

**Horace Greeley Papers**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**2007**

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm79023937>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009284>

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Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2009  
Revised 2020 March

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Horace Greeley Papers

**Span Dates:** 1812-1928

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1860-1872)

**ID No.:** MSS23937

**Creator:** Greeley, Horace, 1811-1872

**Extent:** 2,000 items

**Extent:** 7 containers

**Extent:** 2.4 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

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

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm79023937>

**Summary:** Journalist. Correspondence, autobiography, writings by and about Greeley, newspaper clippings, scrapbooks, a notebook, printed matter, and other papers pertaining to his life and career as a journalist.

**Online Content:** The papers of Horace Greeley are available on the Library of Congress Web site at <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/collmss.ms000099>.

## 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

Cameron, Simon, 1799-1889--Correspondence.  
Chandler, William E. (William Eaton), 1835-1917--Correspondence.  
Colfax, Schuyler, 1823-1885--Correspondence.  
Dana, Charles A. (Charles Anderson), 1819-1897--Correspondence.  
Davis, Jefferson, 1808-1889.  
Evarts, William Maxwell, 1818-1901--Correspondence.  
Fish, Hamilton, 1808-1893--Correspondence.  
Frémont, Jessie Benton, 1824-1902--Correspondence.  
Greeley family.  
Greeley, Horace, 1811-1872.  
Griswold, Rufus W. (Rufus Wilmot), 1815-1857--Correspondence.  
Nicolay, John G. (John George), 1832-1901--Correspondence.  
Ransom, B. F.--Correspondence.  
Sherman, John, 1823-1900--Correspondence.  
Smith, Gerrit, 1797-1874--Correspondence.  
Wade, B. F. (Benjamin Franklin), 1800-1878--Correspondence.

### Organizations

Liberal Republican Party.  
Whig Party (U.S.)

### Subjects

American newspapers--New York (State)--New York.  
Presidents--United States--Election--1872.  
Printers--New York (State)--New York.  
Publishers and publishing--New York (State)--New York.  
Slavery--United States.

### Places

New York (State)--Politics and government.  
United States--Politics and government--19th century.

## **Titles**

*Horace Greeley Papers at the Library of Congress*  
*New York tribune.*

## **Occupations**

Journalists.

## **Provenance**

The papers of Horace Greeley, journalist, were given to the Library of Congress by Worthington C. Ford in 1903. Additional papers were purchased in 1928, and several small additions were subsequently acquired between 1928 and 1983. A large addition was given by Elizabeth Mills Reid as part of the papers of Whitelaw Reid, Greeley's successor at the *New York Tribune*, in 1956.

## **Processing History**

The papers of Horace Greeley were arranged and described in 1965. Additional material was processed in 1985. The collection was rearranged in 2006 and the finding aid revised in 2007.

## **Copyright Status**

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Horace Greeley in these papers and in other collections of papers in the custody of the Library of Congress has been dedicated to the public.

## **Access and Restrictions**

The papers of Horace Greeley 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.

## **Online Content**

The papers of Horace Greeley are available on the Library of Congress Web site at <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/collmss.ms000099>.

## **Preferred Citation**

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Horace Greeley Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## **Biographical Note**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
1811, Feb. 3	Born, Amherst, N. H.
1826	Apprentice, <i>Northern Spectator</i> , East Poultney, Vt.
1833	Formed a partnership with Francis V. Story and published the <i>Morning Post</i> , New York, N.Y.; the paper soon failed but the partners brought out a tri-weekly called the <i>Constitutionalist</i>
1834	Issued the first copy of the <i>New Yorker</i>
1836	Married Mary Youngs Cheney

1838	In partnership with Thurlow Weed and William Seward issued a Whig paper, the <i>Jeffersonian</i> , Albany, N.Y.
1840	Began publication of another Whig paper, the <i>Log Cabin</i>
1848-1849	Served a three-month term in Congress
1860	Active at the Republican national convention, Chicago, Ill.
1861	Candidate for the United States Senate from New York
1864	Sent by President Abraham Lincoln to Canada to meet with Confederate peace commission
1867	One of the signers of the bail bond for Jefferson Davis
1872	Nominated for president by the Liberal Republican Party and the Democratic Party
1872, Nov. 29	Died, New York, N.Y.

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Horace Greeley (1811-1872) span the years 1812-1928, with most of the collection encompassing the years 1860-1872. The papers include correspondence, typescripts and transcripts of Greeley's letters and writings; articles, notes, lectures, and speeches by and about Greeley; scrapbooks of newspaper clippings and other printed matter; and miscellaneous material.

Incidents of Greeley's boyhood, his early struggle in New York to maintain himself in the printing and publishing business, and the growth and success of the *New York Tribune* that he owned and edited are related in letters from Greeley to Charles A. Dana, B. F. Ransom, Rufus W. Griswold, and others. Other subjects are Whig politics and the slavery issue prior to the Civil War. There is little material relating to Greeley's three-month term in Congress, 1848-1849, or his senatorial aspirations in 1861 and 1867.

Lecture requests, business and editorial matters concerning the *New York Tribune*, New York politics, family illness, the bail bond for Jefferson Davis, the Liberal Republican Party, and the presidential campaign of 1872 are also subjects in the collection.

Prominent correspondents include Simon Cameron, William E. Chandler, Schuyler Colfax, William Maxwell Evarts, Hamilton Fish (1808-1893), Jessie Benton Frémont, John G. Nicolay, John Sherman, Gerrit Smith, and B. F. Wade.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material.

Catalog Record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm79023937>

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