Charles Bendire Papers

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Prepared by Patrick Kerwin

Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

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Collection Summary

Title: Charles Bendire Papers
Span Dates: 1874-1919
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1874-1919)
ID No.: MSS12377
Creator: Bendire, Charles, 1836-1897
Extent: 1,200 items; 6 containers; 2.4 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Abstract: Ornithologist and army officer. Chiefly letters from ornithologists and naturalists relating to Bendire's activities as honorary curator of the Museum of Natural History of the Smithsonian Institution.

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
Barlow, Chester, d. 1902--Correspondence.
Bendire, Charles, 1836-1897.
Cockerell, Theodore D. A. (Dru Alison), 1866-1948--Correspondence.
Grinnell, George Bird, 1849-1938--Correspondence.
Johnson, Walter Adams--Correspondence.
McIlhenny, Edward Avery, 1872-1949--Correspondence.
Merriam, C. Hart (Clinton Hart), 1855-1942--Correspondence.
Poling, Otho C.--Correspondence.
Ralph, William S.--Correspondence.
Seton, Ernest Thompson, 1860-1946--Correspondence.
Taylor, Henry K.--Correspondence.

Organizations
National Museum of Natural History (U.S.)

Subjects
Ornithology.

Occupations
Army officers.
Ornithologists.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Charles Bendire, ornithologist and army officer, were given to the Library by A. K. Fisher in 1941.

Processing History

The papers of Charles Bendire were arranged and described in 2000.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Charles Bendire is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Charles Bendire are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

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

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Charles Bendire (1836-1897) span the years 1874-1919, with the bulk of the documents dated 1884-1896. The papers consist of correspondence and related material and document Bendire's role as honorary curator of the Museum of Natural History of the Smithsonian Institution, a position he held when on leave from the Army, 1883-1884, and continued after his retirement from the Army in 1886. Many of the letters relate to ornithology, in particular the securing of specimens for the museum collection, the identification of eggs, and the publication of Bendire's *Life Histories of North American Birds* (U.S. Government Printing Office: Washington, 1892).

Correspondents include J. A. Allen, Chester Barlow, Theodore D. A. Cockrell, George Bird Grinnell, Charles Hallock, Walter Adams Johnson, Edward Avery McIlhenny, C. Hart Merriam, Otho C. Poling, William S. Ralph, Ernest Thompson Seton, and Henry K. Taylor.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent.

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BOX 1	Andrus, Fred H., 1894
BOX 1	Ankeny, Levi, 1896
BOX 1	Anthony, A. W., 1891-1896, undated
BOX 1	Armstrong, Frank B., 1891-1895, undated
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BOX 1	Atkins, J. W., 1889
BOX 1	Attwater, H. P., 1892-1896 (3 folders)
BOX 1	Austen, H., 1892
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BOX 1	Bacon, Eugenie M., 1896
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BOX 1	Bicknell, Eugene P., 1896
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