

Records of the U.S. House of Representatives
RG.233.50.House
50th Congress

**Finding aid prepared by 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

Repository	Center for Legislative Archives, National Archives and Records Administration
Title	House Records of the 50th Congress
Date [inclusive]	1887-1889
Extent	303.66 Cubic feet
Language	English

Biographical/Historical 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.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Center for Legislative Archives, National Archives and Records Administration

Records of Legislative Proceedings

Collection Inventory

Records of Legislative Proceedings 1887-1889

Minute Books and Journals 1887-1889 3.0 Cubic feet (10 volumes)

Scope and Contents note

The minute books and journals series includes a minute book, 1st session (50A-A1); legislative journal, 1st session (59A-A2); minute book, 2d session (50A-A3); and legislative journal, 2d session (59A-A4).

Bills and Resolutions Originating in the House 1887-1889 24.0 Cubic feet

Scope and Contents note

The bills and resolutions originating in the House include fifty-three volumes of original House bills (53A-B1); two volumes of original House joint resolutions (50A-B2); House simple resolutions, motions, and orders (50A-B3); desk copies of House bills passed (50A-B4); desk copies of House joint resolutions passed (50A-B5); and twenty-three volumes of engrossed House bills and resolutions (50A-B6).

Arrangement note

The records are arranged numerically within each group, except 50A-B3, which is arranged chronologically.

Bills Originating in the Senate and Considered in the House 1887-1889 0.04 Cubic feet

Scope and Contents note

Accompanying Papers File

The bills originating in the Senate and considered in the House include Senate bills (50A–C1).

Arrangement note

The records are arranged numerically.

Accompanying Papers File 1887-1889 60.0 Cubic feet

Scope and Contents note

The accompanying papers file includes papers relating to claims, pensions, and other forms of private relief together with papers relating to public matters (50A–D1).

Arrangement note

The records are arranged alphabetically by person, state, territory, or subject.

Committee Reports 1887-1889 15.0 Cubic feet (61 volumes)

Scope and Contents note

The committee reports include original committee reports, 1st session (50A–E1) and 2d session (50A–E2).

Arrangement note

The records are arranged numerically within each group.

Committees 1887-1889

Committee on Agriculture 1887-1889

Committees

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 Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Agriculture include bills and resolutions referred to the committee (50A–F2.1); hearings (50A–F2.2); a statement of the expenditures of the Department of Agriculture for 1888 (50A–F2.3); and various subjects (50A–F2.4). There is also a volume of minutes (50A–F2.5); and a docket volume (50A–F2.6).

Arrangement note

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 50A–F2.1 and 50A–F2.2, which are arranged numerically by bill or resolution.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

Committees

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Agriculture document the adulteration of lard (50A–H1.1); agricultural experiment stations (50A–H1.2); conservation of forest lands (50A–H1.3); construction of dams and reservoirs for the irrigation of arid lands in Colorado (50A–H1.4); control of cattle diseases and the administration of the Bureau of Animal Industry (50A–H1.5); establishment of a Department of Agriculture headed by a Secretary with Cabinet status (50A–H1.6); legal restrictions on the sale of oleomargarine (50A–H1.7); legislation providing for inspection of meat (50A–H1.8); legislation to prevent the manufacture and sale of adulterated food (50A–H1.9); manufacture of sugar from sorghum (50A–H1.10); tariff protection of agriculture (50A–H1.11); and various subjects (50A–H1.12).

Arrangement note

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

Committee on Appropriations 1887-1889

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 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 1887-1889

Committees

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Appropriations include expositions (50A–F3.1); deficiency bill (50A–F3.2); fortifications bill (50A–F3.3); legislative, executive, and judicial bill (50A–F3.4); sundry civil expenses bill (50A–F3.5); and various subjects (50A–F3.6). There is also a volume of letterpress copies of outgoing correspondence, 1880–1889, 46th Congress, 2d session, to 51st Congress, 1st session (46A–F3.23).

Arrangement note

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 50A–F3.2, 50A–F3.4, and 50A–F3.5, which are arranged by agency of origin or by subject.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Appropriations include adjustments of pay of post office and customs officers (50A–H2.1); enforcement of the law regulating the sale of oleomargarine (50A–H2.2); expositions and celebrations (50A–H2.3); federal aid to various public and private charities (50A–H2.4); flood relief (50A–H2.5); headstones for graves of Union veterans (50A–H2.6); Hydrographic Office and the Coast and Geodetic Survey (50A–H2.7); improvement of streets in the District of Columbia (50A–H2.8); publication of Army and Navy records of the Civil War (50A–H2.9); public land surveys (50A–H2.10); repair and improvement of property of the Federal Government (50A–H2.11); Revenue-Marine Service (50A–H2.12); U. S. Signal Service (50A–H2.13); and various subjects (50A–H2.14).

Arrangement note

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

Committees

Committee on Banking and Currency 1887-1889

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 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Banking and Currency document various subjects (50A–F4.1), arranged by subject. There is also a volume of minutes (50A–F4.2); and a docket volume (50A–F4.3).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

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 fractional currency for postal purposes (50A–H3.1); and various subjects (50A–H3.2).

Arrangement note

Committees

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

Committee on Claims 1887-1889

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 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Claims include French spoliation claims (50A–F5.1), arranged numerically by Senate miscellaneous document number. There is also a volume of minutes (50A–F5.2); and a docket volume (50A–F5.3).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

Committees

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Claims document various subjects (50A–H4.1).

Arrangement note

The records are arranged alphabetically by petitioner.

Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures 1887-1889

Biographical/Historical note

In 1864 the Committee on a Uniform System of Coinage, Weights, and Measures was established, and in 1867, the name was shortened to the Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures. Its jurisdiction included the subjects listed in its name: coinage, weights, and measures. The coinage part of the jurisdiction referred to defining and fixing of standards of value and the regulation of coinage and exchange, including the coinage of silver and the purchase of bullion, the exchange of gold coins for gold bars, the subject of mutilated coins, and the coinage of souvenir and commemorative coins. The committee's jurisdiction also encompassed legislation related to mints and assay offices and the establishment of legal standards of value in the insular possessions. The weights and measures part of the jurisdiction included legislation to establish a national standardization bureau and the standardization of various weights, measures, packing, and grading techniques used in interstate commerce. The part of the jurisdiction of the Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures relating to stabilization of the currency was transferred to the Banking and Currency Committee in 1921. Under the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, the coinage part of its jurisdiction was transferred to the Committee on Banking and Currency and the weights and measures jurisdiction was transferred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

Committee Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

Committees

The committee papers of the Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures document various subjects (50A–F6.1), arranged by subject. There is also a volume of minutes (50A–F6.2); and a docket volume (50A–F6.3).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures document various subjects (50A–H5.1).

Arrangement note

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

Committee on Commerce 1887-1889

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-

Committees

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 Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Commerce document bridges (50A–F7.1), arranged alphabetically by stream; a report on an investigation of the Reading Railroad strike (50A–F7.2); and various subjects (50A–F7.3), arranged by subject.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Commerce include an amendment of the interstate commerce act (50A–H6.1); bridges (50A–H6.2); establishment of quarantine stations at various ports to control contagious diseases (50A–H6.3); immigration (50A–H6.4); legislation relating to merchant ships (50A–H6.5); legislation to authorize an International Maritime Conference in the United States to lessen the dangers to navigation (50A–H6.6); legislation to require railroads engaged in interstate commerce to use uniform automatic coupling devices and brakes (50A–H6.7); Life–Saving Service (50A–H6.8); lighthouses and other aids to navigation (50A–H6.9); Nicaraguan canal (50A–H6.10); relief of commercial travelers from state and local license laws (50A–H6.11); and various subjects (50A–H6.12).

Arrangement note

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

Committee on the District of Columbia 1887-1889

Committees

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 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on the District of Columbia include a volume of minutes (50A–F8.1); and a docket volume (50A–F8.2).

Committee on Education 1887-1889

Biographical/Historical note

When the Committee on Education and Labor was separated into two committees in 1883, the jurisdiction of the new Committee on Education included all legislation and documents relating to the subject of education. This included proposed legislation providing aid from the Federal Government to common schools, aid to the education of deprived or handicapped persons, the establishment of colleges for the benefit of agricultural and mechanical education, and efforts to deal with illiteracy at the national level. The committee functioned until 1946 when it was reunited with

Committees

the Committee on Labor under the Legislative Reorganization Act to form the new Committee on Education and Labor.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Education document federal aid to public schools (50A–H7.1).

Arrangement note

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

Committee on Elections 1887-1889

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)

- Arnold, Warren Otis, 1839-1910

Committees

- Carlisle, John Griffin, 1834-1910
- Chalmers, James R. (James Ronald), 1831-1898
- Davidson, Alexander Caldwell, 1826-1897
- Elliott, William, 1838-1907
- Felton, Charles Norton, 1832-1914
- Frank, Nathan, 1852-1931
- Glover, John Milton, 1852-1929
- Lowry, Robert, 1824-1904
- McDuffie, John Van, 1841-1896
- Morgan, James Bright, 1833-1892
- Post, Philip Sidney, 1833-1895
- Smalls, Robert, 1839-1915
- Vandever, William, 1817-1893
- White, James Bain, 1835-1897
- Worthington, Nicholas Ellsworth, 1836-1916

Committee Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Elections include the contested election cases of Charles S. Bradley v. Warren O. Arnold, Rhode Island (50A–F9.1); James R. Chalmers v. James B. Morgan, Mississippi (50A–F9.2); depositions relating to the violation of election laws in the Eastern District of North Carolina (50A–F9.3); Nathan Frank v. John M. Glover, Missouri (50A–F9.4); Robert Lowry v. James B. White, Indiana (50A–F9.5); Joseph D. Lynch v. William Vandever, California (50A–F9.6); J. V. McDuffie v. A. C. Davidson, Alabama (50A–F9.7); Robert Smalls v. William Elliott, South Carolina (50A–E9.8); Frank J. Sullivan v. C. N. Felton, California (50A–F9.9); George H. Thobe v. J. O. Carlisle, Kentucky (50A–F9.13); and Nicholas E. Worthington v. Philip S. Post, Illinois (50A–F9.11). There is also a volume of minutes (50A–F9.12); and two docket volumes (50A–F9.13).

Arrangement note

Committees

The records are arranged by subject.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

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 (50A–H8.1).

Arrangement note

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

Committee on Enrolled Bills 1887-1889

Biographical/Historical note

The House standing Committee on Enrolled Bills was a result of the dissolution of the old Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills. The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills was established on July 27, 1789, with the responsibility for the enrollment of engrossed bills. In 1876 the joint rules of Congress were allowed to lapse, and although the committee continued to be referred to as a "joint committee," it consisted thereafter of a separate committee in each house, each supervising the enrolling of bills originated in its own house. Under the Reorganization Act of 1946, the functions of the Committee on Enrolled Bills were incorporated into those of the House Administration Committee.

Committee Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

Committees

The committee papers of the Committee on Enrolled Bills include a volume relating to the enrollment of bills and resolutions (50A–F10.1).

Committee on Expenditures in the Department of Justice 1887-1889

Committee Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Expenditures in the Department of Justice include a volume of minutes (50A–F11.1).

Committee on Expenditures in the Navy Department 1887-1889

Committee Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Expenditures in the Navy Department include a report on Navy Department employees (50A–F12.1).

Committee on Expenditures in the Treasury Department 1887-1889

Committee Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Expenditures in the Treasury Department document various subjects (50A–F13.1).

Committees

Arrangement note

The records are arranged chronologically.

Committee on Expenditures in the War Department 1887-1889**Committee Papers 1887-1889****Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Expenditures in the War Department include an abstract of articles purchased for the Army, 1886–1888 (50A–F14.1); inspection of money accounts of Army disbursing officers (50A–F14.2); War Department contracts (50A–F14.3); and various subjects (50A–F14.4).

Arrangement note

The records are arranged by subject.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889**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 War Department document various subjects (50A–H9.1).

Arrangement note

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

Committees

Committee on Foreign Affairs 1887-1889

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 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Foreign Affairs include affairs in Samoa (50A–F15.1); emigration of British criminal classes (50A–F15.2); claim of James M. Hagar (50A–F15.3); international arbitration (50A–F15.4); International Commission with Mexico (50A–F15.5); international expositions at Melbourne and Paris (50A–F15.6); reorganization of the Portuguese diplomatic and consular services (50A–F15.7); restriction of Chinese immigration (50A–F15.8); and various subjects (50A–F15.9). There is also a volume of minutes (50A–F15.10); and a docket volume (50A–F15.11).

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 1887-1889

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 the establishment of an international court of arbitration for the peaceful settlement of international disputes (50A–H10.1); immigration (50A–H10.2); International Marine Conference (50A–H10.3); and various subjects (50A–H10.4).

Arrangement note

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

Committee on Indian Affairs 1887-1889

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 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.

Committees

Committee Papers 1887-1889**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Indian Affairs include claims (50A–F16.1); Confederated Peorias, Kaskaskia, Wea, and Piankashaw Indians (50A–F16.2); grants of Indian reservation lands for railroad purposes (50A–F16.3); removal of the Jicarilla Apaches (50A–F16.4); and various subjects (50A–F16.5). There is also a volume of minutes (50A–F16.6); and a docket volume (50A–F16.7).

Arrangement note

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 50A–F16.1, which is arranged alphabetically by claimant.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889**Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs include legislation giving the Kansas City and Pacific Railroad a right-of-way through the Indian Territory (50A–H11.1); removal of the Southern Ute Indians from their reservation in Colorado, to San Juan County, Utah (50A–H11.2); and various subjects (50A–H11.3).

Arrangement note

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

Committee on Invalid Pensions 1887-1889

Committees

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 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Invalid Pensions include a volume of minutes (50A–F17.1); and six docket volumes (50A–F17.2).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Invalid Pensions document the equalization of bounties (50A–H12.1); legislation to provide paid furloughs for residents of the national soldiers homes for disabled veterans (50A–H12.2); legislation to provide pensions for all Civil War veterans (50A–H12.3); Mexican War pension legislation (50A–H12.4); pensions for Union veterans who were prisoners of war (50A–H12.5); pensions for veterans with various disabilities (50A–H12.6); removal of the time limit for application for pension (50A–H12.7); and various subjects (50A–H12.8).

Arrangement note

Committees

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

Committee on the Judiciary 1887-1889

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 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on the Judiciary document the establishment of a Court of Patent Appeals (50A-F18.1); internal revenue taxes paid by state officers (50A-F18.2); investigation of the Kansas Pacific Railroad (50A-F18.3); and various subjects (50A-F18.4). There are also a volume of minutes (50A-F18.5); and a docket volume (50A-F18.6).

Committees

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 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary include the congressional action to make George Washington's birthday a national holiday (50A-H13.1); constitutional amendment to prohibit the manufacture and sale of alcoholic liquors (50A-H13.2); direct election of Senators (50A-H13.3); international copyright legislation (50A-H13.4); legislation for the more adequate protection of young girls and women (50A-H13.5); legislation to restrict work and travel on Sunday and to require religious instruction of children (50A-H13.6); polygamy (50A-H13.7); and various subjects (50A-H13.8).

Arrangement note

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

Committee on Labor 1887-1889

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Labor was created in 1883, when its jurisdiction was removed from the old Education and Labor Committee and two separate committees were created. Despite the establishment of a committee devoted entirely to labor issues, little significant labor legislation was passed before the depression of the 1930s. The committee's jurisdiction included the wages and hours of labor; the arbitration of labor difficulties; the use of convict labor, alien labor, contract labor, and military labor in competition with "honest labor"; and the conditions of laborers employed in Government service. The committee considered methods of directing the work of Federal

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employees, including the use of the Taylor System of shop management and problems relating to child and woman labor; it also investigated such labor-related subjects as conditions in city slums and conditions of blacks in America and of saleswomen in the District of Columbia.

Committee Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Labor include a volume of minutes (50A–F19.1); and a docket volume (50A–F19.2).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Labor document the restriction of work and travel on Sunday (50A–H14.1).

Arrangement note

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

Committee on the Library 1887-1889

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

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

Committee Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on the Library document the exchange of congressional publications with Canada and Chile (50A–F20.1); and various subjects (50A–F20.2). There is also a volume of minutes (50A–F20.3); and a docket volume (50A–F20.4).

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 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on the Library document various subjects (50A–H15.1).

Arrangement note

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

Committee on Manufactures 1887-1889

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

Committees

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 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Manufactures include hearings (50A–F20.1), arranged by subject; a volume of minutes (50A–F21.2); and a docket volume (50A–F21.3).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Manufactures document various subjects (50A–H16.1).

Arrangement note

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

Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries 1887-1889

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries was established on December 21, 1887, to replace the Select Committee on American Shipbuilding and Shipowning Interests. The House Rules defined its jurisdiction as those matters concerning the merchant marine. This included all matters relating to transportation by water, the Coast Guard, life-saving service, lighthouses, lightships, ocean derelicts, the Coast and Geodetic Survey, the Panama Canal, and fisheries. Legislation

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referred to the committee also included matters involving seamen (their assignments, wages, treatment, and health) and officers (their titles, conduct, and licensing); the naming, measuring, licensing, and registering of vessels; navigation and related laws; pleasure yachts; collisions at sea, as well as international arrangements to prevent them; coasting districts; maritime schools; and, taxes, fines, and penalties on vessels. The committee has also regulated shipping in the Philippines and Hawaii. As did most committees of the House, the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee created subcommittees to handle portions of its jurisdiction. In 1919 the committee was given jurisdiction over wireless telegraphy (radio), and in 1932 its name was changed to the Committee on Merchant Marine, Radio, and Fisheries.

Committee Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries document the investigation of seal fisheries in Alaska (50A–F22.1); and various subjects (50A–F22.2).

Arrangement note

The records are arranged by subject.

Committee on Military Affairs 1887-1889

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

Committees

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.

Committee Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Military Affairs include court-martial proceedings (50A-F23.1); increasing the efficiency of the Army (50A-F23.2); investigation of the Fort Brown Military Reservation in Texas (50A-F23.3); lists of records recommended for disposal by the War Department (50A-F23.4); ordnance (50A-F23.5); and various subjects (50A-F23.6). There is also a volume of minutes (50A-F23.7); and two docket volumes (50A-F23.8).

Arrangement note

The records are arranged by subject.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

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 various subjects (50A-H17.1).

Arrangement note

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

Committee on Mines and Mining 1887-1889

Committees

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Mines and Mining was created on December 19, 1865, for consideration of subjects relating to mining interests. It exercised jurisdiction over the Geological Survey, the Bureau of Mines, the establishment of mining schools and mining experimental stations, mineral land laws, the welfare of men working in mines, mining debris, relief in cases of mineral contracts connected with the prosecution of war, the mining of radium ore, and the Government's fuel yards in the District of Columbia. In 1947, the committee was abolished and its duties were transferred to the Committee on Public Lands.

Committee Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Mines and Mining document various subjects (50A–F24.1), arranged by subject. There is also a docket volume (50A–F24.2).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Mines and Mining include an investigation of mining debris in California (50A–H18.1).

Arrangement note

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

Committee on Naval Affairs 1887-1889

Committees

Biographical/Historical note

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 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Naval Affairs document the Naval Academy (50A–F25.1); Navy pay (50A–F25.2); papers relating to the following Navy Department Bureaus: Construction and Repair (50A–F25.3), Equipment and Recruiting (50A–F25.4), Medicine and Surgery (50A–F25.5), Navigation (50A–F25.6), Ordnance (50A–F25.7), Provisions and Clothing (50A–F25.8), Steam Engineering (50A–F25.9), and Yards and Docks (50A–F25.10); U. S. Marine Corps (50A–F25.11); and various subjects (50A–F25.12).

Arrangement note

The records are arranged by subject.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Committees

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs document the organization of a Naval Reserve Corps (50A–H19.1); and various subjects (50A–H19.2).

Arrangement note

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

Committee on Pacific Railroads 1887-1889

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 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Pacific Railroads include a volume of minutes (50A–F26.1); and a docket volume (50A–F26.2).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

Committees

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Pacific Railroads document various subjects (50A–H20.1).

Arrangement note

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

Committee on Patents 1887-1889

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 Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Patents document various subjects (50A–F27.1), arranged by subject. There is also a volume of minutes (50A–F27.2); and a docket volume (50A–F27.3).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Committees

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Patents document international copyright law (50A–H21.1); revision of the patent laws (50A–H21.2); and various subjects (50A–H21.3).

Arrangement note

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

Committee on Pensions 1887-1889

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Pensions was created in 1880, replacing the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions with jurisdiction over subjects relating to the pensions of all the wars of the United States except the Civil War. On January 3, 1939 the jurisdiction of the committee was rewritten to include, the pensions of the Spanish-American War, Philippine Insurrection, and Boxer Rebellion, while all other pension legislation was referred to the Committee on Invalid Pensions. The committee was abolished under the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 and its jurisdiction transferred, for the most part, to the executive agencies.

Committee Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Pensions document various subjects (50A–F28.1), arranged by subject. There is also a volume of minutes (50A–F28.2); and two docket volumes (50A–F28.3).

Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads 1887-1889

Committees

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 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 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads document various subjects (50A–F29.1).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

Committees

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 various subjects (50A–H22.1).

Arrangement note

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

Committee on Printing 1887-1889

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 Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Printing document various subjects (50A–F30.1).

Arrangement note

Committees

The records are arranged by subject.

Committee on Private Land Claims 1887-1889

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 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Private Land Claims include a volume of minutes (50A–F31.1); and a docket volume (50A–F31.2).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Private Land Claims document various subjects (50A–H23.1).

Arrangement note

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

Committees

Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds 1887-1889

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 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds include expenses incurred at the Executive Mansion following the shooting of President Garfield (50A–F32.1), and various subjects (50A–F32.2), arranged by subject. There is also a volume of minutes (50A–F32.3); and a docket volume (50A–F32.4). For letterpress copies of outgoing correspondence, see the 49th Congress, 1st session, to 50th Congress, 2d session (49A–F31.4).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

Committees

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds document various subjects (50A–H24.1).

Arrangement note

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

Committee on Public Lands 1887-1889

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 Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Public Lands document the establishment of land districts and land offices (50A–F33.1), and various subjects (50A–F33.2), arranged by subject. There is also a volume of minutes (50A–F33.3); and a docket volume (50A–F33.4).

Committees

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889**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 establishment of land offices in Colorado (50A–H25.1); protection of Yellowstone National Park (50A–H25.2); and various subjects (50A–H25.3).

Arrangement note

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

Committee on Railways and Canals 1887-1889**Biographical/Historical note**

On April 9, 1869, the name of the Committee on Roads and Canals (1831-1869) was changed to the Committee on Railways and Canals. Its jurisdiction over matters relating to roads and canals, and the improvement of navigation of rivers remained the same. Over the years the committee's jurisdiction changed significantly. Responsibility for the improvement of navigation of rivers was removed in 1880 and given to the Committee on Commerce, because most bills relating to that subject were already being sent to that committee. Also, the 1880 House rule stated that the Committee on Railways and Canals had jurisdiction over "railways and canals other than Pacific railroads"; beginning in the 1880s, however, jurisdiction on most matters relating to railroads was taken over by the Committee on Commerce, renamed in 1892 the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. In 1927 the Committee on Railways and Canals was dissolved and its jurisdiction added to that of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

Committee Papers 1887-1889

Committees

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Railways and Canals document various subjects (50A–F34.1), arranged chronologically. There is also a volume of minutes (50A–F34.2).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Railways and Canals document various subjects (50A–H26.1).

Arrangement note

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

Committee on Revision of the Laws 1887-1889

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Revision of Laws was established in 1868 after having been a select committee for several years and replaced the old Committee on Revisal and Unfinished Business (1795-1868). Jurisdiction of the committee included the revision and codification of the statutes of the United States. The committee reported bills providing for the revision and codification of the general and permanent laws of the United States. Occasionally, bills concerning changes in law rather than revision and codification were referred to the committee, such as the transfer of certain bureaus from one executive department to another.

Committee Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

Committees

The committee papers of the Committee on Revision of the Laws include a docket volume (50A–F35.1).

Committee on Rivers and Harbors 1887-1889

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Rivers and Harbors was authorized early in the 48th Congress in December 1883. The committee was given jurisdiction over subjects relating to the improvements of rivers and harbors and had the responsibility of reporting the river and harbor bill, which previously had been handled by the Committee on Commerce. The committee's jurisdiction changed over time. When the Committee on Levees and Improvements of the Mississippi River was terminated in 1911, its responsibilities were transferred to the Committee on Rivers and Harbors. The subject of flood control was removed from the committee's authority in 1916 and assigned to the new Committee on Flood Control. After 1920 the committee could no longer report appropriation bills for rivers and harbors and its legislative authority was limited to reporting only bills that authorized improvements to rivers and harbors. These shifts in authority still left many subjects within the jurisdiction of the committee. These included improvement of watersheds and dams thereon, construction of locks on navigable streams, construction and maintenance of equipment for river improvements, erosion of banks on navigable streams, pollution of navigable waters, intrastate inland waterways, and navigation of international boundary streams. The committee was terminated early in the 80th Congress on January 3, 1947. Its successor was the Committee on Public Works.

Committee Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Rivers and Harbors document various papers (50A–F36.1), arranged by subject; a volume of minutes (50A–F36.2); and a docket volume (50A–F36.3).

Committees

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Rivers and Harbors include various papers (50A–F36.1), arranged by subject; a volume of minutes (50A–F36.2); and a docket volume (50A–F36.3).

Arrangement note

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

Committee on Rules 1887-1889

Biographical/Historical note

The Rules Committee was established as a select committee until 1880 when it was made a standing committee. Jurisdiction included the original establishment and revision of the rules of the House, an activity that required little attention after the first Congress because the rules of the previous Congress were usually adopted with few changes at the beginning of each new Congress. Further jurisdiction consisted of all proposed action on the rules and joint rules, control over the order of business on the floor of the House through the issuance of special orders or rules, and recesses and final adjournments of Congress.

Committee Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Rules include a resolution relating to the refunding of the direct tax (50A–F37.1).

Committees

Committee on the Territories 1887-1889

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 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on the Territories include various papers (50A–F38.1), arranged by subject; a volume of minutes (50A–F38.2); and a docket volume (50A–F38.3).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on the Territories document the Idaho Territory (50A–H28.1); organization of a territorial government in Oklahoma and opening the Indian Territory for settlement (50A–H28.2); opposition to the admission of Utah as a state (50A–H28.3); problems relating to the government of Washington Territory and admission to statehood (50A–H28.4); protection of Yellowstone Park (50A–H28.5); and various subjects (50A–H2.6).

Committees

Arrangement note

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

Committee on War Claims 1887-1889

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on War Claims was created in 1873 to replace the Committee on Revolutionary Claims (1825-1873). Jurisdiction of the committee was defined to include claims arising from Indian hostilities and included claims for property seized for use by the U.S. Army and Navy from citizens in the Southern States who remained loyal to the Union during the Civil War. Jurisdiction was expanded to include "claims arising from any war in which the United States has been engaged." The records include those of the Southern Claims Commission. Although most of the work of the committee involved reporting private legislation for the settlement of claims of individuals and corporations, on occasion it reported on the war claims of states and territories against the United States, as well as general legislation that provided for the adjudication of certain classes of claims. This committee, like the Claims Committee, had authority to report bills making appropriations for the payment of the obligations within its jurisdiction. Under the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 the committee was abolished and its jurisdiction transferred to the Judiciary Committee and the executive agencies.

Committee Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on War Claims include five docket volumes (50A–F39.1).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Committees

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on War Claims document various subjects (50A–H29.1).

Arrangement note

The records are arranged alphabetically by petitioner.

Committee on Ways and Means 1887-1889

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 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Ways and Means document the drawback on tinplate (50A–F40.1); tariffs and tariff policy (50A–F40.2); taxation (50A–F40.3); and various subjects (50A–F40.4).

Arrangement note

Committees

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 50A–F40.4, which is arranged by subject.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

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 alcoholic beverages, and medicinal and industrial alcohol (50A–H30.1); books and works of art (50A–H30.2); brushes (50A–H30.3); cement (50A–H30.4); cigars and tobacco (50A–H30.5); clay tobacco pipes and pottery (50A–H30.6); clothing and textiles (50A–H39.7); coal and iron ore, and their products (50A–H30.8); dental, medical, and surgical supplies and equipment (50A–H30.9); flax and flax products, hemp, and jute (50A–H30.10); food products and food adulteration (50A–H30.11); glass and glass products (50A–H30.12); increased tariff protection for agricultural products (50A–H30.13); internal revenue taxation (50A–H30.14); licensing of druggists and liquor dealers (50A–H30.15); lumber and wood pulp (50A–H30.16); marble and other stone building materials (50A–H30.17); metals and metal products (50A–H30.18); salt (50A–H30.19); sugar and molasses (50A–H30.20); tariff and financial policy (50A–H30.21); tariff protection of American industrial products (50A–H30.22); wool and wool products (50A–H30.23); and various subjects (50A–H30.24).

Arrangement note

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

Select Committee on the Election of President, Vice President, and Representatives in Congress 1887-1889

Committee Papers 1887-1889

Committees

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Select Committee on the Election of President, Vice President, and Representatives in Congress include a volume of minutes (50A–F41.1).

Select Committee on the Eleventh Census 1887-1889**Committee Papers 1887-1889****Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Select Committee on the Eleventh Census include a volume of minutes (50A–F42.1); and a docket volume (50A–F42.2).

Select Committee to Investigate the Administration of the Government Printing Office 1887-1889**Committee Papers 1887-1889****Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Select Committee to Investigate the Administration of the Government Printing Office include a volume of minutes (50A–F43.1).

Select Committee on Indian Depredation Claims 1887-1889**Committee Papers 1887-1889****Scope and Contents note**

Committees

The committee papers of the Select Committee on Indian Depredation Claims include a docket volume (50A–F44.1).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Select Committee on Indian Depredation Claims document various subjects (50A–H32.1).

Arrangement note

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

Select Committee on Reform in the Civil Service 1887-1889

Committee Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Select Committee on Reform in the Civil Service include a volume of minutes (50A–F45.1); and a docket volume (50A–F45.2).

Select Committee on the Alcoholic Liquor Traffic 1887-1889

Biographical/Historical note

The Select Committee on Alcoholic Liquor Traffic was made a standing committee in 1893 (53d Congress) after having been a select committee since 1879 (46th Congress). Its jurisdiction covered

Committees

subjects relating to alcoholic liquor traffic, including the manufacture, distribution, and sale of intoxicating beverages in the states, territories, and government-owned buildings as well as land such as the District of Columbia, Indian reservations, and military bases.

Committee Papers 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Select Committee on the Alcoholic Liquor Traffic include a docket volume, 48th Congress, 1st session, to 50th Congress, 1st session (48A–F37.2).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Select Committee on the Alcoholic Liquor Traffic document a constitutional amendment to prohibit the manufacture and sale of alcoholic liquors (50A–H31.1); exportation of liquor to Africa and the Western Pacific (50A–H31.2); and prohibition in the District of Columbia (50A–H31.3).

Arrangement note

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

Select Committee on Immigration of Contract Laborers, Convicts, and Paupers 1887-1889

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1887-1889

Originals of Printed House Documents

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Select Committee on Immigration of Contract Laborers, Convicts, and Paupers document various subjects (50A–H33.1).

Originals of Printed House Documents 1887-1889 67.0 Cubic feet (278 volumes)**Scope and Contents note**

The originals of printed House documents include original executive documents, 1st session (50A–G1) and 2d session (50A–G2); and original miscellaneous documents, 1st session (50A–G3) and 2d session (50A–G4).

Arrangement note

The records are arranged numerically within each group.

Election Records 1887-1889 2.0 Cubic feet**Scope and Contents note**

The election records include the credentials of Representatives and Delegates (50A–J1).

Arrangement note

The records are arranged alphabetically by state or territory.

Other Records 1887-1889 0.25 Cubic feet (1 volume)**Scope and Contents note**

Other records include roll calls (50A–K1).

Records of the Office of the Clerk

Arrangement note

The records are arranged chronologically.

Records of the Office of the Clerk 1887-1889**Index 1887-1889 0.02 Cubic feet****Scope and Contents note**

The index consists of a partial index, A to C, to claims petitions and papers (50C–C1).

Record Books 1887-1889 2.0 Cubic feet (13 volumes)**Scope and Contents note**

The record books include a House bill book with index (50C–A1); House resolution book (50C–A2); Senate bill and resolution book (50C–A3); individual ledger (50C–A4); register of committee reports (50C–A5); register of miscellaneous documents (50C–A6); record of cases referred to the Court of Claims under the Bowman Act (50C–A7); and record of leaves of absence granted House Members (50C–A8). For a register of papers from committees, see 48th Congress, to 51st Congress (48C–A5); a register of papers referred to committees, see 48th Congress, to 52d Congress (48C–A6); a register of papers sent to the Senate, see 48th Congress to 51st Congress (48C–A7); and a register of papers received from the Senate, see 48th Congress, to 51st Congress (48C–A8).

Other Records 1887-1889 0.08 Cubic feet**Scope and Contents note**

Other records include receipts for registered mail and memoranda relating to contested elections (50C–B1).

Other Records

Arrangement note

The records are arranged by election contest.