

Joseph R. Hawley Papers
A Finding Aid to the 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/mm78025320>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms010129>

Prepared by Christopher M. Beam

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Collection Summary

Title: Joseph R. Hawley Papers

Inclusive Dates: 1638-1906

Bulk Dates: 1841-1906

ID No.: MSS25320

Creator: Hawley, Joseph R. (Joseph Roswell), 1826-1905

Extent: 13,200 items

Extent: 45 containers

Extent: 13.6 linear feet

Extent: 29 microfilm reels

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm78025320>

Summary: Army officer, editor, and United States representative and senator from Connecticut. Correspondence, diaries, notebooks, drafts of speeches, business papers, and memorabilia relating to Hawley's personal and family life and to his business and political work.

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.
Colfax, Schuyler, 1823-1885--Correspondence.
Dana, Richard Henry, Jr., 1815-1882--Correspondence.
Dexter, Franklin Bowditch, 1842-1920--Correspondence.
Douglas, Benjamin, 1816-1894--Correspondence.
Ely, Richard Sheldon, 1818-1894--Correspondence.
Endicott, William Crowninshield, 1826-1900--Correspondence.
Giddings, Joshua R. (Joshua Reed), 1795-1864--Correspondence.
Gillette, Francis, 1807-1879--Correspondence.
Hale, Edward Everett, 1822-1909--Correspondence.
Hawley family.
Hawley, Harriet Ward Foote, 1831-1886--Correspondence.
Hawley, Joseph R. (Joseph Roswell), 1826-1905.
Helper, Hinton Rowan, 1829-1909--Correspondence.
Leavitt, Joshua, 1794-1873--Correspondence.
Lodge, Henry Cabot, 1850-1924--Correspondence.
Loomis, Dwight, 1821-1903--Correspondence.
Mann, Horace, 1796-1859--Correspondence.
Reid, Whitelaw, 1837-1912--Correspondence.
Sherman, John, 1823-1900--Correspondence.
Smith, Gerrit, 1797-1874--Correspondence.
Stanford, Leland, 1824-1893--Correspondence.
Stanton, Edwin M. (Edwin McMasters), 1814-1869--Correspondence.
Sumner, Charles, 1811-1874--Correspondence.
Tourgée, Albion W., 1838-1905--Correspondence.
Tuck, Amos, 1810-1879--Correspondence.
Walker, Amasa, 1799-1875--Correspondence.
Warner, Charles Dudley, 1829-1900--Correspondence.
Welles, Gideon, 1802-1878--Correspondence.

Organizations

Hamilton College (Clinton, N.Y.)--Students.
Republican Party (U.S. : 1854-)
United States Centennial Commission
United States. Army. Connecticut Infantry Regiment, 1st (1861)
United States. Army. Connecticut Infantry Regiment, 7th (1861-1865)
United States. Congress.

Subjects

Abolitionists.
American newspapers--Connecticut--Hartford.
Antislavery movements--Connecticut.
Antislavery movements--New York (State)
Reconstruction (U.S. history, 1865-1877)
Secession--Southern States.
Slavery--United States.
Universities and colleges--New York (State)--Clinton.
Veterans--United States--Societies, etc.

Places

Connecticut--Politics and government.
North Carolina--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.
South Carolina--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.
United States--Centennial celebrations, etc.
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Campaigns.
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Veterans.
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.
United States--Politics and government--1849-1877.
United States--Politics and government--1865-1933.
Virginia--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Occupations

Army officers.
Newspaper editors.
Representatives, U.S. Congress--Connecticut.
Senators, U.S. Congress--Connecticut.

Acquisition Information

The papers of Joseph R. Hawley, editor, army officer, and United States representative and senator from Connecticut, were given to the Library of Congress by his wife, Harriet Foote Hawley, in 1921.

Processing History

The papers of Joseph R. Hawley were arranged and described in preparation for microfilming in 1978. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

Transfers

Items have been transferred from the Manuscript Division to other custodial divisions of the Library. Photographs have been transferred to the Prints and Photographs Division. Maps have been transferred to the Geography and Map Division. All transfers are identified in these divisions as part of the Joseph R. Hawley Papers. Patrons are encouraged to contact these divisions in advance of a research visit.

Copyright Status

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

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Joseph R. Hawley 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 twenty-nine 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 as available.

Preferred Citation

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

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1826, Oct. 31	Born, Stewartville, Richmond County, N.C.
1837	Moved with family to Connecticut
1847	Graduated with honors, Hamilton College, Clinton, N.Y.
1850	Admitted to Connecticut bar and commenced practice
1852	Delegate to the national convention of the Free Soil Party Editor, <i>Charter Oak</i> , an abolitionist journal
1855	Married Harriet Ward Foote
1856	Helped organize Connecticut Republican Party
1857	Editor, <i>Hartford Evening Press</i>
1861	Commissioned a captain in the First Regiment, Connecticut Volunteer Infantry; promoted to lieutenant colonel of the Seventh Regiment, Connecticut Volunteers
1862	Colonel, Seventh Regiment, Connecticut Volunteers
1864	Brigadier general of United States Volunteers
1865	Brevetted major general of United States Volunteers
1866	Discharged from the army Elected governor of Connecticut
1867	Editor, <i>Hartford Courant</i>
1868	Chairman, Republican national convention, Chicago, Ill.
1872	Elected to the Forty-Second Congress to fill vacancy caused by death of Julius L. Strong
1872-1876	President, United States Centennial Commission
1874	Defeated for reelection to the United States House of Representatives
1879-1881	Member, United States House of Representatives
1881-1905	Member, United States Senate
1904	Declined renomination as senatorial candidate
1905, Mar. 17	Died, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Joseph Roswell Hawley (1826-1905) span the years 1638-1906, with the bulk of the material dated after 1841. The papers include a large amount of correspondence, supplemented by [diaries, notebooks](#), a [military file](#), [business papers](#), [speeches and statements](#), and [miscellaneous](#) material. The greater part of the correspondence consists of [bound volumes of letters](#) to Hawley from his friends, relatives, and political and business associates. Hawley's correspondence also includes some [unbound letters](#), 1846-1905, as well as a letterbook, 1889-1892, containing copies of letters Hawley sent during some of his years as a United States senator.

In addition to the correspondence, significant items in the papers include the diaries and notebooks; scrapbooks of the 1876 United States Centennial Commission, of which Hawley was chairman; notes and drafts of speeches, lectures, and other public statements; business papers such as stocks and bonds, bills and receipts, accounts and patent applications; and items such as muster rolls, casualty lists, orders, inventories of captured property that Hawley accumulated while serving from 1861 to 1866 in the Union Army in northern Virginia, the sea islands of South Carolina, and Wilmington, N.C.

The Hawley Papers, especially as represented in the correspondence, constitute an important source on student life at Hamilton College in the 1840s, the growth of the antislavery movement in upstate New York and Connecticut, the formation and early years of the Republican Party, and the secession crisis and the Civil War. The papers from the postwar period cover a wide range of topics from the activities of Union Army veterans groups to the problems of Reconstruction and the financial policies of the Republican Party in the last three decades of the nineteenth century.

The papers also include correspondence of Hawley's wife, Harriet Foote Hawley, for the years 1856-1886. Her correspondence is mostly with friends and family, particularly her sisters, and relates to family matters with occasional comments about current events. Harriet Hawley's correspondence with her husband, especially during the Civil War years, is part of Hawley's bound correspondence described above.

Prominent correspondence in the collection include James Gillespie Blaine, Schuyler Colfax, Richard Henry Dana (1815-1882), Franklin Bowditch Dexter, Benjamin Douglas, Richard S. Ely, William Crowninshield Endicott, Joshua R. Giddings, Francis Gillette, Edward Everett Hale, Hinton Rowan Helper, Joshua Leavitt, Henry Cabot Lodge (1850-1924), Dwight Loomis, Horace Mann, Whitelaw Reid, John Sherman, Gerrit Smith, Leland Stanford, Edwin McMasters Stanton, Charles Sumner, Albion Winegar Tourgée, Amos Tuck, Amasa Walker, Charles Dudley Warner, and Gideon Welles, as well as Hawley's father, Francis Hawley.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in seven series:

- [Correspondence Set I, 1638-1906](#)
- [Correspondence Set II, 1817-1905](#)
- [Diaries and Notebooks, 1845-1887](#)
- [Military File, 1861-1906](#)
- [Business Papers, 1810-1906](#)
- [Speeches and Statements, 1839-1900](#)
- [Miscellany, 1723-1906](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
REEL 1-24 REEL 1-12	<u>Correspondence Set I, 1638-1906</u> Bound volumes of letters received. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 25-27 REEL 13-14	<u>Correspondence Set II, 1817-1905</u> Letters sent and received by Hawley and others, a letterbook, and letters received by Hawley's wife, Harriet Foote Hawley.
BOX 28 REEL 15-16	<u>Diaries and Notebooks, 1845-1887</u> Brief diaries kept as a student, journalist, and as commissioner of boundary dispute between Connecticut and New York. Notebooks kept as a student, soldier, politician, and civil servant. Arranged in part chronologically and sometimes by subject.
BOX 28-30 REEL 16-17	<u>Military File, 1861-1906</u> Casualty lists, muster rolls, orders, ordnance requests, and courts-martial. Arranged by subject.
BOX 30-31 REEL 17-18	<u>Business Papers, 1810-1906</u> Accounts, bills and receipts, deeds, mortgages, and stocks and bonds. Arranged by type of material and therein chronologically.
BOX 32-34 REEL 19-20	<u>Speeches and Statements, 1839-1900</u> Drafts and notes of speeches and statements. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 35-45 REEL 20-29	<u>Miscellany, 1723-1906</u> Analecta, clippings, and memorabilia. Analecta arranged alphabetically by subject; clippings arranged chronologically; and memorabilia arranged by type of material.

Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 17,595

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REEL 1-24 REEL 1-12	Correspondence Set I, 1638-1906 Bound volumes of letters received. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 1 REEL 1	31 May 1638-14 Apr. 1847
BOX 2 REEL 1	19 Apr. 1847-26 July 1852
BOX 3 REEL 2	27 July 1852-3 Feb. 1856
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BOX 5 REEL 3	24 Apr. 1858-4 Feb. 1860
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BOX 8 REEL 4	29 Dec. 1861-21 Oct. 1862
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BOX 14 REEL 7	1 Sept. 1865-29 Oct. 1866
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Correspondence Set II, 1817-1905

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BOX 27 REEL 15	Records of letters written
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BOX 27 REEL 15	1872-1885
BOX 28 REEL 15-16	Diaries and Notebooks, 1845-1887 Brief diaries kept as a student, journalist, and as commissioner of boundary dispute between Connecticut and New York. Notebooks kept as a student, soldier, politician, and civil servant. Arranged in part chronologically and sometimes by subject.
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BOX 29 REEL 16	Abstracts, lists, and requisitions, 31 Mar. 1863-30 Apr. 1864
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Military File, 1861-1906

Container

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Miscellany, 1723-1906

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Miscellany, 1723-1906

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