Collection Summary
Title: William H. Schuetze Papers
Span Dates: 1881-1903
ID No.: MSS016071
Creator: Schuetze, William H. (William Henry), 1853-1902
Extent: 50 items
Extent: 3 containers
Extent: 2 oversize
Extent: 1.2 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English, Russian, and German
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm2016086115
Summary: United States naval officer. Correspondence, certificates, diaries, printed materials, scrapbooks, ledgers, and other papers related to his Navy experience primarily regarding his involvement in search and rescue operations for Jeannette (ship) arctic expedition.

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

Organizations
Jeannette (Ship)
Jeannette Expedition (1879-1881)

Subjects
Shipwreck survival--Arctic Ocean.
Shipwrecks--Arctic Ocean.

Places
Arctic regions--Discovery and exploration--American.
North Pole--Discovery and exploration--American.

Titles
William Henry Schuetze papers

Occupations
Naval officers.

Provenance
The papers of William H. Schuetze, commander in the United States Navy, were given to the Library of Congress by Gabrielle T. Hill in 2016.

Copyright Status
The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of William H. Schuetze is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).
Access and Restrictions

The papers of William H. Schuetze Papers 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, William H. Schuetze Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1853, July 18</td>
<td>Born, St. Louis, Mo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1873</td>
<td>Graduated from United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1874</td>
<td>Promoted to Ensign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1878</td>
<td>Promoted to Master</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1882</td>
<td>Ordered to special duty to search for survivors of the USS <em>Jeanette</em> (ship) arctic expedition and transport to the United States the remains of those who perished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1885</td>
<td>Appointed Midshipman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1885</td>
<td>Promoted to Lieutenant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1885-1886</td>
<td>Mission in Siberia to distribute gifts to individuals who aided survivors in the USS <em>Jeanette</em> (ship) expedition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1886</td>
<td>Ordered to duty in the Bureau of Navigation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1892</td>
<td>Became Inspector of the Naval Militia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1898</td>
<td>Ordered to the USS <em>Iowa</em> (battleship) during the Spanish-American War</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>Became superintendent in the Department of Navy Compasses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902, April 4</td>
<td>Died in Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scope and Content Note

The papers of William H. Schuetze (1853-1902) span the years 1881-1903 and relate primarily to his experience as a member of the mission searching for survivors and remains of the USS *Jeanette* (ship) arctic expedition, an ill-fated attempt in 1879-1881 to reach the North Pole by ship via a theorized warm-water route from the Pacific Ocean. In addition to activities associated with the rescue mission, the collection also documents acknowledgements of sympathy and gratitude of the United States government to survivors of deceased crew members and to Russian officials. Included in the papers are correspondence, diaries which contain mission stores information and a daily events log, ledgers, maps of the areas traveled by Schuetze, scrapbooks, printed materials, and oversize.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material.
## Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| BOX 1     | Correspondence, 1885, undated  
            (2 folders) |
| BOX 1     | Certificates, 1882-1886 *See also Oversize* |
| BOX 1     | Diaries, 1884-1886  
            (2 folders) |
| BOX 2     | Ledgers, 1882-1883  
            (2 folders) |
| BOX 2     | Miscellany, undated |
| BOX 2     | Printed materials, 1884-1888, 1895  
            (5 folders) |
| BOX 3     | Scrapbooks, 1881-1886, 1902-1903  
            (2 folders) |
| BOX OV 1-OV 2 | Oversize, 1881-1882, undated  
            (2 folders) |
| BOX OV 1  | Certificates, maps, weather records, and a passport, 1882-1883, undated |
| BOX OV 2  | Russian certificates, 1882-1886 |