

Donald McDonald Dickinson Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2016

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm78018440>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms016057>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2016

Collection Summary

Title: Donald McDonald Dickinson Papers

Span Dates: 1863-1917

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1887-1898)

ID No.: MSS18440

Creator: Dickinson, McDonald, 1846-1917

Extent: 350 items

Extent: 3 containers

Extent: 1.2 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm78018440>

Summary: Lawyer and U.S. postmaster general. Correspondence and miscellaneous material relating mainly to Dickinson's tenure as postmaster general and as senior counsel for the U.S. Bering Sea Commission.

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

Dickinson, Donald McDonald, 1846-1917.

Field, Stephen J. (Stephen Johnson), 1816-1899--Correspondence.

Lansing, Robert, 1864-1928--Correspondence.

Olney, Richard, 1835-1917--Correspondence.

Organizations

Bering Sea Commission.

United States. Postmaster General.

Subjects

Bering Sea controversy.

Sealing--Bering Sea.

Sealing--Law and legislation.

Occupations

Cabinet officers.

Lawyers.

Provenance

The papers of Donald McDonald Dickinson, lawyer and U.S. postmaster general, were purchased by the Library of Congress from 1936 to 1939.

Processing History

The Donald McDonald Dickinson Papers were processed circa 1955. The finding aid was created in 2016.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Donald McDonald Dickinson is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Donald McDonald Dickinson 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, Donald McDonald Dickinson Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1846, Jan. 17	Born, Oswego, N.Y.
1867	Graduated, University of Michigan Law School, Ann Arbor, Mich.
1880-1885	Member, Democratic National Committee from Michigan
1887-1889	Postmaster general
1897	Senior counsel, U.S. Bering Sea Commission
1902	Member of U.S. court to adjust controversy between the U.S. and the Republic of Salvador
1917, Oct. 15	Died, Detroit, Mich.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Donald M. Dickinson (1846-1917) span the years 1863-1917, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1887-1898. The collection consists of official, political, and personal correspondence and miscellaneous biographical material. Included are letterbooks of personal correspondence during the period Dickinson was postmaster general. There is also correspondence with Robert Lansing and Richard Olney relating to Dickinson's duties as senior counsel for the U.S. at the Bering Sea Commission and typed copies of letters from Stephen J. Field.

Arrangement of the Papers

The collection is organized by type of material.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Biographical sketches
BOX 1	Report to Secretary of State John Sherman on awards of the Bering Sea Commission, 1897
BOX 1	Obituary
BOX 1	Appointment certificate, delegate to Convention on Western Waterways from Michigan, 1899
BOX 1	Typed copy of letters from Stephen J. Field to Dickinson, 1887-1896
BOX 1	Letterpress copies of postmaster general correspondence
BOX 1	1887, Dec. 30-1888, Mar. 31
BOX 2	1888, Mar. 31-Sept. 12
BOX 2	1888, Sept. 13
BOX 3	General correspondence
BOX 3	1863-1864
BOX 3	1867
BOX 3	1885-1898
	(15 folders)
BOX 3	1902
BOX 3	1912-1917
	(2 folders)