

**Records of the U.S. House of Representatives**  
**RG.233.39.House**  
**39th Congress**

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

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Center for Legislative Archives, National Archives and Records Administration
<b>Title</b>	House Records of the 39th Congress
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1865-1867
<b>Extent</b>	84.25 Linear feet
<b>Language</b>	English

## Administrative Information

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### 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

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## Collection Inventory

### **Records of Legislative Proceedings 1865-1867**

#### **Minute Book and Journals 1865-1867 1.0 Linear feet (4 volumes)**

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

The minute book and journals series includes a minute book, 1st and 2d sessions (39A–A1); and a legislative journal 1st session (39A–A2) and 2d session (39A–A3).

#### **Bills and Resolutions Originating in the House 1865-1867 13.0 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 (39A–B1); original House joint resolutions and joint resolutions upon which further action was taken (39A–B2); attested copies of house concurrent resolutions passed (39A–B3); House simple resolutions, motions, and orders (39A–B4); and 8 volumes of engrossed House bills and resolutions (39A–B5).

##### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged numerically within each group, except 39A–B4, which is arranged alphabetically by Congressman.

#### **Bills and Resolutions Originating in the Senate and Considered in the House 1865-1867 0.92 Linear feet**

**Accompanying Papers File**

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**Scope and Contents note**

The bills and resolutions originating in the Senate and considered in the House include Senate bills (39A–C1) and Senate joint resolutions (39A–C2).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged numerically within each group.

**Accompanying Papers File 1865-1867 13.0 Linear feet****Scope and Contents note**

The accompanying papers file contains papers submitted to various committees relating to claims, pensions, and other forms of private relief together with related papers and public matters (39A–D1).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged alphabetically by person, State, Territory, or subject.

**Committee Reports 1865-1867 7.0 Linear feet****Scope and Contents note**

Original committee reports cover the 1st session (39A–E1) and 2d session (39A–E2) of the 39th Congress.

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged numerically within each group.

**Committees 1865-1867**

## Committees

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### Committee on Accounts 1865-1867

#### **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 Papers 1865-1867

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Accounts include a volume of minutes, 35th Congress, 2d session, to 39th Congress, 2d session (35A–D1.2).

### Committee on Agriculture 1865-1867

#### **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

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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 Papers 1865-1867

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Agriculture document agricultural lands distributed to the States (39A–F1.1).

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

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

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Agriculture document various subjects (39A–H1.1).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

### Committee on Appropriations 1865-1867

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

The Committee on Appropriations was created in 1865. The Constitution of the United States specifies that "All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives, but the



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Senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills." The earliest appropriations bills were written by select committees on instruction from the Committee of the Whole House, and later ones by the standing Committee on Ways and Means. Increased demands for revenue and appropriations as a result of the Civil War combined to produce a tremendous workload for the Ways and Means Committee. Today, the committee is tasked with the appropriation of revenue for the support of the Government; rescissions of appropriations contained in appropriation Acts; transfers of unexpended balances; and bills and joint resolutions reported by other committees that provide new entitlement authority as defined in the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

### Committee Papers 1865-1867

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Appropriations document the Attorney General's Office (39A-F2.1); claims (39A-F2.2); the Columbia Institution for the Deaf and Dumb (39A-F2.3); the Commissioner of Public Buildings (39A-F2.4); the Federal courts (39A-F2.5); the House of Representatives (39A-F2.6); the Library of Congress (39A-F2.7); the Metropolitan Police of Washington (39A-F2.8); the St. Louis Arsenal (39A-F2.9); papers from or about the executive departments: Agriculture (39A-F2.10), Interior, including numerous "Indian Papers" (39A-F2.11), Navy (39A-F2.12), Post Office (39A-F2.13), State (39A-F2.14), Treasury (39A-F2.15), and War (39A-F2.16); and various subjects (39A-F2.17).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 39A-F2.2, which is arranged alphabetically.

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

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

## Committees

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The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Appropriations document the increase in pay for Government employees (39A–H2.1); removal of the wreck of the steamer "Scotland" at Sandy Hook (39A–H2.2); reward offered for the apprehension of the assassin John Wilkes Booth (39A–H2.3); and various subjects (39A–H2.4).

### **Arrangement note**

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

Committee on Banking and Currency 1865-1867

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Banking and Currency Committee was created in 1865 to relieve the Ways and Means Committee of part of its workload. Its jurisdiction included the chartering and oversight of national banks; the issue of national bank loans; the issue, taxation, and redemption of national bank notes; and the authorization of bond issues. It was responsible for legislation involving the deposit of public moneys, strengthening the public credit, monetary parity, and the issuance of silver certificates as currency. The investigation of the failure of state banks and the affairs of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company were also part of its jurisdiction.

Committee Papers 1865-1867

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Banking and Currency include a report on the national banks, especially the Merchants National Bank of Washington (39A–F3.1).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

## Committees

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### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency document various subjects (39A–H3.1).

### **Arrangement note**

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

## Committee on Claims 1865-1867

### **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 Papers 1865-1867

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Claims include a volume of rough minutes, 39th Congress, 1st session, to 40th Congress, 2d session (39A–F4.1); a volume of minutes, 39th Congress, 2d session, to 42d Congress, 3d session (39A–F4.2); and a docket volume (39A–F4.3).

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The records also contain a volume of minutes with records from the 34th Congress, 1st session, to 39th Congress, 1st session (34A–D3.2); and a letter book, 35th Congress, 1st session, to 39th Congress, 2d session (35A–D3.4).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Claims include claims (39A–H4.1).

### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged alphabetically by petitioner.

Committee on Commerce 1865-1867

### **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 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.

**Committees**

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**Committee Papers 1865-1867****Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Commerce document the compensation of the U. S. consul at Quebec (39A–F5.1); consolidation of Petersburg and Richmond collection districts in Virginia (39A–F5.2); lighthouse dues (39A–F5.3); lighthouse at Wangooshance, Michigan (39A–F5.4); port of entry for Calais, Maine (39A–F5.5); quarantine warehouses for the port of New York (39A–F5.6); and registry, or other problems, relating to vessels (39A–F5.7).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 39A–F5.7, which is arranged alphabetically by name of vessel.

**Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867****Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Commerce document harbor improvement (39A–H5.1); increase in pay for Government employees (39A–H5.2); insurance legislation (39A–H5.3); quarantine in the Port of New York (39A–H5.4); registry of vessels (39A–H5.5); rivers and canals (39A–H5.6); transportation of gunpowder on steamboats (39A–H5.7); and various subjects (39A–H5.3).

**Arrangement note**

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

**Committee on the District of Columbia 1865-1867**

## Committees

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### **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 Papers 1865-1867

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on the District of Columbia document the Long Bridge over the Potomac (39A-F6.1); opposition of the Guardian Society to a proposed house of correction for juvenile delinquents (39A-F6.2); a proposal of a public park in the valley of Rock Creek (39A-F6.3); and a docket volume (39A-F6.4).

### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

### **Scope and Contents note**

## Committees

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The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia document various subjects (39A–H6.1).

### **Arrangement note**

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

## Committee on Education and Labor 1867

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The first standing Committee on Education and Labor was established just after the Civil War on March 21, 1867. The committee's jurisdiction included all legislation concerning education and labor, such as agricultural colleges; the education of certain classes of citizens, such as freedmen and orphans; special educational needs in regions and areas of the country; other educational issues at the national level; the conditions of labor in the United States; labor organizations; competition in the labor market; and other labor-related topics. Many activities of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands (Freedmen's Bureau) fell under its jurisdiction. The committee functioned until 1883, when its jurisdiction was split between a committee on education and a committee on labor.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1867

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Education and Labor include a petition for the establishment of a Bureau of Education (39A–H7.1).

### **Arrangement note**

## Committees

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

### Committee on Elections 1865-1867

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

#### **Controlled Access Headings**

##### **Personal Name(s)**

- Dawson, John L. (John Littleton), 1813-1870

### Committee Papers 1865-1867

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Elections include a claim of Abelard Guthrie for representing in 1852, the then unorganized Territory of Nebraska (39A-F7.1); and an election contest, *Smith Fuller v. John L. Dawson*, Pennsylvania (39A-F7.2). There is a volume of minutes, 34th Congress, 1st session, to 39th Congress, 2d session (34A-D6.9); and an inquiry into public affairs in Maryland begun by the Committee on Elections and continued by the Committee on the Judiciary (39A-F13.4).



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Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Elections document various subjects (39A–H8.1).

### **Arrangement note**

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

Committee on Expenditures in the Navy Department 1865-1867

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Expenditures in the Navy Department include a petition to increase the pay of employees of the Washington Navy Yard (39A–H9.1).

### **Arrangement note**

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

Committee on Expenditures in the Treasury Department 1865-1867

Committee Papers 1865-1867

## Committees

**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Expenditures in the Treasury Department include copies of Lieutenant General Grant's circular telegram of May 29, 1865, officially encouraging the resumption of the Southern export trade, especially in cotton (39A-F8.1).

Committee on Foreign Affairs 1865-1867

**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 Papers 1865-1867

**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Foreign Affairs document Anglo-American boundary impingements (39A-F9.1); banishment of criminals to the United States (39A-F9.2); claims (39A-F9.3); consular problems (39A-F9.4); exchange of statistical publications (39A-F9.5); foreign consular jurisdiction in this country (39A-F9.6); judgment of the Lord Chancellor of

## Committees

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England in the case of the United States v. McRae, a financial agent of the late Confederate States (39A–F9.7); medal for the patriotic generosity of Cornelius Vanderbilt (39A–F9.8); Paris Universal Exposition (39A–F9.9); presents from foreign powers (39A–F9.10); organization of the Department of State (39A–F9.11); relations with Brazil, Fiji, Mexico, Santo Domingo, and Switzerland (39A–F9.12); and various subjects (39A–F9.13). There is also a volume of minutes, 39th Congress, 1st session, to 41st Congress, 3d session (39A–F9.14); and a docket volume (39A–F9.15).

### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 39A–F9.3 and 39A–F9.4, which are arranged alphabetically.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs document various subjects (39A–H10.1).

### **Arrangement note**

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

Committee on Freedmen's Affairs 1865-1867

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Select Committee on Freedmen's Affairs was established on December 6, 1865. The select committee would be responsible for all reports and papers concerning freedmen. At the opening of the second session of the same Congress (39th), the committee was continued as a standing

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committee with the same jurisdiction. The committee was abolished in 1875 and its jurisdiction was returned to other committees, in large part to the Judiciary Committee.

### Committee Papers 1865-1867

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Freedmen's Affairs include attested House resolutions of Dec. 10, 1866 (39A–F10.1); funds received by the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands (39A–F10.2); and scarcity of food in South Carolina (39A–F10.3).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged by subject.

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

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

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Freedmen's Affairs document various subjects (39A–H11.1).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

### Committee on Indian Affairs 1865-1867

#### **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

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existed for several years before the creation of the standing committee. Among the matters referred 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 Papers 1865-1867

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Indian Affairs document the administration of the Indian Office (39A-F11.1); attested copies of House resolutions (39A-F11.2); bids, goods, and contracts (39A-F11.3); captives (39A-F11.4); Indian policy (39A-P11.5); transcribed quarterly accounts, 1865 and 1866, of the Southern Superintendency, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, and its subordinate agencies (39A-F11.6); and tribal matters of the following regions: California (39A-F11.7), Kansas and Nebraska (39A-F11.8), Minnesota and the Sioux country (39A-F11.9), Montana and the Pacific Northwest (39A-F11.10), New Mexico and Utah (39A-F11.11), the Southern Superintendency (39A-F11.12), and the Upper Missouri River country (39A-F11.13).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

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

## Committees

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The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs document various subjects (39A–H12.1).

### **Arrangement note**

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

#### Committee on Invalid Pensions 1865-1867

### **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 Papers 1865-1867

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Invalid Pensions include a docket volume (39A–F12.1); and a volume of minutes, 36th Congress, 1st session, to 45th Congress, 3d session (36A–D12.2).

#### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

### **Scope and Contents note**

## Committees

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The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Invalid Pensions document various subjects (39A–H13.1).

### **Arrangement note**

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

## Committee on the Judiciary 1865-1867

### **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 Papers 1865-1867

### **Scope and Contents note**

## Committees

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The committee papers of the Committee on the Judiciary document attested House resolutions (39A–F13.1); civil and legal rights, especially of freedmen (39A–F13.2); nominations for customs and internal revenue positions ignored or rejected by the Senate (39A–F13.3); inquiry into public affairs in Maryland begun by the Committee on Elections and continued by the Committee on the Judiciary (39A–F13.4); legislative proposals affecting the Federal judiciary and law enforcement personnel (39A–F13.5); proposal for a U. S. Manual Labor Corps (39A–F13.6); protection of Federal officials, including Provost Marshal personnel, from local vindictiveness (39A–F13.7); repair of southern railroads (39A–F13.8); return of various Louisiana properties (39A–F13.9); trial of Jefferson Davis, president of the late Confederate States, for treason (39A–F13.10); woman suffrage (39A–F13.11); various court or legal problems of regional interest (39A–F13.12). There is also a docket volume (39A–F13.13); and a volume of minutes, 38th Congress, 1st session, to 40th Congress, 1st session (38A–E10.5).

### Arrangement note

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 39A–F13.9, which is arranged numerically, and 39A–F13.12, which is arranged alphabetically by State or Territory.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

### Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary document the annexation of Virginia counties to West Virginia (39A–H14.1); civil rights, suffrage, and equality before the law (39A–H14.2); constitutional amendment to acknowledge God as the source of all authority and power in civil government (39A–H14.3); constitutional amendment to provide for election of the President and Vice President by direct vote (39A–H14.4); courts and judges (39A–H14.5); 8-hour day (39A–H14.6); impeachment of President Andrew Johnson (39A–H14.7); insurance legislation (39A–H14.8); woman suffrage (39A–H14.9); and various subjects (39A–H14.10).

### Arrangement note



## Committees

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

### Committee on Manufactures 1865-1867

#### **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 Papers 1865-1867

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Manufactures include a docket volume, 39th Congress, 1st session, to 42d Congress, 2d session (39A–F14.1).

### Committee on Military Affairs 1865-1867

#### **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

## Committees

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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.

### Committee Papers 1865-1867

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Military Affairs document a bounty for the Missouri militia (39A–F15.1); detention of the Michigan Cavalry Regiment (39A–F15.2); fraud in recruiting in the Provost Marshal’s Department, Western District of New York (39A–F15.3); horses and equipage of the 1st Regiment of Dakota Cavalry (39A–F15.4); indictment, in 1866, of A. B. Morey for acts allegedly committed during the occupation of Vicksburg, Mississippi (39A–F15.5); payment of commutation of rations to prisoners of war for the period of their confinement (39A–F15.6); scope of statistical information available in the Provost Marshal General’s Bureau (39A–F15.7); and various subjects (39A–F15.8). There is also a volume of minutes (39A–F15.9) and a docket volume (39A–F15.10).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group.

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

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

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Military Affairs document bounties (39A–H15.1); commutation price of an Army ration (39A–H15.2); perpetuation of the Veteran Reserve Corps (39A–H15.3); and various subjects (39A–H15.4).

#### **Arrangement note**

## Committees

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

### Committee on the Militia 1865-1867

#### **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.

### Committee Papers 1865-1867

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

The committee papers of the Committee on the Militia document the analysis and amendment of militia legislation (39A–F16.1), arranged chronologically; and correspondence and views from various localities (39A–F16.2), arranged alphabetically by State or Territory. There is also a docket volume, 39th Congress, 1st session, to 41st Congress, 1st session, and 44th Congress, 1st and 2d sessions (39A–F16.3).

### Committee on Naval Affairs 1865-1867

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

## Committees

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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 Papers 1865-1867

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Naval Affairs document the Bureau of Ordinance commendation to inspector M. Lynch, Norfolk, Va. (39A–F17.1); freshwater basin at or near Portland, Maine, for ironclad vessels of the Navy (39A–F17.2); pay of pilots in the gunboat service and elsewhere (39A–F17.3); and restoration of Comdr. Aaron K. Hughes to the active list of the Navy (39A–F17.4).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged by subject.

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

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

## Committees

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The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs document various subjects (39A–H17.1).

### **Arrangement note**

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

#### Committee on the Pacific Railroads 1865-1867

### **Biographical/Historical note**

On March 2, 1865, the standing Committee on the Pacific Railroads was established and assigned jurisdiction over subjects relating railroads and telegraph lines that were being constructed from the Mississippi River and the coast of the Pacific Ocean. This was in response to a bill signed by President Abraham Lincoln on July 1, 1862, authorizing the construction of a transcontinental railroad between the Missouri River and California. By 1911, the committee had become largely inactive and it was terminated.

#### Committee Papers 1865-1867

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on the Pacific Railroads include a volume of minutes (39A–F18.1) and a docket volume (39A–F18.2), both covering the 39th Congress, 1st session, to 43d Congress, 2d session.

#### Committee on Patents 1865-1867

### **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

## Committees

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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 Papers 1865-1867

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Patents include a docket volume, 39th Congress, 1st session, and 41st Congress, 3d session (39A–F19.1).

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

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

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Patents document various subjects (39A–H18.1).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

### Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads 1865-1867

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

## Committees

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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 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 Papers 1865-1867

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

The committee papers of the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads document the legislative views of the Auditor of the Treasury for Post Office Department (39A–F20.1); post routes or other matters of primary interest to localities (39A–F20.2); railway bridge over the Mississippi River near Clinton, Iowa (39A–F20.3); and various subjects (39A–F20.4).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 39A–F20.2, which is arranged alphabetically by State or Territory.

## Committees

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### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

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

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads document the abolition of the franking privilege (39A–H19.1); bridges over the Mississippi River (39A–H19.2); change in postal law to allow books, pamphlets, etc., to be sent public libraries and historical societies without prepayment of postage (39A–H19.3); mail routes (39A–H19.4); pay increase for postal workers (39A–H19.5); stamped envelopes (39A–H19.6); and various subjects (39A–H19.7).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

### Committee on Private Land Claims 1865-1867

#### **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 Papers 1865-1867

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



## Committees

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The committee papers of the Committee on Private Land Claims include a docket volume, 39th Congress, 1st session, to 41st Congress, 3d session (39A–F21.1).

### Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds 1865-1867

#### **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.

### Committee Papers 1865-1867

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds document the Capitol, especially as to its ventilation (39A–F22.1); improvements to streets and avenues passing through or by Federal property (39A–F22. 2); Long Bridge over the Potomac River (39A–F22.3); the White House (39A–F22.4); and various subjects (39A–F22.5).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

## Committees

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### Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds document a public park for the cities of Washington and Georgetown (39A–H20.1); and various subjects (39A–H20.2).

### Arrangement note

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

## Committee on Public Expenditures 1865-1867

### Committee Papers 1865-1867

#### Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Public Expenditures include a volume of minutes, 39th Congress, 1st session, to 41st Congress, 2d session (39A–F23.1); and docket volumes 37th Congress, 1st session, to 41st Congress, 1st session (37A–E15.1).

## Committee on Public Lands 1865-1867

### 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

## Committees

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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 Papers 1865-1867

#### Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Public Lands contain committee memoranda, including draft minutes for Feb. 3, 10, and 11, 1865 (39A–F24.1); confirmation of titles to public lands disposed of in Mississippi under conditions of secession (39A–F24.2); encouragement to tree planting (39A–F24.3); Joseph Leidy’s effort to publicize his description of Nebraskan fossil remains (39A–F24.4); public land problems in California (39A–F24.5); quieting titles to certain lands ceded by the United States to states (39A–F24.6); railways and transportation in the West (39A–F24.7); subjection of Tennessee school lands to exploitation for copper (39A–F24.8); and various subjects (39A–F24.9). There is also a volume of minutes, 39th Congress, 1st session, to 42d Congress, 3d session (39A–F24.10); and a docket volume (39A–F24.11).

#### Arrangement note

The records are arranged chronologically within each group.

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

#### Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Public Lands document the extension of the land grant of the Amboy, Lansing, and Traverse Bay Railroad Co., in Michigan (39A–H21.1); land grants to aid education (39A–H21.2); land grant to the Dubuque and Sioux City Railroad (39A–H21.3); land grants for railroads, canals, roads, and harbors (39A–H21.4); return to the market of certain reserved land (39A–H21.5); and various subjects (39A–H21.6).

## Committees

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### **Arrangement note**

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

#### Committee on Revolutionary Pensions 1865-1867

### **Biographical/Historical note**

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 Papers 1865-1867

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions include a docket volume, 39th Congress, 1st session, to 41st Congress, 3d session (39A–F25.1).

#### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions include pensions for soldiers of the War of 1812 (39A–H22.1).

### **Arrangement note**

## Committees

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

### Committee on Roads and Canals 1865-1867

#### **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 1865-1867

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

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Roads and Canal document increased transit facilities (39A–H23.1).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

### Committee on the Territories 1865-1867

## Committees

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### 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 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 Papers 1865-1867

### Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on the Territories document the codification of the laws of the Territory of Dakota (39A–F26.1); the Great Trail West from Leavenworth, Kansas, as an example of neglect in public upkeep (39A–F26.2); a pamphlet, *Laws of the Territory of New Mexico Passed by the Legislative Assembly, Session 1865–1866*, printed at Santa Fe, 1866 (39A–F26.3); and protest of John Titus about local real estate grants to Mormon interests in the Territory of Utah (39A–F26.4). There is also a docket volume, 39th Congress, 1st session, to 41st Congress, 3d session (39A–F26.5); and committee minutes, 36th Congress, 1st session, to 43d Congress, 1st session (35A–D21.8).

### Arrangement note

The records are arranged by subject.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

### Scope and Contents note

## Committees

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The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on the Territories cover various subjects (39A–H24.1).

### Arrangement note

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

## Committee on Ways and Means 1865-1867

### 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 Papers 1865-1867

### Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Ways and Means include appointments to membership on various House committees (39A–F27.1); attested House resolutions (39A–F27.2); copies of House bills (39A–F27.3); correspondence of the chairman, Justin S. Morrill, a Representative from Vermont (39A–F27.4); correspondence of a committee member, Samuel Hooper, a Representative from Massachusetts (39A–F27.5); invitations and letters of introduction (39A–F27.6); requests for publications or papers (39A–F27.7); papers on substantive topics, as follows: Canadian reciprocity (39A–F27.8), commodity tariff or commodity taxation (39A–F27.9), direct taxes (39A–F27.10), drawbacks and exports (39A–F27.11), Government personnel

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(39A–F27.12), immigration (39A–F27.13), income tax (39A–F27.14), internal revenue (39A–F27.15), national currency and finance (39A–F27.16), railroads and interstate commerce (39A–F27.17), tariff policy (39A–F27.18), taxation policy (39A–F27.19), and other subjects (39A–F27.20); and papers from or concerning the Commissioner of Public Buildings (39A–F27.21), the Congress, especially the House of Representatives (39A–F27.22), and the executive departments: Agriculture (39A–F27.23), Interior (39A–F27.24), Navy (39A–F27.25), Post Office (39A–F27.26), State (39A–F27.27), Treasury (39A–F27.28), and War (39A–F27.29). There is also a docket volume, 1st session (39A–F27.30).

### Arrangement note

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 39A–F27.2 and 39A–F27.3, which are arranged numerically.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

### Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means document agricultural implements (39A–H25.1); banks and banking (39A–H25.2); barley (39A–H25.3); books, charts, maps, and pamphlets (39A–H25.4); cigars and tobacco (39A–H25.5); copper (39A–H25.6); dogs (39A–H25.7); flax and hemp (39A–H25.8); hardware (39A–H25.9); increase in pay for Government workers (39A–H25.10); iron and steel (39A–H25.11); manufacturers' tax (39A–H25.12); medicines (39A–H25.13); Mississippi River levees (39A–H25.14); petroleum (39A–H25.15); photographs (39A–H25.16); protection of American industry (39A–H25.17); reciprocity treaty with the British provinces (39A–H25.18); regulation of insurance (39A–H25.19); relief of fire insurance companies from tax upon premiums (39A–H25.20); wool (39A–H25.21); and various subjects (39A–H25.22).

### Arrangement note



## Committees

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

### Select Committees 1865-1867

Select Committee on Alleged Private Meetings of Members of the House With a View to a Corrupt Bargain With the President (39A-F28.1) 1865-1867

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

In February 1867, while the House Committee on the Judiciary considered a resolution of impeachment of President Andrew Johnson, rumors spread through Washington that certain Members of Congress had met privately with Johnson to strike a bargain whereby they would vote against any report unfavorable to the President in exchange for Presidential support on certain matters. In reaction, the House established the Select Committee on Alleged Private Meetings of Members of the House With a View to a Corrupt Bargain With the President.

Committee Papers 1865-1867

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

Records of the committee consist of copies of House resolutions to establish the committee, transcripts of committee testimony, and newspaper clippings about the alleged bargaining (39A-F28.1).

Select Committee on the Murder of Union Soldiers in South Carolina (39A-F28.2) 1865-1867

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

In October 1865, three U.S. Army soldiers were murdered in South Carolina. Arrests were made and subsequently a military commission condemned the accused to death. After the condemned were transferred to another prison and released on a writ of habeas corpus, the House created the

## Committees

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Select Committee on the Murder of Union Soldiers in South Carolina to investigate the entire matter.

Committee Papers 1865-1867

### **Scope and Contents note**

Records of the committee include transcripts of testimony, official copies of the trial transcript, copies of papers and correspondence of the War Department, and copies of petitions concerning the accused that had been sent to the President (39A-F28.2).

Select Committee on Reconstruction (39A-F28.3) 1865-1867

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Select Committee on Reconstruction, created on July 3, 1867, was the successor to the Joint Committee on Reconstruction. The committee investigated conditions in the South, including "the Ku Klux outrages" and election irregularities. The House also referred to this committee the applications for removal of political disabilities imposed by section 3 of the 14th Amendment. That section barred from civil or military office any person who had violated their official oath to uphold the U.S. Constitution by supporting the Confederacy; the section included a proviso that, by a two-thirds vote of each House, Congress could remove the disability.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

### **Scope and Contents note**

Records of the committee are substantial (30 ft.) and consist mostly of petitions in the form of letters from individuals praying for the removal of political disabilities imposed upon them and related documents supporting or opposing specific removals (39A-F28.3).

**Originals of Printed House Documents**

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Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1865-1867

**Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the select committees include the following select committees: on the Bankruptcy Law (39A-H26.1); on a National Bureau of Education (39A-H26.2); and on the Pacific Railroad (39A-H26.3).

**Originals of Printed House Documents 1865-1867 21.0 Linear feet****Scope and Contents note**

The original printed House documents include executive documents, 1st session (39A-G1) and 2d session (39A-G2); and original miscellaneous documents, 1st session (39A-G3) and 2d session (39A-G4).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged numerically within each group.

**Petitions and Memorials Which Were Tabled 1865-1867 0.16 Linear feet****Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials which were tabled include claims (39A-J1.1) and various subjects (39A-J1.2).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group.

**Other Records**

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**Other Records 1865-1867 0.25 Linear feet****Scope and Contents note**

Other records include roll calls (39A–K1), arranged chronologically; and various papers (39A–K2), arranged by subject.

**Records of the Office of the Clerk 1865-1867****Record Books 1865-1867 0.91 Linear feet (6 volumes)****Scope and Contents note**

The record books include a bill book of House and Senate bills and resolutions (39C–A1); register of bills originating in and passed by the House (39C–A2); petition book (39C–A3); record of orders of the day (39C–A4); and statement of continent expenses, 39th Congress, 2d session, to 40th Congress, 2d session 39C–A5). There also are 4 account books, 38th Congress, to 41st Congress, 1st session (38C–A5), and 3 account books containing expenditures of the Clerk's Office, 37th Congress, 1st session, to 40th Congress, 3d session (37C–A6).

**Other Records 1865-1867****Scope and Contents note**

Other records include a record of records withdrawn (39C–B1), arranged chronologically.

**Index 1865-1867 0.083 Linear feet (1 volume)****Scope and Contents note**

## Index

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The index is for papers submitted to various committees in support of claims, pensions, and other forms of private relief, 39th Congress, 1st session, to 43d Congress, 2d session (39C–C1).