

F. W. Pickens and Milledge L. Bonham Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2023

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm79036152>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms016029>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2016
Revised 2023 October

Collection Summary

Title: F. W. Pickens and Milledge L. Bonham Papers

Inclusive Dates: 1837-1920

Bulk Dates: 1860-1864

ID No.: MSS36152

Creator: F. W. Pickens (Francis Wilkinson), 1805-1869

Creator: Bonham, Milledge L. (Milledge Luke), 1813-1890

Extent: 400 items

Extent: 3 containers

Extent: .6 linear feet

Extent: 2 microfilm reels

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm79036152>

Summary: Governor of South Carolina (F. W. Pickens), and governor of South Carolina, (Milledge L. Bonham).

Correspondence, reports, resolutions, military papers, applications for office, petitions, administrative papers, memoranda, and newspaper clippings relating primarily to the governorships of Pickens and Bonham and to the Civil War.

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

Barclay, R. C., active 1861--Correspondence.

Beauregard, G. T. (Gustave Toutant), 1818-1893--Correspondence.

Bonham, Milledge L. (Milledge Luke), 1813-1890. F.W. Pickens and Milledge L. Bonham papers. 1837-1920.

Cobb, Howell, 1815-1868--Correspondence.

Echols, William H., -1909--Correspondence.

Forsyth, John, 1780-1841--Correspondence.

Garlington, A. C. (Albert Creswell), 1822-1885--Correspondence.

Gourdin, Robert N., 1812-1894--Correspondence.

Hayne, J. W. (South Carolina attorney general)--Correspondence.

Mallory, Stephen R. (Stephen Russell), 1813-1873--Correspondence.

Perry, Madison Starke, 1814-1865--Correspondence.

Pickens, F. W. (Francis Wilkinson), 1805-1869.

Walker, Henry Pinckney, 1816--approximately 1890--Correspondence.

Walker, Leroy Pope, 1817-1884--Correspondence.

Walker, W. S. (Confederate army officer)--Correspondence.

Places

Confederate States of America--History.

South Carolina--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

South Carolina--Politics and government--1775-1865.

South Carolina--Politics and government--1861-1865.

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Titles

F.W. Pickens papers

Francis Wilkinson Pickens papers

Milledge L. Bonham papers

Occupations

Governors--South Carolina.

Acquisition Information

The papers of F. W. Pickens, governor of South Carolina (1860-1862), and Milledge L. Bonham, governor of South Carolina (1862-1864), were obtained by the Library of Congress through gift and purchase between 1903 and 1926.

Processing History

The F. W. Pickens and Milledge L. Bonham Papers were organized in bound volumes in 1947 and microfilmed in 1967. The finding aid was created in 2016. The finding aid was updated in 2023 by Maria Farmer as part of a division-wide remediation project by the Inclusive Description Working Group.

Additional Guides

The papers of F. W. Pickens and Milledge L. Bonham collection are described in the *Handbook of Manuscripts in the Library of Congress* (Washington, D.C., 1918): 328-329.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of F. W. Pickens and Milledge L. Bonham is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of F. W. Pickens and Milledge L. Bonham 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 two reels. Consult reference staff 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.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, F. W. Pickens and Milledge L. Bonham Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

F. W. Pickens

Date	Event
1805, Apr.	Born, Togadoo, Colleton County, S.C.
1829	Admitted to the bar
1832-1834	Member, South Carolina house of representatives
1834-1843	Member, U.S. House of Representatives
1844-1846	Member, South Carolina senate
1856	Married Lucy Petway Holcombe (died 1899)

1858-1860	Minister to Russia
1860-1862	Governor of South Carolina
1869, Jan. 25	Died, Edgefield, S.C.

Milledge L. Bonham

Date	Event
1813, Dec. 25	Born, Red Bank (now Saluda), S.C.
1834	Graduated, South Carolina College (now University of South Carolina), Columbia, S.C.
1836	Major and adjutant general, South Carolina Brigade, in the Seminole War
1837	Admitted to the bar and commenced law practice, Edgefield, S.C.
1846-1848	Lieutenant colonel and colonel, Twelfth Regiment, United States Infantry, during Mexican War
1840-1843	Member, South Carolina house of representatives
1848-1857	Solicitor, southern circuit of South Carolina
1857-1860	Member, U.S. House of Representatives
1861	Appointed major general and commander, Army of South Carolina, by Governor F. W. Pickens (February); appointed brigadier general (April)
1862	Entered Confederate Congress
1862-1864	Governor of South Carolina
1865	Appointed brigadier general of cavalry, Confederate Army
1865-1866	Member, South Carolina house of representatives
1878	Appointed state railroad commissioner, South Carolina
1890, Aug. 27	Died, White Sulphur Springs, N.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Francis Wilkinson Pickens (1805-1869) and Milledge L. Bonham (1813-1890) span the years 1837-1920, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1860-1864. The collection consists of correspondence, reports, resolutions, military papers, applications for office, petitions, administrative papers, memoranda, and newspaper clippings relating primarily to the governorships in South Carolina during the Civil War period of Pickens, 1860-1862, and Bonham, 1862-1864. Topics include military appointments and preparations, slavery, the treatment of enslaved people and free African Americans, and official proclamations and reports relating to the war.

Correspondents of Governor Pickens include R. C. Barclay, John Forsyth, A. C. Garlington, Robert N. Gourdin, J. W. Hayne, Stephen R. Mallory, M. S. Perry, and L. P. Walker. Correspondents of Governor Bonham include P. G. T. Beauregard, Howell Cobb, William H. Echols, J. W. Hayne, H. Pinckney Walker, and W. S. Walker.

Arrangement of the Papers

The collection is organized chronologically in bound volumes

Container List

Microfilm shelf no. 13,775

Container	Contents
BOX 1 REEL 1	Vol. 1, 1837, July 16-1861, Jan. 30
BOX 2 REEL 1	Vol. 2, 1861, Jan. 31-1863, Feb. 1
BOX 3 REEL 2	Vol. 3, 1863, Feb. 2-1920, Sept. 4