865.
Pierce, Franklin, 1804-1869.
Polk, James K. (James Knox), 1795-1849.
Thurman, Allen Granbery, 1813-1895--Correspondence.
Tod, David, 1805-1868--Correspondence.
Vallandigham, Clement L. (Clement Laird), 1820-1871--Correspondence.

Organizations
Democratic Party (Ohio)
United States. Bureau of Indian Affairs.
United States. Department of the Treasury.
United States. Post Office Department.

Subjects
Antislavery movements.
Indians of North America--Government relations.
Mexican War, 1846-1848.
Oregon question.
Railroads--Political aspects--United States.

Places
Ohio--Politics and government--1787-1865.
Oregon--Boundaries.
United States--Politics and government--1845-1861.

Occupations
Governors--Ohio.
Lawyers.
Public officials.
Representatives, U.S. Congress--Ohio.

Provenance
The papers of William Medill, lawyer, United States representative and governor of Ohio, and United States government official, were purchased by the Library of Congress in 1946.

Transfers
Maps have been transferred to the Library's Geography and Map Division where they are identified as part of these papers.

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The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of William Medill is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions
The papers of William Medill 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 part of these papers is available on one 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 number, William Medill Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note
The papers of William Medill (1802-1865) span the years 1834-1864 and consist of correspondence, account books, and miscellaneous material. The correspondence pertains primarily to Medill's service as first assistant postmaster general, 1845, commissioner of Indian affairs, 1845-1850, and first comptroller of the United States Treasury, 1857-1861. Topics discussed include local Ohio politics; railroad politics; President James K. Polk's settling of the Oregon question; dissatisfaction of Ohio Democrats with the Democratic administrations of Presidents Polk, Franklin Pierce, and James J. Buchanan; abolitionism; and the Mexican War. Correspondents include William Allen, Luther Day, Augustus C. Dodge, James John Faran, Richard M. Johnson, John Y. Mason, S. Medary, Allen Granbery Thurman, David Tod, and Clement L. Vallandigham.
Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material.
## Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
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| BOX 1     | Account books, 1844-1855  
           | (2 folders) |
| BOX 1     | Correspondence  
           | Selections available on microfilm. Shelf no. 8,396 |
| BOX 1     | General  
           | 1834-1839  
           | (5 folders) |
| BOX 2     | 20 Jan. 1840-30 Apr. 1845  
           | (8 folders) |
| BOX 3     | 1 May 1845-26 Mar. 1846  
           | (11 folders) |
| BOX 4     | 6 Apr. 1846-22 Dec. 1850  
           | (10 folders) |
| BOX 5     | 23 Jan. 1851-29 Oct. 1857  
           | (14 folders) |
| BOX 6     | 5 Nov. 1857-18 June 1864  
           | (10 folders) |
| BOX 6     | Miscellany, 1839-1860, undated |