

**Daniel Augustus Tompkins Papers**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**2012**

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm78043042>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms012114>

Prepared by Frank Tusa

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2012

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Daniel Augustus Tompkins Papers

**Span Dates:** 1887-1920

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1899-1914)

**ID No.:** MSS43042

**Creator:** Tompkins, Daniel Augustus, 1851-1914

**Extent:** 2,000 items

**Extent:** 10 containers

**Extent:** 3.8 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

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

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm78043042>

**Summary:** Engineer and manufacturer. Correspondence, speeches, articles, books, newspaper clippings, and other papers reflecting Tompkins's views on the economic development of the South and relating to public issues of the early twentieth century.

## 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

Tompkins, Daniel Augustus, 1851-1914.

### Subjects

Economics--Southern States.

Economics.

Money.

Tariff.

### Places

United States--Economic conditions--1865-1918.

United States--Economic policy.

United States--Politics and government--1901-1953.

### Occupations

Engineers.

Manufacturers.

## Provenance

The papers of Daniel Augustus Tompkins, engineer and manufacturer, were given to the Library of Congress by Tompkins's sister, Mrs. G. N. Ennett, in 1929.

## Processing History

The papers of Daniel Augustus Tompkins were arranged and described in 1969. The finding aid was revised in 2012.

## Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Daniel Augustus Tompkins is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

## Access and Restrictions

The papers of Daniel Augustus Tompkins 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, Daniel Augustus Tompkins Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

Date	Event
1851, Oct. 12	Born, Edgefield County, S.C.
1873	Graduated, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, N.Y.
1873-1882	Employed as machinist-engineer in New York, Pennsylvania, Germany, and Missouri
1882	Established an engineering and contracting firm, Charlotte, N.C.
1886	Organized Southern Cotton Oil Co.
1898	Appointed to U.S. Industrial Commission
1899	Published <i>Cotton Mill, Commercial Features</i> . Charlotte, N.C.: the author Published <i>Cotton Mill Processes and Calculations</i> . Charlotte, N.C.: the author
1900	Published <i>American Commerce, Its Expansion</i> . Charlotte, N.C.: the author
1901	Published <i>Cotton and Cotton Oil</i> . Charlotte, N.C.: the author
1914, Oct. 18	Died, Montreat, N.C.

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Daniel Augustus Tompkins (1851-1914) span the years 1887-1920, with the bulk of the material concentrated in 1899-1914. The collection consists primarily of correspondence, speeches, and articles, supplemented by books, newspaper clippings, and miscellaneous material. The collection is organized into [General Correspondence](#); [Speech, Article, and Book File](#); and [Miscellany](#) series.

The collection focuses on Tompkins's views on the economic development of the South and on major public topics in the early twentieth century. There is a very limited amount of material on his personal life, although his business interests receive some attention in the [General Correspondence](#) series and in the newspaper clippings and printed matter portions of the [Miscellany](#).

Tompkins, a Southern industrialist, spoke and wrote extensively on the theme that manufacturing must replace agriculture as the foundation of the Southern economy. The [Speech, Article, and Book File](#) documents his economic views and provides insights into the condition of the Southern economy in the late nineteenth-early twentieth century. The social concepts that underlay Tompkins's economic views are also clearly developed, as are his views on such major economic and political issues as currency and tariff reform.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in three series:

- [General Correspondence, 1898-1914](#)
- [Speech, Article, and Book File, 1889-1920](#)
- [Miscellany, 1887-1914](#)

## Description of Series

### Container

### Series

BOX 1-2

#### General Correspondence, 1898-1914

Letters received and copies of letters sent.  
Arranged chronologically.

BOX 2-7

#### Speech, Article, and Book File, 1889-1920

Primarily speeches, articles, papers, pamphlets, and books written by Tompkins, supplemented by numerous unsigned articles (probably by Tompkins) and a biography of him.  
Arranged by type of material and chronologically therein wherever possible.

BOX 8-10

#### Miscellany, 1887-1914

Reports, proceedings, minutes, bills, printed matter, bound and unbound newspaper clippings, and miscellaneous material.  
Arranged by type of material and chronologically therein wherever possible.

# Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-2	<b>General Correspondence, 1898-1914</b> Letters received and copies of letters sent. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 1	1898-1911
BOX 2	1912-1914, undated
BOX 2-7	<b>Speech, Article, and Book File, 1889-1920</b> Primarily speeches, articles, papers, pamphlets, and books written by Tompkins, supplemented by numerous unsigned articles (probably by Tompkins) and a biography of him. Arranged by type of material and chronologically therein wherever possible.
BOX 2	Unbound speeches, 1889-1911, undated
BOX 3	Bound speeches, 1900-1909
BOX 3	Unbound articles
BOX 3	1901-1914
BOX 4	Undated
BOX 5	Undated
BOX 5	Bound articles, papers, and pamphlets, 1899-1910
BOX 6	Writings in <i>Evening Chronicle</i> and other newspapers, 1903-1907
BOX 6	<i>American Commerce, Its Expansion</i> , 1900
BOX 6	<i>Cotton Mill, Commercial Features</i> , 1899
BOX 7	<i>Cotton Mill, Processes and Calculations</i> , first and second editions, 1899, 1902
BOX 7	<i>A Builder of the New South: Being the Story of the Life Work of Daniel Augustus Tompkins</i> by George Tayloe Winston, 1920
BOX 8-10	<b>Miscellany, 1887-1914</b> Reports, proceedings, minutes, bills, printed matter, bound and unbound newspaper clippings, and miscellaneous material. Arranged by type of material and chronologically therein wherever possible.
BOX 8	Reports, proceedings, minutes, and bills, 1897-1912, undated
BOX 8	Printed matter, 1893-1908, undated
BOX 8	Loose newspaper clippings
BOX 9	Bound clippings
BOX 9	1887-1901
BOX 10	1907-1914, with fragments of Treasury Department report for 1903
BOX 10	Miscellaneous items