

**Records of the U.S. House of Representatives**  
**RG.233.51.House**  
**51st 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

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

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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 51st Congress
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1889-1891
<b>Extent</b>	307.33 Cubic 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.

## Collection Inventory

### **Records of Legislative Proceedings 1889-1891**

#### **Minute Books and Journals 1889-1891 4.0 Cubic feet (17 volumes)**

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

The minute books and journals series includes a minute book, 1st session and part of the 2d session (51A–A1); legislative journal, 1st session (51A–A2); minute book, part of the 2d session (51A–A3); and legislative journal, 2d session (51A–A4).

#### **Bills and Resolutions Originating in the House 1889-1891 26.0 Cubic feet**

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

The bills and resolutions originating in the House include fifty–seven volumes of original House bills (51A–B1); one volume of original House joint resolutions (51A–B2); original House concurrent resolutions (51A–B3); House simple resolutions, motions, and orders (51A–B4); desk copies of House bills passed (51A–B5); desk copies of House joint resolutions passed (51A–B6); and fourteen volumes of engrossed House bills and resolutions (51A–B7).

##### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged numerically within each group, except 51A–B3, which is arranged chronologically, and 51A–B4, which is arranged alphabetically by Congressman.

#### **Bills and Resolutions Originating in the Senate and Considered in the House 1889-1891 1.0 Cubic 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 (51A–C1); and Senate joint resolutions (51A–C2).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged numerically within each group.

**Accompanying Papers File 1889-1891 65.0 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 (51A–D1).

**Arrangement note**

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

**Committee Reports 1889-1891 12.0 Cubic feet (49 volumes)****Scope and Contents note**

Committee reports consist of original committee reports, 1st session (51A–E1); and 2d session (51A–E2).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged numerically within each group.

**Committees 1889-1891**

## Committees

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### Committee on Accounts 1889-1891

#### **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 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Accounts include a final account of the subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee investigating illegal practices of United States courts (51A-F1.1); and various subjects (51A-F1.2), arranged by subject. There is also a volume of minutes (51A-F1.3); a docket volume (51A-F1.4); and a statement of accounts before the committee, 51st Congress, 1st session, to 52d Congress, 2d session (51A-F1.5).

### Committee on Agriculture 1889-1891

#### **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;

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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 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Agriculture include estimates of appropriation for the Agriculture Department (51A–F2.1) and testimony relating to lard and compound lard (51A–F2.2). There is also a volume of minutes (51A–F2.3); and a docket volume (51A–F2.4).

#### **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 1889-1891

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

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Agriculture document the adulteration and misbranding of food and drugs (51A–H1.1); combines and trusts (51A–H1.2); farm loans and drought relief (51A–H1.3); lard and lard compound (51A–H1.4); oleomargarine (51A–H1.5); prohibition on the

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selling of produce futures and options (51A–H1.6); transfer of the U. S. Fish Commission to the Department of Agriculture (51A–H1.7); and Weather Bureau (51A–H1.8).

### **Arrangement note**

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

## Committee on Appropriations 1889-1891

### **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 1889-1891

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Appropriations include the deficiency bill (51A–F3.1); District of Columbia bill (51A–F3.2); fortifications bill (51A–F3.3); legislative, judicial, and executive bill (51A–F3.4); pension bill (51A–F3.5); sundry civil expenses bill (51A–F3.6); and various subjects (51A–F3.7). 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).

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### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged by agency of origin or by subject within each group, except 51A–F3.3 and 51A–F3.5, which are arranged chronologically.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Appropriations document cemeteries and national monuments (51A–H2.1); Civil Service Commission (51A–H2.2); Navy and coast defense (51A–H2.3); and various subjects (51A–H2.4).

### **Arrangement note**

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

Committee on Banking and Currency 1889-1891

### **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 1889-1891

## Committees

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### Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Banking and Currency document the establishment of an International American Bank (51A–F4.1), arranged chronologically; and various subjects (51A–F4.2), arranged by subject. There is also a volume of minutes (51A–F4.3); and a docket volume (51A–F4.4).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

### 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 include farm and real-estate loans and mortgages (51A–H3.1); free coinage and remonetization of silver (51A–H3.2); National Banking System (51A–H3.3); subtreasury plan (51A–H3.4); and various subjects (51A–H3.5).

### Arrangement note

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

Committee on Claims 1889-1891

### 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

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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 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Claims include a volume of minutes (51A–F5.1); and a docket volume (51A–F5.2).

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

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

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Claims document various subjects (51A–H4.1).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

### Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures 1889-1891

#### **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

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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 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures document various subjects (51A–F6.1),

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

#### **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 the free coinage and remonetization of silver (51A–H5.1); and various subjects (51A–H5.2).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

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### Committee on Commerce 1889-1891

#### **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.

### Committee Papers 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Commerce document bridges, general (51A-F7.1); legalizing standard time (51A-F7.2); lighthouses and fog-signal stations (51A-F7.3); Mississippi River Bridge, New Orleans, Louisiana (51A-F7.4); other bridges (51A-F7.5); ports of entry (51A-F7.6); regulation of commerce (51A-E7.7); requiring residents on boats inland to obtain licenses (51A-F7.8); and various subjects (51A-F7.9).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 51A-F7. 5, which is arranged alphabetically by river, and 51A-F7.9, which is arranged by subject.

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**Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891****Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Commerce include aids to navigation (51A–H6.1); appointment of honorably discharged soldiers and sailors as lighthouse keepers (51A–H6.2); bridges and tunnels (51A–H6.3); customs districts, customs offices, and ports of entry (51A–H6.4); establishment of a Department of Commerce (51A–H6.5); free transportation of oil or petroleum barrels by railroads (51A–H6.6); granting the use of government piers to private firms or corporations (51A–H6.7) harbor improvements (51A–H6.8); interstate commerce law (51A–H6.9); Life-Saving Service (51A–H6.10); long and short hauls and the division of traffic among railroad companies (51A–H6.11); Niagara and Nicaraguan Canals (51A–H6.12); payment of commissions or compensation for procuring or influencing passenger transportation and sale of railroad tickets by persons other than authorized agents (51A–H6.13); railroad safety and safety devices (51A–H6.14); transportation of intoxicating liquors into states and territories contrary to and in violation of the laws, and “Original Package” decision of the U. S. Supreme Court (51A–H6.15); transportation rates for commercial travelers in interstate commerce (51A–H6.16); and various subjects (51A–H6.17).

**Arrangement note**

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

**Committee on the District of Columbia 1889-1891****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

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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 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on the District of Columbia include a volume of minutes (51A–F8.1); and a docket volume (51A–F8.2).

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

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

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia document the Breckinridge bill to prevent forced labor on Sunday (51A–H7.1); construction of the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad (51A–H7.2); and removal of the Baltimore and Potomac depot (51A–H7.3).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

### Committee on Elections 1889-1891

## Committees

**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.

Committee Papers 1889-1891

**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Elections include contested election cases of George W. Atkinson v. John O. Pendleton, West Virginia (51A–F9.1); John Baker v. William S. Forman, Illinois (51A–F9.2); Henry Bowen v. John A. Buchanan, Virginia (51A–F9.3); James R. Chalmers v. James B. Morgan, Mississippi (51A–F9.4); John M. Clayton v. Clifton R. Breckinridge, Arkansas (51A–F9.5); F. N. B. Cook v. C. L. Anderson, Mississippi (51A–F9.6); Leon C. Duchesne v. Thomas R. Stockdale, Mississippi (51A–F9.7); L. B. Eaton v. James Phelan, Tennessee (51A–F9.8); L. P. Featherstone v. W. H. Cate, Arkansas (51A–F9.9); Fred L. Goodrich v. Robert Bullock, Florida (51A–F9.10); W. H. Harrison v. S. M. Robertson, Louisiana (51A–F9.11); William Hartsuff v. J. R. Whiting, Michigan (51A–F9.12); James Hill v. T. C. Catchings, Mississippi (51A–F9.13); Henry Kernaghan v. Charles E. Hooker, Mississippi (51A–F9.14); John M. Langston v. E. C. Venable, Virginia (51A–F9.15); John V. McDuffie v. Louis W. Turpin, Alabama (51A–F9.16); James H. McGinnis v. John D. Alderson, West Virginia (51A–F9.17); Thomas E. Miller v. William Elliott South Carolina (51A–F9.18); Sydney E. Mudd v. Barnes Compton, Maryland (51A–F9.19); Timothy G. Phelps v. Thomas J. Clunie California (51A–F9.20); Thaddeus Pickett v. Allen D. Candler, Georgia (51A–F9.21); Francis B. Posey v. William F. Parrett, Indiana (51A–F9.22); C. B. Smith v. James M. Jackson, West Virginia (51A–9.23); Frank H. Threet v. Richard H. Clarke, Alabama (51A–F9.24); and Edmund Waddill v. George D. Wise, Virginia (51A–F9.25). Arranged by subject. There is also a volume of minutes (51A–F9.26); and two docket volumes (51A–F9.27).

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**Controlled Access Headings****Personal Name(s)**

- Alderson, John Duffy, 1854-1910
- Anderson, Chapman Levy, 1845-1924
- Atkinson, George Wesley, 1845-1925
- Bowen, Henry, 1841-1915
- Breckinridge, Clifton Rodes, 1846-1932
- Buchanan John Alexander, 1843-1921
- Bullock, Robert, 1828-1905
- Candler, Allen Daniel, 1834-1910
- Catchings, Thomas Clendinen, 1847-1927
- Cate, William Henderson, 1839-1899
- Chalmers, James R. (James Ronald), 1831-1898
- Clarke, Richard Henry, 1843-1906
- Clayton, John Middleton, 1796-1856
- Clunie, Thomas Jefferson, 1852-1903
- Compton, Barnes, 1830-1898
- Elliott, William, 1838-1907
- Featherstone, Lewis Porter, 1851-1922
- Forman, William St. John, 1847-1908
- Hooker, Charles Edward, 1825-1914
- Jackson, James Monroe, 1825-1901
- Langston, John Mercer, 1829-1897
- McDuffie, John Van, 1841-1896
- Miller, Thomas Ezekiel, 1849-1938
- Morgan, James Bright, 1833-1892
- Mudd, Sydney Emanuel, 1858-1911
- Parrett, William Fletcher, 1825-1895
- Pendleton, John Overton, 1851-1916
- Phelan, James, 1856-1891
- Phelps, Timothy Guy, 1824-1899

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- Posey, Francis Blackburn, 1848-1915
- Robertson, Samuel Matthews, 1852-1911
- Smith, Charles Brooks, 1844-1899
- Stockdale, Thomas Ringland, 1828-1899
- Turpin, Louis Washington, 1849-1903
- Venable, Edward Carrington, 1853-1908
- Waddill, Edmund, 1855-1931
- Whiting, Justin Rice, 1847-1903
- Wise, George Douglas, 1831-1898

### Committee on Enrolled Bills 1889-1891

#### **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 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Enrolled Bills include two volumes relating to the enrollment of bills and resolutions (51A–F10.1).

### Committee on Expenditures in the Post Office Department 1889-1891

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### Committee Papers 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Expenditures in the Post Office Department include a volume of minutes (51A–F11.1); and a docket volume (51A–F11.2).

### Committee on Expenditures on the Public Buildings 1889-1891

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

The Committee on Expenditures on the Public Buildings existed from 1816-1927, and looked into expenditures on public buildings, primarily in Washington, DC. The committee was later absorbed into the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Department (1927-52), and in 1952, into the Committee on Government Operations.

### Committee Papers 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Expenditures on the Public Buildings include a docket volume (51A–F12.1).

### Committee on Expenditures in the Treasury Department 1889-1891

### Committee Papers 1889-1891

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

## Committees

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The committee papers of the Committee on Expenditures in the Treasury Department include a docket volume (51A–F13.1).

### Committee on Expenditures in the War Department 1889-1891

#### Committee Papers 1889-1891

##### **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, 1888–90 (51A–F14.1); inspection of money accounts of Army disbursing officers (51A–F14.2); War Department contracts (51A–F14.3); and contingent expenditures (51A–F14.4).

##### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged by subject.

### Committee on Foreign Affairs 1889-1891

#### **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

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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 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Foreign Affairs include claims (51A–F15.1); consular and diplomatic appropriations (51A–F15.2); extradition of criminals (51A–F15.3); incorporation of the Pacific Cable Co. (51A–F15.4); international arbitration (51A–F15.5); recognition of Brazil (51A–F15.6); reports of the U.S. Commissioners to the Centennial International Exhibition at Melbourne, Australia (51A–F15.7); uniform system of port dues and consular fees (51A–F15.8); and various subjects (51A–F15.9). There is also a volume of minutes (51A–F15.10); and a docket volume (51A–F15.11).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 51A–F15.1, which is arranged alphabetically by claimant, and 51A–F15.9, which is arranged by subject.

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

#### **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 Chinese exclusion (51A–H8.1); liquor traffic in the Congo (51A–H8.2); reciprocal trade with Canada (51A–H8.3); reciprocal trade with Mexico, Brazil, and other South American countries (51A–H8.4); New York City as the site of

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the World's Fair of 1892 (51A–H8.5); treatment of the Jews in Russia (51A–H8.6); and various subjects (51A–H8.7).

### **Arrangement note**

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

## Committee on Indian Affairs 1889-1891

### **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.

## Committee Papers 1889-1891

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Indian Affairs include claims (51A–F16.1); grants of Indian reservation lands for railroad purposes (51A–F16.2); Indian reservations (51A–F16.3); Indian tribes (51A–F16.4); Oklahoma and Indian Territory (51A–F16.5); schools and education (51A–F16.6); Sioux Indians (51A–F16.7); and various subjects (51A–F16.8). Arranged by subject. There is also a volume of minutes (51A–F16.9); and a docket volume (51A–F16.10).

## Committees

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### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

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

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs document the Cherokee Strip (51A–H9.1); Chickasaw Indians (51A–H9.2); education and schools (51A–H9.3); removal of the Southern Utes (51A–H9.4); and various subjects (51A–H9.5).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

### Committee on Invalid Pensions 1889-1891

#### **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 1889-1891

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

## Committees

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The committee papers of the Committee on Invalid Pensions document Army nurse pensions (51A–H10.1); dependent pensions (51A–H10.2); granting of pensions to prisoners of war (51A–H10.3); repeal of the limitations clause of the “Arrears Pension Act of 1879” (51A–H10.4); repeal of special limitation on pension claims of state militiamen (51A–H10.5); service pensions, pension plans, and legislation (51A–H10.6); and various subjects (51A–H10.7).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

### **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 Army nurse pensions (51A–H10.1); dependent pensions (51A–H10.2); granting of pensions to prisoners of war (51A–H10.3); repeal of the limitations clause of the “Arrears Pension Act of 1879” (51A–H10.4); repeal of special limitation on pension claims of State militiamen (51A–H10.5); service pensions, pension plans, and legislation (51A–H10.6); and various subjects (51A–H10.7).

### **Arrangement note**

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

Committee on the Judiciary 1889-1891

### **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

## Committees

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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 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on the Judiciary document conferring additional jurisdiction on the U.S. courts in the Indian Territory (51A–F18.1), arranged chronologically; and various subjects (51A–F18.2), arranged by subject. There is also a volume of minutes (51A–F18.3); and a docket volume (51A–F18.4).

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

#### **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 election of Senators by direct vote (51A–H11.1); increased salaries for judges of U. S. district courts (51A–H11.2); international copyrights (51A–H11.3); manufacture and sale of oleomargarine (51A–H11.4); “National Prohibitory Constitutional Amendment” (51A–H11.5); relief of the Supreme Court of the United States (51A–H11.6); Sunday rest law (51A–H11.7); transportation of intoxicating liquors into states and territories contrary to and in violation of the laws, and “Original Package” decision

## Committees

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of the U. S. Supreme Court (51A–H11.8); uniform system of bankruptcy (51A–H11.9); woman suffrage (51A–H11.10); and various subjects (51A–H11.11).

### **Arrangement note**

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

#### Committee on Labor 1889-1891

### **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 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 1889-1891

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Labor include a volume of minutes (51A–F19.1); and a docket volume (51A–F19.2).

#### Committee on Levees and Improvements of the Mississippi River 1889-1891

### **Biographical/Historical note**

## Committees

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The Committee on Levees and Improvements of the Mississippi River was established on November 7, 1877, in the 45th Congress. This was done by changing the name of its predecessor, the Committee on the Mississippi Levees. The purposes of the committee included building and repairing levees as well as making other improvements on the Mississippi River. The committee was terminated in the 62d Congress on April 5, 1911. Its successor was the Committee on Rivers and Harbors.

### Committee Papers 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Levees and Improvements of the Mississippi River include a volume of minutes (51A–F20.1); and a docket volume (51A–F20.2).

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

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

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Levees and Improvements of the Mississippi River document various subjects (51A–H12.1).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

### Committee on the Library 1889-1891

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

## Committees

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

Committee Papers 1889-1891

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on the Library include a volume of minutes (51A–F21.1); and a docket volume (51A–F21.2).

Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries 1889-1891

### **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 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.

## Committees

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### Committee Papers 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries document the load line of vessels (51A–F22.1); registry of vessels (51A–F22.2); and various subjects (511A–F22.3). Arranged by subject. There is also a volume of minutes (51A–F22.4); and a docket volume (51A–F22.5).

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

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

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries include a load line bill for safety of loaded vessels (51A–H13.1); tonnage bill (51A–H13.2); and various subjects (51A–H13.3).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

### Committee on Military Affairs 1889-1891

#### **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

## Committees

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cemeteries and battlefields; acquisition and conveyance of lands for military reservations and improvements upon such grounds; disposition of war trophies and distribution of obsolete weapons and armament; conduct of joint operations of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps; and promotion of military aviation and Army aeronautics. The Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 abolished the Committee on Military Affairs and transferred its jurisdiction to the newly-created Armed Services Committee.

### Committee Papers 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Military Affairs document the construction of a road to Mound City, Illinois (51A–F23.1); inquiry into the condition of work at the Rock Island Arsenal (51A–F23.2); and use of Louisville and Portland Canal Basin (51–F23.3). Arranged by subject. There is also a volume of minutes (51A–F23.4); and two docket volumes (51A–F23.5).

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

#### **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 (51A–H14.1).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

### Committee on the Militia 1889-1891

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

## Committees

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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 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on the Militia include a volume of minutes (51A–F24.1); and a docket volume (51A–F24.2).

### Committee on Mines and Mining 1889-1891

#### **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.

## Committees

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### Committee Papers 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Mines and Mining include a volume of minutes (51A–F25.1).

### Committee on Naval Affairs 1889-1891

#### **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 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Naval Affairs document construction, repairs, and steam engineering (51A–F26.1); Naval Academy and Marine Corps (51A–F26.2); ordnance and navy yards (51A–F26.3); and organization, rank, and pay (51A–F26.4).

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**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged by subject.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

**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 Naval Reserve Corps (51A-H15.1); coast defenses (51A-H15.2); navy yards and docks (51A-H15.3); and various subjects (51A-H15.4).

**Arrangement note**

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

Committee on Pacific Railroads 1889-1891

**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 1889-1891

**Scope and Contents note**

## Committees

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The committee papers of the Committee on Pacific Railroads include a docket volume (51A–F27.1).

### Committee on Patents 1889-1891

#### **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 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Patents document various subjects (51A–F28.1), arranged by subject. There is also a volume of minutes (51A–F28.2); and a docket volume (51A–F28.3).

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

#### **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 Patents document international copyrights (51A–H16.1); and various subjects (51A–H16.2).

### **Arrangement note**

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

#### Committee on Pensions 1889-1891

### **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 1889-1891

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Pensions include a volume of minutes (51A–F29.1); and a docket volume (51A–F29.2).

#### Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads 1889-1891

### **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 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads document the extension of the free delivery system (51A-F30.1); hours of work and leaves of absence for postal employees (51A-F30.2); periodicals containing reprints of books (51A-F30.3); and various subjects (51A-F30.4). There is also a volume of minutes (51A-F30.5); and a docket volume (51A-F30.6).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 51A-F30.4, which is arranged by subject.

## Committees

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### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

#### **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 annual leave, hours of work, and compensation of postal clerks and employees (51A–H17.1); increased pay for fourth-class postmasters (51A–H17.2); increased pay of letter carriers (51A–H17.3); postage rates (51A–H17.4); postal telegraph (51A–H17.5); railway station and street mailboxes (51A–H17.6); reclassifying and fixing the salary of railway postal clerks (51A–H17.7); return of second-class mail matter (51A–H17.8); transmission of obscene matter through the mail (51A–H17.9); and various subjects (51A–H17.10).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

### Committee on Printing 1889-1891

#### **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

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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 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Printing document various subjects (51A–F31.1), arranged by subject. There is also a volume of minutes (51A–F31.2); and a docket volume (51A–F31.3).

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

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

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Printing document the adoption of the “short method of spelling” by the Government Printing Office (51A–H18.1); completion and publication of the "Official Records of the War of the Rebellion" (51A–H18.2); wages paid by the Government Printing Office (51A–H18.3); and various subjects (51A–H18.4).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

### Committee on Private Land Claims 1889-1891

#### **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.

## Committees

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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 1889-1891

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Private Land Claims include a volume of minutes (51A–F32.1); and a docket volume (51A–F32.2).

Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds 1889-1891

### **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 1889-1891

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds document various subjects (51A–F33.1), arranged by subject. There is also a volume of minutes (51A–F33.2); a

## Committees

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docket volume (51A–F33.3); and a record of bills before the committee, giving detailed history of action (51A–F33.4).

### Committee on Public Lands 1889-1891

#### **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 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Public Lands document the restoration of lands within the 40-mile limits of the grant for the Northern Pacific Railroad in Minnesota (51A–F34.1), arranged chronologically; and various subjects (51A–F34.2), arranged by subject. There is also a volume of minutes (51A–F34.3); and a docket volume (51A–F34.4).

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

## 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 Lands document various subjects (51A–H19.1).

### **Arrangement note**

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

## Committee on Railways and Canals 1889-1891

### **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 1889-1891

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Railways and Canals include a volume of minutes (51A–F35.1); and a docket volume (51A–F35.2).

**Committees**

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**Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891****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 canals (51A–H20.1); protection of trainmen and other railroad employees in handling locomotives, freight trains, and freight cars engaged in interstate commerce (51A–H20.2); and various subjects (51A–H20.3).

**Arrangement note**

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

**Committee on Revision of the Laws 1889-1891****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 1889-1891****Scope and Contents note**

## Committees

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The committee papers of the Committee on Revision of the Laws include a volume of minutes (51A–F36.1).

### Committee on Rivers and Harbors 1889-1891

#### **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 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Rivers and Harbors document harbors (51A–F37.1); rivers (51A–F37.2); surveys (51A–F37.3); and various subjects (51A–F37.4). Arranged by subject. There is also a volume of minutes (51A–F37.5); and a docket volume (51A–F37.6).

**Committees**

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**Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891****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 document the complete system of levees on the Mississippi River from Cairo to the Gulf to prevent floods and to improve navigation (51A–H21.1); improvement of Galveston Harbor (51A–H21.2); improvement of various rivers and harbors (51A–H21.3); and various subjects (51A–H21.4).

**Arrangement note**

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

**Committee on Rules 1889-1891****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 1889-1891****Scope and Contents note**

## Committees

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The committee papers of the Committee on Rules include a docket volume (51A–F33.1).

### Committee on the Territories 1889-1891

#### **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 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Committee on the Territories document Alaska (51A–F39.1); Arizona (51A–F39.2); Idaho (51A–F39.3); New Mexico (51A–F39.4); Oklahoma (51A–F39.5); and Utah (51A–F39.6). Arranged chronologically within each group. There is also a volume of minutes (51A–F39.7); and a docket volume (51A–F39.8).

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

#### **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 document Arizona (51A–H22.1); Idaho (51A–H22.2); New Mexico (51A–H22.3); Oklahoma (51A–H22.4); and Utah (51A–H22.5).

### **Arrangement note**

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

## Committee on War Claims 1889-1891

### **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 1889-1891

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on War Claims document various subjects (51A–F40.1), arranged alphabetically; and a record of petitions referred to the committee (51A–F40.2).

**Committees**

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**Committee on Ways and Means 1889-1891****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 1889-1891****Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Ways and Means include claims (51A–F41.1); commercial treaties and trade information (51A–F41.2); duties on sugar (51A–F41.3), tobacco (51A–F41.4), and other commodities (51A–F41.5); bills referred to the committee (51A–F41.6); and various subjects (51A–F41.7). There are also three docket volumes (51A–F41. 8).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 51A–F41.1, which is arranged alphabetically, 51A–F41.6, which is arranged numerically by bill, and 51A–F41.7, which is arranged by subject.

**Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891**

## 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 Ways and Means document the adulteration of lager beer (51A–H23.1); bounty on flour exported in American vessels (51A–H23.2); commodity tariffs (51A–H23.3); commodity taxation (51A–H23.4); improvement of Galveston Harbor (51A–H23.5); income tax (51A–H23.6); McKinley Tariff bill (51A–H23.7); Mexican ore and reciprocal relations with that country (51A–H23.8); modification of existing laws relating to duties on imports and collection of the revenue (51A–H23.9); reciprocal trade with Canada and South America (51A–H23.10); subtreasury plan (51A–H23.11); tax rebates and drawbacks on smoking tobacco, snuff, and burlap (51A–H23.12); trusts, combines, and monopolies (51A–H23.13); and various subjects (51A–H23.14).

### Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, except 51A–H23.3 and 51A–H23.4, which are arranged alphabetically by commodity.

## Select Committee on the Accounts of the Late Sergeant at Arms of the House 1889-1891

### Committee Papers 1889-1891

#### Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Select Committee on the Accounts of the Late Sergeant at Arms of the House include various papers (51A–F42.1).

#### Arrangement note

The records are arranged by subject.

## Select Committee on the Alcoholic Liquor Traffic 1889-1891

**Committees**

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**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 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 1889-1891

**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Select Committee on the Alcoholic Liquor Traffic include bills and resolutions referred to the committee (51A–F43.1), arranged numerically by bill or resolution; a volume of minutes (51A–F43.2); and a docket volume (51A–F43.3).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

**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 the adulteration of lager beer (51A–H24.1); commission to investigate the alcoholic liquor traffic and social vices (51A–H24.2); liquor traffic in the Congo (51A–H24.3); “National Prohibitory Constitutional Amendment” (51A–H24.4); sale of fermented liquors within soldiers’ homes, arsenals, recruiting stations, and navy yards (51A–H24.5); transportation of intoxicating liquors into states and territories contrary to and in violation of the law, and the “Original Package” decision of the U.S. Supreme Court (51A–H24.6); and various subjects (51A–H24.7).

**Arrangement note**

**Committees**

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

Select Committee on the Election of President, Vice President, and Representatives in  
Congress 1889-1891

Committee Papers 1889-1891

**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Select Committee on the Election President, Vice President, and Representatives in Congress include resolutions referred to the committee (51A–F44.1), arranged chronologically; a volume of minutes (51A–F44.2); and a docket volume (51A–F44.3).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were  
Referred to Committees 1889-1891

**Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Select Committee on the Election of President, Vice President, and Representatives in Congress document various subjects (51A–H25.1).

**Arrangement note**

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

Select Committee on the Eleventh Census 1889-1891

Committee Papers 1889-1891

**Committees**

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**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Select Committee on the Eleventh Census include bills and resolutions referred to the committee (51A–F45.1), arranged numerically by bill or resolution; a volume of minutes (51A–F45.2); and a docket volume (51A–F45.3).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

**Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Select Committee on the Eleventh Census document the electrical industry (51A–H26.1); establishment of a permanent Census Office (51A–H26.2); home and farm ownership and mortgages (51A–H26.3); and various subjects (51A–H26.4).

**Arrangement note**

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

Select Committee on Immigration and Naturalization 1889-1891

Committee Papers 1889-1891

**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Select Committee on Immigration and Naturalization include various papers (51A–F46.1), arranged by subject; a volume of minutes (51A–F46.2); and a docket volume (51A–F46.3).

## Committees

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### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

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

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Select Committee on Immigration and Naturalization document Chinese exclusion (51A–H27.1); restriction of immigration (51A–H27.2); and various subjects (51A–H27.3).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

### Select Committee on Indian Depredations 1889-1891

#### Committee Papers 1889-1891

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

The committee papers of the Select Committee on Indian Depredations include a volume of minutes (51A–F47.1).

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

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

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Select Committee on Indian Depredations document the adjudication and payment of Indian depredation claims (51A–H28.1).

**Committees**

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**Arrangement note**

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

**Select Committee on Irrigation of Arid Lands 1889-1891****Committee Papers 1889-1891****Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Select Committee on Irrigation of Arid Lands include a volume of minutes (51A–F48.1); and a docket volume (51A–F48.2).

**Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891****Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Select Committee on Irrigation of Arid Lands document the irrigation in various states and territories (51A–H29.1), arranged alphabetically by state or territory; and various subjects (51A–H29.2).

**Arrangement note**

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

**Select Committee on Reform in the Civil Service 1889-1891****Committee Papers 1889-1891**

## Committees

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### Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Select Committee on Reform in the Civil Service include various papers (51A–F49.1), arranged by subject; a volume of minutes (51A–F49.2); and a docket volume (51A–F49.3).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

### Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Select Committee on Reform in the Civil Service document various subjects (51A–H30.1).

### Arrangement note

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

Select Committee on the World's Fair 1889-1891

Committee Papers 1889-1891

### Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Select Committee on the World's Fair include bills and resolutions referred to the committee (51A–F50.1), arranged numerically by bill or resolution; and a docket volume (51A–F50.2).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1889-1891

**Originals of Printed House Documents**

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**Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Select Committee on the World's Fair document conducting Fair business on Sunday (51A–H31.1); Chicago as a site for the Fair (51A–H31.2); Washington as a site for the Fair (51A–H31.3); and various subjects (51A–H31.4).

**Arrangement note**

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

**Originals of Printed House Documents 1889-1891 70.0 Cubic feet (296 volumes)****Scope and Contents note**

The originals of printed House documents include original executive documents, 1st session (51A–G1) and 2d session (51A–G2); and original miscellaneous documents, 1st session (51A–G3) and 2d session (51A–G4).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged numerically within each group.

**Election Records 1889-1891 3.0 Cubic feet****Scope and Contents note**

The election records include the credentials of Representatives and Delegates (51A–J1).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged alphabetically by state or territory.

**Other Records**

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**Other Records 1889-1891 1.0 Cubic feet****Scope and Contents note**

Other records include three volumes of roll calls (51A–K1), arranged chronologically; and various papers (51A–K2), arranged by subject.

**Records of Impeachment Proceedings 1889-1891****Impeachment of Aleck Boarman 1889-1891 0.25 Cubic feet****Scope and Contents note**

The papers pertain to impeachment proceedings against Aleck Boarman, U.S. Judge for the Western District of Louisiana (51B–A1).

**Records of the Office of the Clerk 1889-1891****Record Books 1889-1891 2.0 Cubic feet (11 volumes)****Scope and Contents note**

The record books include a House bill book (51C–A1); House resolution book (51C–A2); Senate bill and resolution book (51C–A3); individual ledger (51C–A4); register of committee reports (51C–A5); register of private bills receiving a favorable committee report (51C–A6); and record of documents sent out by the Clerk on request of Hon. J. M. Wiley, a Representative from New York (51C–A7). For a register of papers from committees, see 48th Congress to 51st Congress (48C–A5); register of papers referred to committees, 48th Congress, to 52d Congress (48C–A6); register of papers sent to the

## Other Records

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Senate, 48th Congress to 51st Congress (48C–A7); and register of papers received from the Senate, 48th Congress, to 51st Congress (48C–A8).

### **Other Records 1889-1891 0.08 Cubic feet**

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

Other records include receipts for records withdrawn (51C–B1), arranged chronologically; and various papers (51C–B2), arranged by subject.