

Justin S. Morrill Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



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

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm79033555>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009307>

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2009
Revised 2023 March

Collection Summary

Title: Justin S. Morrill Papers

Inclusive Dates: 1825-1923

Bulk Dates: 1854-1898

ID No.: MSS33555

Creator: Morrill, Justin S. (Justin Smith), 1810-1898

Extent: 10,600 items

Extent: 77 containers

Extent: 30.8 linear feet

Extent: 52 microfilm reels

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm79033555>

Summary: United States senator and representative from Vermont and merchant. Correspondence, government documents, speeches and writings, printed matter, scrapbooks, and miscellaneous material relating principally to Morrill's career as a congressman and senator.

Online Content: An item in the Justin S. Morrill Papers, "A petition of Colored Citizens of South Carolina, praying that equal rights before the law, and the elective franchise may be granted to them, [1865]" is available on the Library of Congress Web site at <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/collmss.ms000122>.

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

Blaine, James Gillespie, 1830-1893--Correspondence.
Chase, Salmon P. (Salmon Portland), 1808-1873--Correspondence.
Chittenden, L. E. (Lucius Eugene), 1824-1900--Correspondence.
Colfax, Schuyler, 1823-1885--Correspondence.
Dewey, Charles, 1798-1880--Correspondence.
Fish, Hamilton, 1808-1893--Correspondence.
Greeley, Horace, 1811-1872--Correspondence.
Harris, Jedediah H.--Correspondence.
Marsh, Charles, 1765-1849--Correspondence.
Morrill, Justin S. (Justin Smith), 1810-1898.
Nichols, George Ward, 1831-1885--Correspondence.
Page, Carroll Smalley, 1843-1925--Correspondence.
Randall, Henry S. (Henry Stephens), 1811-1876--Correspondence.
Swain, A. N.--Correspondence.
Thomas, Stephen, 1809-1903--Correspondence.
Underwood, Adin B. (Adin Ballou)--Correspondence.
Wharton, Joseph, 1826-1909--Correspondence.

Organizations

United States. Congress. House.
United States. Congress. Senate.

Subjects

Reconstruction (U.S. history, 1865-1877)
School lands--United States.
State universities and colleges--United States.
Tariff--Law and legislation--United States.

Places

United States--Economic policy--19th century.
United States--Politics and government--19th century.
Vermont--Politics and government--19th century.

Occupations

Merchants.
Representatives, U.S. Congress--Vermont.
Senators, U.S. Congress--Vermont.

Acquisition Information

The papers of Justin S. Morrill, U.S. senator and representative from Vermont and merchant, were deposited in the Library of Congress by Morrill's heirs, Charles L. Swan, Charles Downer, and Elmer E. Morrill, in 1920. Parts of the collection were temporarily withdrawn in 1922 to complete a biography of Morrill, before being returned in 1924. Additions received in 1938 and 1939 and the original deposit were converted to a gift in 1942. Other gift and purchased material was received between 1922 and 1933. Elizabeth Sullivan gave additional items in 1963.

Processing History

The papers of Justin S. Morrill were processed by Allen H. Kitchens and Bert C. Shaposka in 1963 and prepared for microfilming in 1978. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

Copyright Status

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

Access and Restrictions

The Morrill Papers 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 is available on fifty-two reels. Consult a reference librarian 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.

Online Content

An item in the Justin S. Morrill Papers, "A petition of Colored Citizens of South Carolina, praying that equal rights before the law, and the elective franchise may be granted to them, [1865]" is available on the Library of Congress Web site at <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/collmss.ms000122>.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, Justin S. Morrill Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1810, Apr. 14	Born, Strafford, Vt.
1825-1828	Merchant clerk, Strafford, Vt.
1828-1831	Portland, Maine
1831-1848	Merchant clerk, Strafford, Vt.
1841	Married Ruth Barrell Swan
1848-1855	Farmer and horticulturist,
1855-1867	Member, United States House of Representatives; author of Morrill Tariff Act, 1861, and Land Grant College Act, 1862
1865-1898	Trustee, University of Vermont
1867-1898	Member, United States Senate
1883-1898	Regent, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.
1898, Dec. 28	Died, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Justin Smith Morrill (1810-1898) cover the period 1825-1923, with the bulk from 1854 to 1898, while he was United States representative and senator from Vermont. A Republican, Morrill served in the House as chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means, and as senator, he was prominent as chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings and Committee on Finance. The collection is organized in three series: [General Correspondence and Related Papers](#), [Speeches and Writings](#), and [Miscellany](#).

Included with the large volume of correspondence in the collection are Senate and House reports and documents, speeches, remarks, and writings, invitations, financial and legal documents, newspaper clippings, pamphlets, scrapbooks, and record books containing demographic and other data relating to Vermont.

Much of the correspondence relates to Morrill's efforts as a congressional representative in behalf of the protective tariff act that bears his name and to his sponsorship of the Morrill Land Grant College Act. Other papers and documents reflect his positions on post-Civil War economic issues and Reconstruction.

Prominent correspondents include James Gillespie Blaine, Salmon P. Chase, L. E. Chittenden, Schuyler Colfax, Charles Dewey, Hamilton Fish (1808-1893), Horace Greeley, Jedediah. H. Harris, Charles Marsh, George Ward Nichols, Carroll Smalley Page, Henry Stephens Randall, A. N. Swain, Stephen Thomas, Adin B. Underwood, and Joseph Wharton.

Organization of the Papers

The collection is arranged in three series:

- [General Correspondence and Related Papers, 1825-1923](#)
- [Speeches and Writings, 1856-1898](#)
- [Miscellany, 1848-1917](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-65 REEL 1-41	<u>General Correspondence and Related Papers, 1825-1923</u>
BOX 1-50 REEL 1-27	<u>Chronological File</u> Bound volumes of letters received with attached and related matter. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 51-65 REEL 28-41	<u>Alphabetical File</u> Mostly letters received with attached and related matter. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent.
BOX 65 REEL 41	<u>Special File</u> Letters received from Jedediah H. Harris. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 66-68 REEL 42-44	<u>Speeches and Writings, 1856-1898</u> Handwritten and printed speeches, writings, and related material. Arranged by type of material and therein chronologically.
BOX 69-77 REEL 45-52	<u>Miscellany, 1848-1917</u> Biographical material, invitations, financial records, photographs, printed matter, newspaper clippings, scrapbooks, and record books containing demographic and other data relating to Vermont. Arranged by type of material.

Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 13,713

Container	Contents
BOX 1-65 REEL 1-41	General Correspondence and Related Papers, 1825-1923
BOX 1-50 REEL 1-27	Chronological File Bound volumes of letters received with attached and related matter. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 1 REEL 1	1825, Aug. 12-1856, Feb. 7
BOX 2 REEL 2	1856, Feb. 8-1857, Dec. 28
BOX 3 REEL 3	1857, Dec. 31-1858, Oct. 21
BOX 4 REEL 4	1858, Oct. 23-1860, May 7
BOX 5 REEL 5	1860, May 8-1862, Mar. 18
BOX 6 REEL 5	1862, Mar. 20-1864, June 4
BOX 7 REEL 6	1864, June 14-1865, Oct. 19
BOX 8 REEL 6	1865, Oct. 21-1866, Jan. 29
BOX 9 REEL 7	1866, Feb. 1-Apr. 15
BOX 10 REEL 7	1866, Apr. 16-June 20
BOX 11 REEL 8	1866, June 21-Sept. 14
BOX 12 REEL 8	1866, Sept. 15-1867, May 6
BOX 13 REEL 9	1867, May 7-1868, Jan. 17
BOX 14 REEL 9	1868, Jan. 18-June 3
BOX 15 REEL 10	1868, June 5-1869, Feb. 27
BOX 16 REEL 10	1869, Mar. 1-Dec. 18
BOX 17 REEL 11	1869, Dec. 19-1870, May 16
BOX 18 REEL 11	1870, May 17-1871, Feb. 6
BOX 19 REEL 12	1871, Feb. 7-1872, Mar. 27
BOX 20 REEL 12	1872, Mar. 18-1873, Mar. 5
BOX 21 REEL 13	1873, Mar. 6-1874, Mar. 18
BOX 22 REEL 13	1874, Mar. 25-1875, Jan. 18
BOX 23 REEL 14	1875, Jan. 20-Nov. 11
BOX 24 REEL 14	1875, Nov. 12-1876, Aug. 29
BOX 25 REEL 15	1876, Aug. 31-1877, Aug. 3
BOX 26 REEL 15	1877, Aug. 10-1878, Apr. 23
BOX 27 REEL 16	1878, Apr. 24-Oct. 17
BOX 28 REEL 16	1878, Oct. 18-1879, Apr. 16
BOX 29 REEL 17	1879, Apr. 19-1880, Oct. 29
BOX 30 REEL 17	1880, Nov. 12-1882, Jan. 24
BOX 31 REEL 18	1882, Jan. 26-1883, Feb. 20
BOX 32 REEL 18	1883, Feb. 26-1884, Feb. 16
BOX 33 REEL 19	1884, Feb. 18-Aug. 30
BOX 34 REEL 19	1884, Sept. 1-1885, Jan. 6
BOX 35 REEL 20	1885, Jan. 8-Sept. 22

General Correspondence and Related Papers, 1825-1923

Container	Contents
BOX 36 REEL 20	1885, Sept. 25-1886, July 22
BOX 37 REEL 21	1886, July 24-1887, Aug. 27
BOX 38 REEL 21	1887, Sept. 1-1889, Jan. 23
BOX 39 REEL 22	1889, Jan. 26-1890, June 27
BOX 40 REEL 22	1890, July 10-1891, May 20
BOX 41 REEL 23	1891, May 21-1892, Oct. 11
BOX 42 REEL 23	1892, Oct. 12-1894, Jan. 17
BOX 43 REEL 24	1894, Jan. 18-Aug. 30
BOX 44 REEL 24	1894, Sept. 2-1895, June 21
BOX 45 REEL 25	1895, July 5-1896, June 30
BOX 46 REEL 25	1896, July 1-Oct. 27
BOX 47 REEL 26	1896, Oct. 28-1897, June 25
BOX 48 REEL 26	1897, June 26-1898, June 28
BOX 49 REEL 27	1898, June 29-1899, Apr. 29
BOX 50 REEL 27	1899, Apr. 30-1923, Jan. 6
BOX 51-65 REEL 28-41	Alphabetical File Mostly letters received with attached and related matter. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent.
BOX 51 REEL 28	“Ab-Be” miscellaneous Barrett, James Benedict, G. G.
BOX 52 REEL 29	“Bi-By” miscellaneous Blaine, James Gillespie. Bowen, Henry C. Brewer, Gardner Buckham, M. H. Bullard, G. B.
BOX 53 REEL 30	“Ca-Co” miscellaneous Casey, Henry B. Chapman, C. H. Chase, Salmon P. Chittenden, L. E. Clark, Albert
BOX 54 REEL 31	“Co-Do” miscellaneous Colfax, Schuyler Colton, E. P. Corcoran, W. W. Dana, Charles Dana, Edward Denison, D. C. Dewey, Charles
BOX 55 REEL 32	“Dr-Fi” miscellaneous Dudley, Daniel B. Enright, J. Fairbanks, Erastus

General Correspondence and Related Papers, 1825-1923

Container	Contents
	Fairbanks, Horace
	Farnham, Roswell
	Field, Rodney B.
	Fish, Hamilton (1808-1893)
BOX 56 REEL 33	“Fi-Gr” miscellaneous
	Foot, Solomon
	Gibbs, M.
BOX 57 REEL 34	“Gr-He” miscellaneous
	Greeley, Horace
	Greene, Luther O.
	Grout, William W.
	Hayes, John L.
	Hebard, William
	Henry, Hugh
BOX 58 REEL 35	“Hi-Ke” miscellaneous
	Houlbrook, Frederick
	Houghton, H. O.
	Hunton, A. P.
	Hutchinson, James
BOX 59 REEL 36	“Ki-Me” miscellaneous
	Kimball, John
	King, Horatio
	Lillie, Justin P.
	Marsh, Charles
	McLain, R. F.
BOX 60 REEL 37	“Mi-Pa” miscellaneous
	Miller, Crosby
	Morrill, J. N.
	Morrill, Justin S.
	Nichols, George
	Page, Carroll S.
	Parish, J. K.
BOX 61 REEL 38	“Pe-Ra” miscellaneous
	Poland, L. P.
	Powers, Preston
	Proctor, Redfield
	Randall, Henry S.
BOX 62 REEL 39	“Re-Sh” miscellaneous
	Redington, E. C.
	Sheldon, Charles
BOX 63 REEL 39	“Si-Te” miscellaneous
	Smith, J. Gregory
	Steele, Jason
	Swain, A. N.
	Swank, James M.
BOX 64 REEL 40	“Te-Wa” miscellaneous

General Correspondence and Related Papers, 1825-1923

Container	Contents
	Tenny, B. F. Thomas, Stephen Tracy, A. Underwood, Adin B. Veasie, J. A.
BOX 65 REEL 41	“Wa-Yu” miscellaneous Unidentified Walton, E. P. Wharton, Joseph White, Andrew D. Willard, C. W.
BOX 65 REEL 41	Special File Letters received from Jedediah H. Harris. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 65 REEL 41	Letters to Jedediah H. Harris, 1825-1847
BOX 66-68 REEL 42-44	Speeches and Writings, 1856-1898 Handwritten and printed speeches, writings, and related material. Arranged by type of material and therein chronologically.
BOX 66 REEL 42	Speeches 1856-1893
BOX 67 REEL 43	1894-1898, undated Remarks, 1879-1898 Writings 1830-1896, undated (including incomplete diary, Apr.-June 1930)
BOX 68 REEL 44	Undated
BOX 69-77 REEL 45-52	Miscellany, 1848-1917 Biographical material, invitations, financial records, photographs, printed matter, newspaper clippings, scrapbooks, and record books containing demographic and other data relating to Vermont. Arranged by type of material.
BOX 69 REEL 45	Biographical material General
BOX 70 REEL 46	General Financial papers Photographs, 1861, undated Printed matter 1848-1887
BOX 71 REEL 47	1867-1917, undated
BOX 72-74 REEL 48-50	Newspaper clippings
BOX 75 REEL 51	Scrapbooks
BOX 76-77 REEL 51-52	Scrapbooks

Vermont record books, by county, including individual occupational data, political affiliation, and other demographic data