

# Samuel McGowan Papers

## A Finding Aid to the Papers in the Naval Historical Foundation Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress  
Washington, D.C.  
2011

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm70055145>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms011178>

Prepared by Ruth S. Nicholson

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2011

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Samuel McGowan Papers

**Span Dates:** 1883-1943

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1900-1920)

**ID No.:** MSS55145

**Creator:** McGowan, Samuel, 1870-1934

**Extent:** 2,000 items

**Extent:** 8 containers

**Extent:** 3 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

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

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm70055145>

**Summary:** Naval officer. General correspondence, orders to duty, subject files, newspaper clippings, and miscellaneous material relating primarily to McGowan's duties as paymaster general of the navy, 1914-1920, and to his interest in changing naval regulations he regarded as discriminatory.

## 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

Andrews, Philip, 1866-1945.

Baruch, Bernard M. (Bernard Mannes), 1870-1965.

Bonaparte, Charles J. (Charles Joseph), 1851-1921--Correspondence.

Cowie, Thomas Jefferson, 1857-1936--Correspondence.

Daniels, Josephus, 1862-1948--Correspondence.

McGowan family--Correspondence.

McGowan, Samuel, 1870-1934.

Roosevelt, Franklin D. (Franklin Delano), 1882-1945--Correspondence.

Tillman, Benjamin R. (Benjamin Ryan), 1847-1918--Correspondence.

Wilson, Woodrow, 1856-1924--Correspondence.

### Organizations

United States. Navy--Regulations.

United States. Navy--Supplies and stores.

United States. Navy. Supply Corps.

### Subjects

World War, 1914-1918.

### Occupations

Naval officers.

## Provenance

The papers of Samuel McGowan, naval officer, were deposited in the Library of Congress by the Naval Historical Foundation in 1968 and converted to a gift in 1998.

## Processing History

The papers of Samuel McGowan were arranged and described in 1973. The finding aid was revised in 2011.

## Additional Guides

In 1973, the Library published *Colby Mitchell Chester, William Freeland Fullam, Samuel McGowan, and Henry Croskey Mustin: A Register of Their Papers in the Library of Congress*.

## Copyright Status

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

## Access and Restrictions

The papers of Samuel McGowan 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.

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Samuel McGowan Papers, Naval Historical Foundation Collection, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

Date	Event
1870, Sept. 1	Born, Laurens, S. C.
1889	A.B., University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C.
1891.	LL.B., University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C
1894	Appointed assistant paymaster, United States Navy
1894-1897	Duty in USS <i>Minnesota</i> , USS <i>Dolphin</i> , USS <i>Marblehead</i> , and USS <i>Michigan</i>
1903-1908 .	Duty at Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, Washington, D.C
1906	Promoted to pay inspector
1908	Fleet paymaster, Atlantic Fleet
1909	Purchasing pay officer, United States Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C.
1910.	In charge of Naval Pay Office, United States Navy Yard, Philadelphia, Pa
1913	Fleet paymaster, Atlantic Fleet
1914-1920	Paymaster general, United States Navy, and chief, Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, with rank of rear admiral
1920	Retired from the United States Navy
1925	Member, highway commission, South Carolina
1934, Nov. 11	Died, Laurens, S. C.

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Samuel McGowan (1870-1934) span the years 1883-1943, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1900-1920. The collection is organized into orders to duty, correspondence, a subject file, and miscellany and therein alphabetically by name of person, topic, or type of material.

The correspondence consists of letters to family members and official papers concerning McGowan's duties as paymaster. Prominent correspondents include Philip Andrews, Bernard M. Baruch, Charles J. Bonaparte, Thomas Jefferson Cowie, Josephus Daniels, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Benjamin R. Tillman, and Woodrow Wilson.

The subject file includes material pertaining to the Pay Department of the Atlantic Fleet, the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts in World War I, and McGowan's role in the changing of naval regulations. McGowan objected to what he regarded as unfair discriminations against officers who were not line officers, such as those in medical categories and construction units. Partly in response to his protests, the regulations were ultimately changed. The papers also contain two scrapbooks concerning McGowan's duty as paymaster general in World War I.

## **Arrangement of the Papers**

This collection is arranged into orders to duty, correspondence, a subject file, and miscellany and therein alphabetically by name of person, topic, or type of material.

## Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Orders to duty, 1894-1920
BOX 1	Correspondence, 1883-1943
BOX 1	“A” miscellaneous
BOX 1	Andrews, Philip
BOX 1	“B” miscellaneous
BOX 1	Ball, Richard T. M.
BOX 1	Baruch, Bernard M.
BOX 1	Biscoe, Harry E.
BOX 1	Bonaparte, Charles J.
BOX 1	Bryan, Samuel
BOX 1	“C” miscellaneous
BOX 1	Cowie, Thomas Jefferson
BOX 2	“D” miscellaneous
BOX 2	DeLancy, Charles H.
BOX 2	Dewey, Mildred McLean
BOX 2	Dial, Haskell
BOX 2	Dyer, George P.
BOX 2	“E” miscellaneous
BOX 2	“F” miscellaneous
BOX 2	Fite, William C.
BOX 2	“G” miscellaneous
BOX 2	“H” miscellaneous
BOX 2	Hagner, I. Thomas
BOX 2	Hancock, John M.
BOX 2	Harris, Henry T. B.
BOX 2	Hatton, Elizabeth S.
BOX 2	Hatton, Richard
BOX 2	Hicks, Thomas
BOX 2	Holmes, H. McGowan
BOX 2	Holmes, James G.
BOX 2	Hoover, William D.
BOX 2	“I-K” miscellaneous
BOX 2	Jackson, Victor S.
BOX 3	“L” miscellaneous
BOX 3	Lathrop, Patrick T. M.
BOX 3	Lehman, Herbert H.
BOX 3	Littlefield, Charles W.
BOX 3	Long, John R.
BOX 3	“M-N” miscellaneous
BOX 3	McDonald, Mitchell
BOX 3	McGowan, James F.

## Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 3	McGowan, Julia Ann Farrow
BOX 3	McGowan, Pattillo H.
BOX 3	Merriam, John H.
BOX 3	Nicholls, Samuel J.
BOX 3	“O” miscellaneous
BOX 3	“P” miscellaneous
BOX 3	Poullain, Lizzie B.
BOX 3	Pulsifer, Pitman
BOX 3	“R” miscellaneous
BOX 3	Radford, Cyrus S.
BOX 3	Rawlings, Bettie
BOX 3	Ring, James A.
BOX 4	Rogers, Eustace B.
BOX 4	Roosevelt, Franklin D.
BOX 4	Ryan, Eugene D.
BOX 4	“S” miscellaneous
BOX 4	Searle, Victoria
BOX 4	Spafford, Edward E.
BOX 4	Stackhouse, George M.
BOX 4	“T” miscellaneous
BOX 4	Tillman, Benjamin R.
BOX 4	Tobey, Eugene C.
BOX 4	Tumulty, Joseph P.
BOX 4	“U-Y” miscellaneous
BOX 4	Williamson, Thom, Jr.
BOX 4	Wilson, William L.
BOX 4	Wilson, Woodrow
BOX 4	Memoranda, 1914-1920
BOX 4	Selection of McGowan’s letters and memoranda, 1902-1920, with introduction, 1943
BOX 5	Subject file, 1895-1920
BOX 5	Accounting
BOX 5	American Red Cross
BOX 5	Balanced bids
BOX 5	Civil War roll of the United States Treasury
BOX 5	Coal Comptroller of the United States Treasury
BOX 5	Dehydrated foods
BOX 5	Fleet paymaster, Atlantic Fleet
BOX 5	Fleet paymaster’s inspections
BOX 5	Fuel facilities
BOX 5	Fuel oil
BOX 6	Homestead and McWilliams tracts
BOX 6	Increase the efficiency of the United States Navy
BOX 6	Bill
BOX 6	Congressional hearings
BOX 6	Correspondence
BOX 6	Marseille meat mixup

## Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 6	Naval militia
BOX 6	Naval War Relief Committee
BOX 6	Navy regulations
BOX 6	Benson, William S.
BOX 6	Daniels, Josephus
BOX 6	Galley proofs
BOX 6	Navy uniforms
BOX 6	Officers' club, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
BOX 7	Pay Corps
BOX 7	Provisions, specifications, and food substitutes
BOX 7	Simonds, Louis D., loan
BOX 7	Southern Railway Co.
BOX 7	Stock Division,
BOX 7	Bureau of Supplies and Accounts
BOX 7	"Supplies in War"
BOX 7	"Thomas McGowan" letter
BOX 7	Bonaparte, Charles J.
BOX 7	Rogers, Eustace B.
BOX 7	United States Food Administration
BOX 7	USS <i>Solace</i> investigation
BOX 7	Woman suffrage
BOX 7	Miscellany, 1893-1919
BOX 7	Dewey, George, diary, given to McGowan by Mildred M. Dewey, 1904
BOX 7	Leases and receipts
BOX 7	List of McGowan's papers
BOX 7	Memorabilia including calling cards, invitations, and programs
BOX 7	Organization chart, Bureau of Supplies and Accounts
BOX 8	Photographs, John M. Hancock's home
BOX 8	Printed matter, 1894-1916
BOX 8	Scrapbooks