

**Records of the U.S. House of Representatives**  
**RG.233.35.House**  
**35th Congress**

**Finding aid prepared by the Office of Art and Archives**  
**Office of the Clerk, U.S. House of Representatives**

---

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit  
September 06, 2012  
Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Center for Legislative Archives, National Archives and Records Administration  
700 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC, 20408  
202-357-5350  
[legislative.archives@nara.gov](mailto:legislative.archives@nara.gov)

## Table of Contents

---

<u>Summary Information</u> .....	3
<u>Administrative Information</u> .....	4
<u>Collection Inventory</u> .....	5
<u>Records of Legislative Proceedings</u> .....	5
<u>Records of Impeachment Proceedings</u> .....	42
<u>Records of the Office of the Clerk</u> .....	43

## Summary Information

---

<b>Repository</b>	Center for Legislative Archives, National Archives and Records Administration
<b>Title</b>	House Records of the 35th Congress
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1857-1859
<b>Extent</b>	91.66 Linear feet
<b>Language</b>	English

## Administrative Information

---

### Publication Information

Center for Legislative Archives, National Archives and Records Administration

### Conditions Governing Access note

The records are governed by Rule VII(3)b of the House Rules:

(b) (1) A record shall immediately be made available if it was previously made available for public use by the House or a committee or a subcommittee. (2) An investigative record that contains personal data relating to a specific living person (the disclosure of which would be an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy), an administrative record relating to personnel, or a record relating to a hearing that was closed under clause 2(g)(2) of rule XI shall be made available if it has been in existence for 50 years. (3) A record for which a time, schedule, or condition for availability is specified by order of the House shall be made available in accordance with that order. Except as otherwise provided by order of the House, a record of a committee for which a time, schedule, or condition for availability is specified by order of the committee (entered during the Congress in which the record is made or acquired by the committee) shall be made available in accordance with the order of the committee. (4) A record (other than a record referred to in subparagraph (1), (2), or (3)) shall be made available if it has been in existence for 30 years.

Records of Legislative Proceedings

---

## Collection Inventory

### Records of Legislative Proceedings 1857-1859

#### Minute Book and Journals 1857-1859 0.83 Linear feet (4 volumes)

##### Scope and Contents note

The minute book and journals series includes a minute book, 1st and 2d sessions (35A-A1); and a legislative journal, 1st session (35A-A2) and 2d session (35A-A3).

##### Arrangement note

The records are arranged chronologically.

#### Bills and Resolutions Originating in the House 1857-1859 8.0 Linear feet

##### Scope and Contents note

The bills and resolutions originating in the House include original House bills and bills upon which further action was taken (35A-B1); original House joint resolutions and joint resolutions upon which further action was taken (35A-B2); House simple resolutions, motions, and orders (35A-B3); 3 volumes of engrossed House bills and resolutions (35A-B4); and House bills based upon reports from the Court of Claims (35A-B5).

##### Arrangement note

The records are arranged numerically within each group, except 35A-B3, which is arranged chronologically.

**Bills and Resolutions Originating in the Senate and Considered in the Hous**

---

**Bills and Resolutions Originating in the Senate and Considered in the House 1857-1859 0.17  
Linear feet****Scope and Contents note**

The bills and resolutions originating in the Senate and considered in the House include Senate bills (35A–C1) and Senate joint resolutions (35A–C2).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged numerically within each group.

**Committees 1857-1859 32.0 Linear feet**

Committee on Accounts 1857-1859

**Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Accounts was created on December 27, 1803, and was made a standing committee in 1805. Its jurisdiction covered all subjects "touching the expenditure of the contingent fund of the House, [and] the auditing and settling of all accounts which may be charged therein to the House." In addition, the committee was responsible for the accountability of officers of the House, the procurement of rooms for the use of House committees and for the Speaker, and for recommending and authorizing the employment of such persons as stenographers, reporters of debates, janitors, and clerks and staff assistants for committees, members and senators. The Committee on Accounts existed from 1803-1946, and later was incorporated into the Committee on House Administration.

Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859

**Scope and Contents note**

## Committees

---

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on Accounts include a report on the malfeasance of R. B. Hackney, Doorkeeper (35A–D1.1); and a volume of minutes, 35th Congress, 2d session, to 39th Congress, 2d session (35A–D1.2).

### Committee on Agriculture 1857-1859

#### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Agriculture was created on May 3, 1820, to provide a forum for the interests of the large agricultural population of the country. The committee's jurisdiction includes adulteration of seeds, insect pests, and protection of birds and animals in forest reserves; agriculture generally; agricultural and industrial chemistry; agricultural colleges and experiment stations; agricultural economics and research; agricultural education extension services; agricultural production and marketing and stabilization of prices of agricultural products, and commodities (not including distribution outside of the United States); animal industry and diseases of animals; commodity exchanges; crop insurance and soil conservation; dairy industry; entomology and plant quarantine; extension of farm credit and farm security; inspection of livestock, poultry, meat products, and seafood and seafood products; and forestry in general and forest reserves other than those created from the public domain. The committee has oversight over the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

### Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859

#### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on Agriculture include a docket volume (35A–D2.1).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

**Committees**

---

**Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on Agriculture document the Agricultural Bureau (35A–G1.1); agricultural colleges and schools of practical sciences (35A–G1.2); monopoly of and traffic in public lands (35A–G1.3); and various subjects (35A–G1.4).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group unless otherwise indicated.

**Committee on Claims 1857-1859****Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Claims is one of the oldest standing committees in the House of Representatives. It was established on November 13, 1794, having been preceded by Select Committees on Claims. The committee was to consider all petitions and matters or things touching on claims and demands on the United States and report appropriations of money for payment of claims it had authorized. Originally the Committee on Claims had jurisdiction over Revolutionary War and land claims as well as pensions. In the years that followed, other committees were created to handle special types of claims such as war claims, pensions, and private land claims. Under the 1880 revised House Rules, subjects relating to "private and domestic claims and demands other than war claims against the United States" were to be referred to the Claims Committee. At the end of the 79th Congress the committee was abolished under the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, and jurisdiction over the subjects that had formerly been referred to it was transferred either to the Judiciary Committee or the executive departments.

**Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859****Scope and Contents note**



## Committees

---

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on Claims include claims (35A–D3.A); a volume indexing bills from the Court of Claims referred to the committee, January 18, 1858 (35A–D3.2); two docket volumes, one of which registers held over reports and new cases from the Court of Claims (35A–D3.3); and a letter book, 35th Congress, 1st session, to 39th Congress, 2d session (35A–D3.4). Also included is a volume of minutes, 34th Congress, 1st session, to 39th Congress, 1st session (34A–D3.2); a letter book, 25th Congress, 2d session, to 35th Congress, 1st session (25A–D3.6); and a second letter book, 35th Congress, 1st session, to 39th Congress, 2d session (35A–D3.4).

### **Arrangement note**

The claims are arranged alphabetically by petitioner, while the other volumes are arranged chronologically.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions os State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on Claims include claims (35A–G2.1).

### **Arrangement note**

The claims are arranged alphabetically by petitioner.

Committee on Commerce 1857-1859

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Commerce was established in 1819 as a result of the split of the Committee on Commerce and Manufactures (1795-1819). The jurisdiction of the Committee on Commerce was regulation of both interstate and foreign commerce; customs collection districts, ports of entry, and

## Committees

---

ports of delivery; compensation of customhouse officials; regulations and appropriations regarding navigable waters and works affecting them, such as bridges, locks, dams, tunnels, pipes, and cribs; obstructions to navigation, such as sunken vessels; lighthouses and other aids to navigation; interoceanic canals; ocean cables; lifesaving stations; public health and the prevention of infectious diseases; purity of food and drugs; regulations regarding the exportation of livestock and foodstuffs; transportation of livestock; and the regulation of railroads. Besides the Lifesaving Service, the committee exercised jurisdiction over matters relating to such Federal agencies as the Revenue-Cutter Service; the Marine Hospital Service; and the Interstate Commerce Commission. In 1892, the Committee on Commerce became part of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

### Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859

#### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on Commerce document channel or harbor improvements (35A–D4.1); claims (35A–D4.2); commercial use of Government piers at Chicago (35A–D4.3); consulate for Rosario, Argentine Confederation (35A–D4.4); marine hospitals (35A–D4.5); navigational and personal safety on vessels (35A–D4.6); and Revenue Cutter Service (35A–D4.7). There is also a docket volume (35A–D4.8).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 35A–D4.2, which is arranged alphabetically.

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

#### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on Commerce document bay, canal, channel, and river improvements (35A–G3.1); beacons, buoys, fog bells, and light-vessels (35A–G3.2); break-waters and seawalls (35A–

## Committees

---

G3.3); changing names of vessels (35A–G3.4); claims (35A–G3.5); harbors and piers (35A–G3.6); lighthouse board (35A–G3.7); lighthouse construction and maintenance (35A–G3.8); mail steamers (35A–G3.9); marine hospitals (35A–G3.10); marine inventions (35A–G3.11); marine signal codes (35A–G3.12); mint and assay branches (35A–G3.13); ports of entry (35A–G3.14); registry of ships (35A–G3.15); and various subjects (35A–G3.16).

### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

## Committee on the District of Columbia 1857-1859

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on the District of Columbia was established on January 27, 1808. The committee's duty was to consider all petitions and memorials relating to the affairs of the District of Columbia referred to them by the House. Jurisdiction consisted of various municipal concerns of the District of Columbia including those involving streets, schools and teachers, railroads, police and fire departments, claims against the District Government, insurance, taxes, health and safety, liquor sales, incorporation of organizations and societies, and other matters that were the normal concerns of city and State governments. Since its creation the committee has shared jurisdiction on District concerns with other committees, and in particular with the Committees on Education and Labor, Interior, Banking and Currency, Judiciary, and Public Works. The committee was known as the Committee on the District of Columbia from 1801-1995. The committee was split and absorbed by subcommittees of the Committee on Appropriations and by the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

## Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on the District of Columbia document claims (35A–D5.1); Columbia Turnpike and Rockville–Washington Turnpike (35A–D5.2); courts,

## Committees

---

including the Court of Claims, in the District (35A–D5.3); street railway for horse–drawn cars on Pennsylvania Avenue (35A–D5.4); and various subjects (35A–D5.5).

### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 35A–D5.1, which is arranged alphabetically.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia document acts of incorporation (35A–G4.1); claims (35A–G4.2), arranged alphabetically by petitioner; Potomac River bridge (35A–G4.3); railroads (35A–G4.4); roads and streets (35A–G4.5); schools and institutions (35A–G4.6); street lighting (35A–G4.7); and various subjects (35A–G4.8).

### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, except 35A–G4.2, which is arranged alphabetically by petitioner.

Committee on Elections 1857-1859

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Elections was established as the first standing committee of the U.S. House of Representatives to perform this function on April 13, 1789. The jurisdiction of the committee was to examine and report on the certificates of election and other election credentials, as well as election returns and proceedings for elections of House Members, and to contest elections of Members where these credentials and election proceedings were not deemed valid. The committee was known as

## Committees

---

the Committee on Elections from 1789 until 1895, when it was split into three separate election committees.

### Controlled Access Headings

#### Personal Name(s)

- Campbell, Lewis D. (Lewis Davis), 1811-1882
- Chapman, Bird Beers, 1821-1871
- Davis, Henry Winter, 1817-1865
- Ferguson, Fenner, 1814-1859
- Vollandigham, Clement L. (Clement Laird), 1820-1871
- Whyte, William Pinkney, 1824-1908

#### Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859

##### Scope and Contents note

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on Elections document claims (35A–D6.1); and contested election cases of Henry P. Brooks v. Henry W. Davis, Maryland (35A–D6.2); Bird B. Chapman v. Fenner Ferguson, Territory of Nebraska (35A–D6.3); C. L. Vollandigham v. Lewis D. Campbell, Ohio (35A–D6.4); and W. P. Whyte v. Harris J. Morrison, Maryland (35A–D6.5); and the seating of a Delegate from the Territory of Minnesota (35A–D6.6). There is also a volume of minutes, 34th Congress, 1st session, to 39th Congress, 2d session (34A–D6.9).

##### Arrangement note

The records are arranged by subject, except 35A–D6.1, which is arranged alphabetically.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

**Committees**

---

**Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on Elections cover various subjects (35A–G5.1).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

**Committee on Foreign Affairs 1857-1859****Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Foreign Affairs gained status as a standing committee of the House of Representatives in 1822, however, its antecedents date as far back as 1775 when the Continental Congress established a committee to correspond with friends abroad. The jurisdiction of the committee includes relations of the United States with foreign nations generally; acquisition of land and buildings for embassies and legations in foreign countries; establishment of boundary lines between the United States and foreign nations; export controls, including nonproliferation of nuclear technology and nuclear hardware; foreign loans; international commodity agreements (other than those involving sugar), including all agreements for cooperation in the export of nuclear technology and nuclear hardware; international conferences and congresses; international education; intervention abroad and declarations of war; diplomatic service; measures to foster commercial intercourse with foreign nations and to safeguard American business interests abroad; international economic policy; neutrality; protection of American citizens abroad and expatriation; the American National Red Cross; trading with the enemy; and United Nations organizations. The committee has oversight over the U.S. Department of State.

**Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859****Scope and Contents note**

## Committees

---

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on Foreign Affairs document claims (35A–D7.1); and relations with foreign countries: France, over the seizure of the American barque Adriatic (35A–D7.2); Nicaragua, over the activities of William Walker and his followers (35A–D7.3); Paraguay, over the treatment of American citizens and over an outrage to the American vessel Water-Witch (35A–D7.4); and Spain, over unadjusted differences, including the future of Cuba (35A–D7.5). There is also a docket volume, 35A–D7.6; and another docket volume, 34th Congress, 1st session, to 35th Congress, 2d session (34A–D7.3).

### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 35A–D7.1, which is arranged alphabetically.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs document claims (35A–G6.1); French spoliation claims (35A–G6.2); and various subjects (35A–G6.3).

### **Arrangement note**

The following documents: 35A–G6.1 and 35A–G6.2, are arranged alphabetically by petitioner.

Committee on Indian Affairs 1857-1859

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Indian Affairs was established on December 17, 1821, with jurisdiction over subjects pertaining to Native Americans. Select committees to consider matters of Native Americans existed for several years before the creation of the standing committee. Among the matters referred

## Committees

---

to the committee were subjects relating to the care, education, and management of Native Americans and of their lands; the adjudication and payment of Indian depredation claims; bonds and stocks that had been part of Indian trust funds; adjudication of claims of Indians against the United States; the use and management of Native American funds; and the business and government of the Native American tribes. From 1885 until 1920, the committee exercised jurisdiction over appropriations relating to Native Americans. The Committee on Indian Affairs was abolished under the provisions of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946. Its jurisdiction and responsibilities were transferred to the Committee on Public Lands.

### Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859

#### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on Indian Affairs include Cherokee reservations under treaties of 1817 and 1819 (35A–D8.1); claims (35A–D8.2); Moravian improvements to lands (35A–D8.3); preemption rights on Fort Atkinson Reserve, Iowa (35A–D8.4); Sebastian Military and Indian Reservation, Calif. (35A–D8.5); Territory of Utah (35A–D8.6); and a widow's interest in the plates from which had been published Henry Schoolcraft's Indian history (35A–D8.7).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 35A–D8.2, which is arranged alphabetically.

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

#### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs include claims (35A–G7.1) and various subjects (35A–G7.2).



## Committees

---

### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

#### Committee on Invalid Pensions 1857-1859

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Invalid Pensions was created on January 10, 1831, with jurisdiction over matters relating to pensions for disabled veterans. Originally, the jurisdiction of the committee included pensions from the War of 1812. The committee had become so overburdened with pensions from the Civil War, that on March 26, 1867, jurisdiction for pensions from the War of 1812 was transferred to the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions. Subsequently, jurisdiction of the Committee on Invalid Pensions included only matters relating to pensions of the Civil War, with the committee reporting general and special bills authorizing payments of pensions and bills for relief of soldiers of that war.

#### Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on Invalid Pensions include claims (35A–D9.1); and pensions for Army, Navy, and Marine personnel (35A–D9.2).

### **Arrangement note**

The claims are arranged alphabetically and the pensions are arranged chronologically.

#### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

### **Scope and Contents note**

## Committees

---

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on Invalid Pensions document various subjects (35A–G8.1).

### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

## Committee on the Judiciary 1857-1859

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The standing Committee on the Judiciary was established on June 3, 1813, to take into consideration matters touching judicial proceedings. In 1880 the rule defining its jurisdiction was revised to read "judicial proceedings, civil and criminal law," and this remained the formal definition of the jurisdiction of the committee until the reorganization of Congress in 1946. The committee's jurisdiction includes judiciary and judicial proceedings, civil and criminal; administrative practice and procedure; apportionment of Representatives; bankruptcy, mutiny, espionage, and counterfeiting; civil liberties; constitutional amendments; criminal law enforcement; Federal courts and judges, and local courts in the Territories and possessions; immigration policy and nonborder enforcement; interstate compacts generally; claims against the United States; meetings of Congress; attendance of Members, Delegates, and the Resident Commissioner; and their acceptance of incompatible offices; National penitentiaries; patents, the Patent and Trademark Office, copyrights, and trademarks; Presidential succession; protection of trade and commerce against unlawful restraints and monopolies; revision and codification of the Statutes of the United States; state and territorial boundary lines; and subversive activities affecting the internal security of the United States. The committee has oversight over the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

## Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859

### **Scope and Contents note**

## Committees

---

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on the Judiciary document bankruptcy (35A–D10.1) claims (35A–D10.2); judicial districts (35A–D10.3); and witnesses in U.S. courts (35A–D10.4). There is also a docket volume (35A–D10.5); and a volume of minutes (35A–D10.6).

### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 35A–D10.2, which is arranged alphabetically.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on the Judiciary document bankruptcy law (35A–G9.1); claims (35A–G9.2); courthouses, court reorganization, and court terms (35A–G9.3); office of the chaplain (35A–G9.4); and various subjects (35A–G9.5).

### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Committee on the Library 1857-1859

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The standing Committee on the Library (1806-1946) was composed of the House members of the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress. Its jurisdiction included all legislation or matters touching on the Library of Congress; and statuary, pictures or works of art on the Capitol

## Committees

---

grounds. The records of the Joint Committee for recent Congresses have been in the custody of the Committee on House Administration.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on the Library document the distribution of public documents (35A–G10.1) and various subjects (35A–G10.2).

### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group unless otherwise indicated.

Committee on Manufactures 1857-1859

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Manufactures was established in 1819 as a result of the split of the Committee on Commerce and Manufactures (1795-1819). Jurisdiction of the committee includes matters relating to the manufacturing industries, but became inactive during the later years of its existence and was eliminated in 1911. The committee's functions were absorbed by the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce (1892-1968).

Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859

### **Scope and Contents note**

## Committees

---

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on Manufactures include a docket volume (35A–D11.1).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on Manufactures document various subjects (35A–G11.1).

### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group unless, otherwise indicated.

Committee on Military Affairs 1857-1859

### **Biographical/Historical note**

A succession of House select committees considered legislation on military affairs from 1811 until 1822, when the House established a standing Committee on Military Affairs. The jurisdiction of the committee included appropriation bills covering the military establishment, the public defense, and the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York. The committee reported the military appropriation bills until 1920, when that power was transferred to the Appropriations Committee. Jurisdiction of the committee also included the establishment and care of national cemeteries and battlefields; acquisition and conveyance of lands for military reservations and improvements upon such grounds; disposition of war trophies and distribution of obsolete weapons and armament; conduct of joint operations of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps; and promotion of military aviation and Army aeronautics. The Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 abolished the Committee on Military Affairs and transferred its jurisdiction to the newly-created Armed Services Committee.

**Committees**

---

**Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859****Scope and Contents note**

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on Military Affairs document claims (35A–D12.1); contracts for the transportation of military supplies (35A–D12.2); expedition into the Territory of Utah (35A–D12.3); military academies, posts, ranges, and roads (35A–D12.4); and various subjects (35A–D12.5). There is also a volume of the committee clerk’s calendar, 35th Congress, 1st session, to 36th Congress, 2d session (35A–D12.6); a docket volume (35A–D12.7); and a volume of minutes, 34th Congress, 1st session, to 36th Congress, 2d session (34A–D12.5).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 35A–D12.1, which is arranged alphabetically.

**Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859****Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on Military Affairs document claims (35A–G12.1); epidemic cholera (35A–G12.2); military ordnance, inventions, and vehicles (35A–G12.3); militia armament (35A–G12.4); national foundries (35A–G12.5); New York military defenses (35A–G12.6); and various subjects (35A–G12.7).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, except 35A–G12.1, which is arranged alphabetically by petitioner.

## Committees

---

### Committee on the Militia 1857-1859

#### **Biographical/Historical note**

The standing Committee on the Militia was created on December 10, 1815, with jurisdiction over miscellaneous aspects of the militia organization and operation in the several states and the District of Columbia. The committee's jurisdiction included fostering greater efficiency in the militia units, encouraging rifle practice, reorganizing the militia, and issuing armaments to the militia units and later to the National Guard or voluntary militia units that replaced them. The committee was not terminated until 1911 although it had exercised little influence after the passage of the Dick Military Act of January 31, 1903. That law, combined with other concurrent military reforms, integrated the National Guard organizations in the states with the Regular Army, largely eliminating the need for direct congressional supervision of the implementation of the now obsolete 1792 militia law. After 1911, the House Military Affairs committee assumed the functions and powers that had formerly been in the jurisdiction of the Militia Committee.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

#### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on the Militia document militia armament (35A–G13.1).

#### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

### Committee on Naval Affairs 1857-1859

#### **Biographical/Historical note**

## Committees

---

In 1822, the standing Committee on Naval Affairs was created. The jurisdiction of the committee included consideration of all matters which concerned the naval establishment, the increase or reduction of commissioned officers and enlisted men, and their pay and allowances and the increase of ships or vessels of all classes of the Navy. Other subjects under the committee's expanded jurisdiction pertained to naval and marine aeronautics; the construction of aircraft carriers for the Navy; the acquisition of sites for naval facilities; the establishment, construction, improvement, and maintenance of such facilities; the authorization of special decorations, orders, medals, and other insignia for naval personnel; the acceptance of offices and emoluments from foreign governments; claims of personnel and civilian employees of the Navy; and legislation relating to the Coast Guard, the Marine Corps, the Marine Band, the Fleet Marine Corps Reserve, the Naval Observatory, and the Coast and Geodetic Survey. The committee was abolished under the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 and its jurisdiction transferred to the Armed Services Committee.

### Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859

#### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on Naval Affairs document claims (35A–D13.1); the flag of the United States (35A–D13.2); marine hospitals (35A–D13.3); and William Walker and his followers (35A–D13.4).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 35A–D13.1, which is arranged alphabetically.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

#### **Scope and Contents note**



## Committees

---

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs document chaplains (35A–G14.1); claims (35A–G14.2); increased pay for Navy officers (35A–G14.3); and various subjects (35A–G14.4).

### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, except 35A–G14.2, which is arranged alphabetically by petitioner.

## Committee on Patents 1857-1859

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The standing Committee on Patents was established in 1837. Jurisdiction of the committee included patent, copyright, and trademark laws and revision of such laws; the jurisdiction of courts in patent cases; the counterfeiting of trademarks; and the Patent Office and its affairs. Private legislation, usually initiated in response to petition, was an important part of the work of the committee, especially between 1840 and 1890. Relief was sought by inventors for whom protection was not provided in the existing patent law (such as aliens and government employees) and by patentees who requested extensions on patents because they had not profited sufficiently during the period provided by the original patent. Under the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, the Judiciary Committee absorbed the jurisdiction of the Committee on Patents.

## Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on Patents document firearms (35A–D14.1); patent laws (35A–D14.2); power looms for weaving (35A–D14.3); regulators for steam valves (35A–D14.4); surveying and calculating instruments (35 A–D14.5); typesetting machinery (35A–D14.6); and various subjects (35A–D14.7). There is also a docket volume (35A–D14.8).

### **Arrangement note**

## Committees

---

The records are arranged chronologically within each group.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on Patents document claims (35A–G15.1); the Colt patent for revolving pistol (35A–G15.2); India rubber patents (35A–G15.3); materia medica system (35A–G15.4); patent laws (35A–G15.5); planing machine patents (35A–G15.6); power-weaving loom patent (35A–G15.7); surveying and calculating instruments (35A–G15.8); and various subjects (35A–G15.9).

### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, except 35A–G15.1, which is arranged alphabetically by petitioner.

Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads 1857-1859

### **Biographical/Historical note**

A Select Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads was established in 1806 and made a standing committee in 1808. The jurisdiction of the committee extended to all proposed legislation relating to the carrying of the mails, both foreign and domestic. It included the determination of the location, construction, and maintenance of post offices and post roads; the acquisition, lease, or transfer of realty or facilities for postal purposes; and certain aspects of the employment and management of postal employees, such as the pay and leave of letter carriers, and the settlement of claims brought by employees or contractors. Also included was the regulation of the Postal Service, including postal rates, the franking privilege, and the printing of stamped envelopes. At various times, the Railway Mail Service, ocean mail service, pneumatic tube service, postal savings banks, postal telegraphy, the Air Mail Service, and Rural Free Delivery were included in its jurisdiction. As part of its responsibility, the committee investigated the management of postal facilities, contracts

## Committees

---

for carrying the mail, and other subjects such as the forgery of postal money orders. In 1885 the jurisdiction of the committee was expanded to include appropriation authority and prepared Post Office appropriations bills from that time until 1920 when the authority was revoked under a rule change. The committee functioned until 1946 when its jurisdiction was included in that of the new Committee on Post Office and Civil Service.

### Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859

#### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads document claims (35A–D15.1); the Post Office Department (35A–D15.2); post offices (35A–D15.3); and various subjects (35A–D15.4).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 35A–15.1, which is arranged alphabetically.

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

#### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads document claims (35A–G16.1); mail routes (35A–G16.2); ocean mail routes (35A–G16.3); overland mail route, California via Arizona (35A–G16.4); postal rates and laws (35A–G16.5); post offices (35A–G16.6); and various subjects (35A–G16.7).

#### **Arrangement note**

## Committees

---

The records are arranged alphabetically by petitioner or subject.

### Committee on Printing 1857-1859

#### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Printing was established in 1846 and its jurisdiction included all proposed legislation or orders involving printing. In practice this included the general supervision of the printing, management, and policies of the Government Printing Office (GPO). Jurisdiction also occasionally included the pay of its employees; the letting of contracts; procurement of suitable paper; control of the arrangement, style, bulk, and indexing of the "Congressional Record"; and supervision of the printing of the "Congressional Directory." The committee reported bills and resolutions regarding the printing, binding, and distribution of public documents, including the annual reports of executive agencies, bureaus, and commissions; messages of the President; special scientific studies and reports; public health reports and statements; historical documentary publications such as the "Territorial Papers of the United States"; and hearings of congressional committees. The Committee on Printing acted as a standing committee of the House until 1947 when it was incorporated into the House Administration Committee.

### Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859

#### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on Printing document congressional and departmental binding (35A–D16.1).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

## Committees

---

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on Printing document various subjects (35A–G17.1).

### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group unless otherwise indicated.

## Committee on Private Land Claims 1857-1859

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Private Land Claims was established on April 29, 1816. The committee reported general as well as special legislation relating to the settlement of individual claims to public lands. It has reported bills to establish a land court to provide for the judicial investigation and settlement of private land claims in certain states and territories. The committee was abolished in 1911 along with several other committees that had suffered from diminished legislative activity. Jurisdiction was later transferred to the Judiciary Committee.

## Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on Private Land Claims include claims (35A–D17.1); certain lands in Louisiana (35A–D17.2); certain lands in Missouri (35A–D17.3); and certain lands in the Territory of New Mexico (35A–D17.4). There is also a docket volume (35A–D17.5).

### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 35A–D17.1, which is arranged alphabetically.

## Committees

---

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on Private Land Claims document various subjects (35A–G18.1).

### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within eachj group, unless otherwise indicated.

Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds 1857-1859

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The standing Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds was established in 1837, replacing the Select Committee on Public Buildings which was created in 1819. The committee's jurisdiction included the construction throughout the country of public buildings, documenting customs houses, post offices, and federal court houses; the erection of monuments and memorials; the purchase of property for public use; improvements to public property; and compensation for workers erecting public buildings. During the early years of the committee, much of the legislation reported had to do with constructing and improving public buildings in Washington, D.C., and commissioning artists to create art work for those buildings. Under the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds became part of the Committee on Public Works.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

### **Scope and Contents note**

## Committees

---

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on Buildings and Grounds document various subjects (35A–G19.1).

### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

## Committee on Public Lands 1857-1859

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Public Lands was established in 1805 and given jurisdiction over matters relating to the lands of the United States. Jurisdiction of the committee included the sale and settlement of public lands, land claims, minerals and waters on public lands, irrigation, forest reserves and game living in them, national parks, conservation, land grants, foreign ownership of land, and administration of the lands of the public domain. The establishment of a land court and to provide for the judicial investigation and settlement of private land claims in certain states and territories was also part of the committee's jurisdiction. Under the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, the committees on Indian Affairs; Territories, Mines and Mining; Irrigation and Reclamation; and Insular Affairs were abolished and their jurisdictions were combined with those of the Committee on Public Lands. On February 2, 1951, the name of the committee was changed to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs to more accurately reflect the full scope of its jurisdiction.

## Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on Public Lands document agricultural and mechanical colleges (35A–D18.1); disposition of the public lands (35A–D18.2); claims (35A–D18.3); land bounty for the War of 1812 captors of the British ship "Dauntless" (35A–D18.4); railroads (35A–D18.5); and various subjects (35A–18.6). There are also two docket volumes

## Committees

---

(35A–D18.7); and a volume of minutes, 34th Congress, 1st session, to 38th Congress, 2d session (34A–D18.5)

### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 35A–D18.3, which is arranged alphabetically.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on Public Lands includes land grants for agricultural colleges and other public institutions (35A–G20.1); claims (35A–G20.2); geological surveys of public lands on the Pacific coast (35A–G20.3); land grants for the benefit of historical and antiquarian societies (35A–G20.4); land grant (Fort Brooks) to the city of Tampa, Fla. (35A–G20.5); land grant to person who may discover cause of milk sickness (35A–G20.6); monopoly of and traffic in public lands (35A–G20.7); railroads (35A–G20.8); and various subjects (35A–G20.9).

### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, except 35A–G20.2, which is arranged alphabetically by petitioner.

Committee on Revolutionary Claims 1857-1859

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Revolutionary Claims was created in 1825 to handle part of the jurisdiction of the Pensions and Revolutionary War Claims Committee (1813-1825) which had been abolished. The committee had jurisdiction over all such petitions and matters on claims or demands originating in



## Committees

---

the Revolutionary War or arising therefrom, as shall be presented, or shall or may come in question and be referred to them by the House; and to report their opinion thereupon, together with such propositions for relief as to them shall seem expedient. The jurisdiction of the committee remained unchanged until the committee was abolished in 1873 and the jurisdiction assigned to the Committee on War Claims.

### Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859

#### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on Revolutionary Claims include claims (35A–D19.1) and a docket volume (35A–D19.2).

#### **Arrangement note**

The claims are arranged alphabetically and the docket volume is arranged chronologically.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

#### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on Revolutionary Claims document various subjects (35A–G21.1).

#### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

### Committee on Revolutionary Pensions 1857-1859

#### **Biographical/Historical note**

## Committees

---

The Committee on Revolutionary Pensions was created in 1831 to administer the part of the jurisdiction of the defunct Committee on Military Pensions (1825-1831) that included all matters respecting pensions for services in the Revolutionary War, other than invalid pensions. In 1867, in order to reduce the workload of the Invalid Pensions Committee, the committee's jurisdiction was expanded to include the pension matters of soldiers who fought in the War of 1812. The committee was abolished in 1880 and jurisdiction was referred to the Committee on Pensions.

### Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859

#### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions include claims (35A–D20.1) and a docket volume (35A–D20.2).

#### **Arrangement note**

The claims are arranged alphabetically and the docket volume is arranged chronologically.

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

#### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions document various subjects (35A–G22.1).

#### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

### Committee on Roads and Canals 1857-1859

## Committees

---

### Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Roads and Canals originated as a Select Committee on Roads and Canals in 1815. In 1831, the House established it as a standing committee. Jurisdiction of the committee included legislation on the survey, construction, and improvement of canals within the United States, as well as a canal across the Isthmus of Panama. The committee's jurisdiction also included improvements in river navigation, construction of bridges over rivers, maintenance of breakwaters and harbors associated with water routes, and the subscription of the United States to capital stock in canal companies. The committee reported proposals for the construction of roads, such as the Cumberland Road and a Columbus and Sandusky Turnpike, and methods of financing them, primarily through land-grants. The committee also reported legislation to aid the construction of railroads including the granting of charters to railroad companies. In 1869 the House approved a motion to change the name of the committee to the Committee on Railways and Canals.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

### Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

### Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on Roads and Canals document river and canal improvements (35A–G23.1).

Committee on the Territories 1857-1859

### Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on the Territories was established in 1825 to examine the legislative, civil, and criminal proceedings of the territories, and to devise and report to the House opinions necessary to secure the rights and privileges of residents and non-residents. The committee also

## Committees

---

reported legislation concerning the structure, status, and power of the territorial governments; statehood; powers of municipalities; boundary disputes; and on matters relating to public lands and homesteading, railroads, public works, public buildings, highways, taxation, bond issues, education, Indians, prohibition, and wildlife. The jurisdiction of the committee was later absorbed by the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

### Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859

#### Scope and Contents note

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on the Territories document claims originating in the Territory of Kansas (35A–D21.1); the creation of a Territory of Nevada (35A–D21.2); encouragement to railroad construction in the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska (35A–D21.3); roads and bridges in the Territory of Minnesota (35A–D21.4); statehood for the Territory of Oregon (35A–D21.5); and suffrage in the Territories (35A–D21.6). There is also a docket volume (35A–D21.7); and a volume containing rough docket entries for the 35th and 36th Congresses, and committee minutes, 36th Congress, 1st session, to 43d Congress, 1st session (35A–D21.8).

#### Arrangement note

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 35A–D21.1, which is arranged numerically.

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

#### Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on the Territories document claims (35A–G24.1); Kansas Territory (35A–G24.2); overland route to California via Arizona (35A–G24.3); and various subjects (35A–G24.4).

## Committees

---

### Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, except 35A–G24.1, which is arranged alphabetically by petitioner.

### Committee on Ways and Means 1857-1859

### Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Ways and Means is the oldest standing committee in Congress. In 1795 another Select Committee on Ways and Means was formed, and was regularly reappointed in each session until it was defined as a standing committee in 1802. The jurisdiction of the committee includes customs revenue, collection districts, and ports of entry and delivery; reciprocal trade agreements; revenue measures generally; revenue measures relating to insular possessions; bonded debt of the United States, subject to the last sentence of clause 4(f); deposit of public monies; transportation of dutiable goods; tax exempt foundations and charitable trusts; and national social security (except health care and facilities programs that are supported from general revenues as opposed to payroll deductions and except work incentive programs).

### Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859

### Scope and Contents note

The committee reports and papers of the Committee on Ways and Means document the census (35A–D22.2); claims (35A–D22.2); coinage and finance (35A–D22.3); the collection of revenue (35A–D22.4); the consular and diplomatic service (35A–D22.5); courts in the District of Columbia (35A–D22.6); general appropriations (35A–D22.7); Government clerks and salaries (35A–D22.8); the Houses of Congress (35A–D22.9); Indians (35A–D22.10); Interior Department, including the land office system (35A–D22.11); lighthouses (35A–D22.12); Navy shop equipment (35A–D22.13); the Northwestern Boundary Survey (35A–D22.14); pensions (35A–D22.15); the postal service (35A–D22.16); printing and binding (35A–D22.17); public buildings and property (35A–D22.18); the Smithsonian Institution (35A–D22.19); the tariff (35A–D22.20); the Territories (35A–D22.21); and the White House (35A–D22.22). There is also

## Committees

---

a docket volume (35A–D22.23); and a volume of minutes, 35th Congress, 2d session, to 37th Congress, 1st session (35A– D22.24).

### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 35A–D22.2, which is arranged alphabetically.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Committee on Ways and Means document claims (35A–G25.1); iron, coal, and salt (35A–G25.2); mint and assay offices (35A–G25.3); tariff and revenue laws (35A–G25.4); and various subjects (35A–G25.5).

### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, except 35A–G25.1, which is arranged alphabetically by petitioner.

Committee of the Whole House 1857-1859

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee of the Whole consists of the entire membership of the House and stems from a practice in the House of Commons, when the Speaker of the House of Commons was regarded as an agent of the King. The procedure allows the Speaker to remove himself/herself from the chairmanship in order for the body to elect its own chairman and debate matters without the normal restrictions of a House of Commons session.

**Committees**

---

**Committee Reports and Papers 1857-1859****Scope and Contents note**

The committee reports and papers of the Committee of the Whole House include a volume of minutes, 33d Congress, 1st session, to 37th Congress, 1st session (33A–D22.1).

**Select Committees 1857-1859****Scope and Contents note**

The select committees document the following: Select Committees: in Relation to the Accounts and Official Conduct of the Late Doorkeeper of the House of Representatives (35A–D23.1); on the Accounts of the Late Superintendent of Public Printing (35A–D23.2); on the Apportionment of Clerks and Messengers in the Several Departments of the United States Government (35A–D23.3); on Charges Against O. B. Matteson, North Carolina (35A–D23.4); on Charges Against a Member of the Committee on Accounts (35A–D23.5); Appointed to Inquire Into the Expenditure of Money for the Purpose of Influencing the Passage of the Tariff of 1857 (35A–D23.6); Appointed to Investigate the Facts and Circumstances Connected With the Sale and Purchase of Property at Wilkins' or Willett's Point, Long Island, New York, for Fortification Purposes in 1857 (35A–D23.7); on Grant of Lands to the Niagara Ship Canal (35A–D23.8); on Levees on the Mississippi River in the States of Tennessee and Kentucky (35A–D23.9); on the Memorial of Artists of the United States (35A–D23.10); to Which Was Referred the Message of the President Concerning the Kansas (Lecompton) Constitution (35A–D23.11); on Naval Contracts and Expenditures (35A–D23.12); to Investigate the Official Conduct and Accounts of William Cullom, Late Clerk of the House of Representatives (35A–D23.13); on the Pacific Railroad (35A–D23.14); on Printing (35A–D23.15); on the Purchase by the Government of the Banking House of the Bank of Pennsylvania, in the City of Philadelphia (35A–D23.16); on Reduction of the Expenditures of the Government, the Navigation Laws, and the Existing Duties on Imports (35A–D23.17); on the Removal of Desks and Rearrangement of Seats of Members (35A–D23.18); and on the Rules of the House (35A–D23.19).

## President's Messages

---

### Select Committee on the Pacific Railroad (35A–D23.14) 1857-1859

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Referred to Committees 1857-1859

#### Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents referred to the Select Committee on the Pacific Railroad document the Kansas valley route (35A–G26.1) and Phelps bill (35A–G26.2).

#### Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group unless otherwise indicated.

### President's Messages 1857-1859 11.0 Linear feet (43 volumes)

#### Scope and Contents note

The President's Messages consist of original annual messages, with pertinent documents, 1857 and 1858; messages suggesting legislation or submitting specific information or documents; and messages transmitting reports and communications from executive departments (35 A–E1).

#### Arrangement note

The messages are arranged chronologically.

### Reports and Communications Submitted to the House 1857-1859 12.0 Linear feet (50 volumes)

#### Scope and Contents note



**Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Do...**

---

The reports and communications submitted to the House include those from the Secretary of State (35A–F1); the Secretary of the Treasury (35A–F2); the Treasurer of the United States (35A–F3); the Secretary of War (35A–F4); the Secretary of the Navy (35A–F5); the Postmaster General (35A–F6); the Secretary of the Interior (35A–F7); the Court of Claims (35A–F8); and others (35A–F9).

**Arrangement note**

The reports and communications are arranged chronologically within each group, except 35A–F8, which is arranged numerically.

**Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents which were Tabled 1857-1859 1.0 Linear feet**

**Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were tabled are grouped by subject as follows: agricultural colleges and other institutions of learning (35A–H1.1); claims (35A–H1.2); 1st article of the Constitution of the United States (35A–H1.3); franking privilege (35A–H1.4); Lt. Matthew Fontaine Maury (35A–H1.5); meteorological observations (35A–H1.6); military bands (35A–H1.7); national currency and uniform ratios of interest (35A–H1.8); national foundries (35A–H1.9); ocean mail routes (35A–H1.10); Pacific mail service (35A–H1.11); public lands (35A–H1.12); railroads (35A–H1.13); Rock Island (35A–H1.14); supplying water on the Ohio River (35A–H1.15); telegraph lines to Fort Larainie and Salt Lake (35A–H1.16); Trans-Atlantic Telegraph Co. (35A–H1.17); and various subjects (35A–H1.18).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 35A–H1.2, which is arranged alphabetically by petitioner.

**Election Records 1857-1859 0.04 Linear feet**

**Scope and Contents note**

**Originals of Printed House Miscellaneous Documents**

---

Credentials of Representatives and Delegates (35A–J1).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged alphabetically by State or Territory.

**Originals of Printed House Miscellaneous Documents 1857-1859 2.0 Linear feet (9 volumes)****Scope and Contents note**

Original miscellaneous documents, 1st session (35A–K1) and 2d session (35A–K2).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged numerically within each group.

**Other Records 1857-1859 0.25 Linear feet****Scope and Contents note**

Other records include two volumes of roll calls (35A–L1), arranged chronologically; and a letter from N. P. Banks to the Speaker, announcing his resignation from the House (35A–L2).

**Records of Impeachment Proceedings 1857-1859 1.33 Linear feet****Impeachment of Thomas Irwin 1857-1859****Scope and Contents note**

Papers pertaining to impeachment proceedings against Thomas Irwin, Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania (35B–A1).

**Impeachment of John C. Watrous**

---

**Impeachment of John C. Watrous 1857-1859****Scope and Contents note**

Papers pertaining to impeachment proceedings against John C. Watrous, Judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Texas include (34B–A1), (35B–B1), and (36B–A1).

**Records of the Office of the Clerk 1857-1859****Records of Committee Reports 1857-1859****Scope and Contents note**

Transcribed reports of the Committee on Claims, 33d Congress, 1st session, to 35th Congress, 1st session (33C–B1).

**Record Books 1857-1859 1.0 Linear feet (9 volumes)****Scope and Contents note**

The record books include a bill book of House and Senate bills and resolutions (35C–A1); petition book (35C–A2); record of orders of the day (35C–A3); record of committee reports (35C–A4); a volume showing the libraries designated by Members of Congress to receive books under the act of March 3, 1857 (35C–A5); and four account books recording expenditures of the Clerk's Office, 35th Congress, 1st session, to 37th Congress, 1st session (35C–A6). For membership of standing and select committees and a register of resolutions, see 32d Congress, 1st session, to 38th Congress, 2d session (32C–A9); a record of referrals to and reports from the Court of Claims, 33d Congress, 2d session, to 35th Congress, 1st session (33C–A10); a register of executive documents, 34th Congress, 1st session, to 35th Congress, 2d session (34C–A10); a register of House and Senate documents, reports, and bills received, 34th Congress, 1st session, to 35th Congress, 1st session (34C–A4); a register of House bills and resolutions engrossed and enrolled, 34th Congress, 1st session, to 35th Congress, 2d session (34C–A7); account

## Other Records

---

books recording expenditures of the Clerk's Office, 34th Congress, 1st session, to 35th Congress, 1st session (34C–A9); and a register of reports from the Court of Claims, 34th Congress, 1st session, to 37th Congress, 2d session (34C–A11).

### **Other Records 1857-1859 0.04 Linear feet**

#### **Scope and Contents note**

Other records include receipts for records withdrawn (35C–B1) and correspondence relating to Dunlop's "Digest of United States Laws" (35C–B2). Also included is a letter book of the Clerk's with outgoing correspondence, 33d Congress, 1st session, to 38th Congress, 1st session (33C–C1).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group.