

Horace Greeley Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the
Library of Congress

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Manuscript Division, Library of
Congress

Washington, D.C.

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Collection Summary

Title: Horace Greeley Papers

Span Dates: 1812-1928

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1860-1872)

ID No.: MSS23937

Creator: Greeley, Horace, 1811-1872

Extent: 2,000 items; 7 containers; 2.4 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: Journalist. Correspondence, autobiography, writings by and about Greeley, newspaper clippings, scrapbooks, a notebook, printed matter, and other papers pertaining to his life and career as a journalist.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People

Cameron, Simon, 1799-1889--Correspondence.

Chandler, William E. (William Eaton), 1835-1917--Correspondence.

Colfax, Schuyler, 1823-1885--Correspondence.

Dana, Charles A. (Charles Anderson), 1819-1897--Correspondence.

Davis, Jefferson, 1808-1889.

Evarts, William Maxwell, 1818-1901--Correspondence.

Fish, Hamilton, 1808-1893--Correspondence.

Frémont, Jessie Benton, 1824-1902--Correspondence.

Greeley family.

Greeley, Horace, 1811-1872.

Griswold, Rufus W. (Rufus Wilmot), 1815-1857--Correspondence.

Nicolay, John G. (John George), 1832-1901--Correspondence.

Ransom, B. F.--Correspondence.

Sherman, John, 1823-1900--Correspondence.

Smith, Gerrit, 1797-1874--Correspondence.

Wade, B. F. (Benjamin Franklin), 1800-1878--Correspondence.

Organizations

Liberal Republican Party.

Whig Party (U.S.)

Subjects

American newspapers--New York (State)--New York.

Presidents--United States--Election--1872.

Printers--New York (State)--New York.

Publishers and publishing--New York (State)--New York.

Slavery--United States.

Places

New York (State)--Politics and government.

United States--Politics and government--19th century.

Titles

New York tribune.

Occupations
Journalists.

Administrative Information

Provenance:

The papers of Horace Greeley, journalist, were given to the Library of Congress by Worthington C. Ford in 1903. Additional papers were purchased in 1928, and several small additions were subsequently acquired between 1928 and 1983. A large addition was given by Elizabeth Mills Reid as part of the papers of Whitelaw Reid, Greeley's successor at the *New York Tribune*, in 1956.

Processing History:

The papers of Horace Greeley were arranged and described in 1965. Additional material was processed in 1985. The collection was rearranged in 2006 and the finding aid revised in 2007.

Copyright Status:

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Horace Greeley in these papers and in other collections of papers in the custody of the Library of Congress has been dedicated to the public.

Preferred Citation:

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Horace Greeley Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1811, Feb. 3	Born, Amherst, N. H.
1825	Apprentice, <i>Northern Spectator</i> , East Poultney, V.T.
1833	Formed a partnership with Francis V. Story and published the <i>Morning Post</i> , New York, N.Y.; the paper soon failed but the partners brought out a tri-weekly called the <i>Constitutionalist</i>
1834	Issued the first copy of the <i>New Yorker</i>
1836	Married Mary Youngs Cheney
1838	In partnership with Thurlow Weed and William Seward issued a Whig paper, the <i>Jeffersonian</i> , Albany, N.Y.
1840	Began publication of another Whig paper, the <i>Log Cabin</i>
1848-1849	Served a three-month term in Congress
1860	Active at the Republican national convention, Chicago, Ill.
1861	Candidate for the United States Senate from New York

1864	Sent by President Abraham Lincoln to Canada to meet with Confederate peace commission
1867	One of the signers of the bail bond for Jefferson Davis
1872	Nominated for president by the Liberal Republican Party and the Democratic Party
1872, Nov. 29	Died, New York, N.Y.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Horace Greeley (1811-1872) span the years 1812-1928, with most of the collection encompassing the years 1860-1872. The papers include correspondence, typescripts and transcripts of Greeley's letters and writings; articles, notes, lectures, and speeches by and about Greeley; scrapbooks of newspaper clippings and other printed matter; and miscellaneous material.

Incidents of Greeley's boyhood, his early struggle in New York to maintain himself in the printing and publishing business, and the growth and success of the *New York Tribune* that he owned and edited are related in letters from Greeley to Charles A. Dana, B. F. Ransom, Rufus W. Griswold, and others. Other subjects are Whig politics and the slavery issue prior to the Civil War. There is little material relating to Greeley's three-month term in Congress, 1848-1849, or his senatorial aspirations in 1861 and 1867.

Lecture requests, business and editorial matters concerning the *New York Tribune*, New York politics, family illness, the bail bond for Jefferson Davis, the Liberal Republican Party, and the presidential campaign of 1872 are also subjects in the collection.

Prominent correspondents include Simon Cameron, William E. Chandler, Schuyler Colfax, William Maxwell Evarts, Hamilton Fish (1808-1893), Jessie Benton Frémont, John G. Nicolay, John Sherman, Gerrit Smith, and B. F. Wade.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	Apprenticeship, 1826
BOX 1	Correspondence
BOX 1	Bound, 1838-1852, 1894
BOX 1	General
BOX 1	1829-1831, 1838-1867 (11 folders)
BOX 2	1868-1872, 1879-1880, 1910-1911, 1928, undated (7 folders)
BOX 2	Special
BOX 2	Barnum, P. T., 1868
BOX 2	Brisbane, Albert, undated
BOX 2	Cameron, Simon, 1861, 1866
BOX 2	Chandler, William E., 1868
BOX 2	Chase, Salmon P., 1862-1866
BOX 2	Colfax, Schuyler, 1861-1868
BOX 2	Conkling, Roscoe, 1863-1866
BOX 2	Evarts, William Maxwell, undated
BOX 2	Fenton, Reuben Eaton, undated
BOX 2	Fish, Hamilton (1808 1893), undated
BOX 2	Frémont, Jesse Benton, undated
BOX 2	Frémont, John C., 1863
BOX 2	Hawley, Joseph R., 1868-1871
BOX 3	Morrill, Justin, 1870-1872
BOX 3	Nicolay, John G., 1864
BOX 3	Pomeroy, Samuel Clark, undated
BOX 3	Sherman, John 1865
BOX 3	Stanton, Edwin M., 1863
BOX 3	Stevens, Thaddeus, 1859-1860
BOX 3	Tappan, Lewis, 1866
BOX 3	Vanderbilt, Cornelius, (1843-1899), 1863-1868, undated
BOX 3	Vanderbilt, Ellen W., 1868
BOX 3	Wade, B. F., 1863-1864
BOX 3	Correspondence
BOX 3	Transcripts, 1847-1872, undated (2 folders)
BOX 3	Typescripts, undated (4 folders)
BOX 3	Financial papers, 1830-1872 (5 folders)
BOX 3	Indentures, 1845-1852
BOX 3	Insurance policies, 1854
BOX 3	Miscellany, 1855-1897, undated

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 4	<i>New Yorker</i> , undated
BOX 4	Patent, 1867
BOX 4	Printed matter
BOX 4	Clippings, 1864-1874, 1899-1911 (5 folders)
BOX 4	General,
BOX 4	1812, 1838, 1856, 1865-1911 (4 folders)
BOX 5	Undated
BOX 5	Scrapbooks, 1872-1889 (2 folders)
BOX 6	Speeches and writings
BOX 6	"Abstinence," undated
BOX 6	"Agriculture," undated
BOX 6	"Agriculture in Vermont, Past and Future," 1862
BOX 6	<i>An Overland Journey</i> , preface, undated
BOX 6	"Andrew Johnson," undated
BOX 6	"Ashland," undated
BOX 6	"Association Discussed," undated
BOX 6	Bibliography, undated (2 folders)
BOX 6	"The Colored Race," undated
BOX 7	"Council to Young Men," undated
BOX 7	"Dost Thou Will to Be Angry," undated
BOX 7	"A Farmer's Library," undated
BOX 7	Miscellaneous
BOX 7	Bound articles, 1871-1872
BOX 7	Galley proofs, undated (2 folders)
BOX 7	General, undated
BOX 7	Lecture notes, undated
BOX 7	Notes and drafts, 1870-1872, undated (2 folders)
BOX 7	Speeches, undated
BOX 7	"Recollections of a Busy Life," undated
BOX 7	"Reminiscences of a Busy Life," 1879
BOX 7	"The Sabbath for Man," undated
BOX 7	"Twenty Years of Prohibition," undated