

William Medill Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2000

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm78032524>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009238>

Prepared by Patrick Kerwin

Finding aid encoded by Glenn R. Gardner, 2009

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

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Account books, 1844-1855 (2 folders)
BOX 1	Correspondence Selections available on microfilm. Shelf no. 8,396
BOX 1	General
BOX 1	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