

**Records of the U.S. House of Representatives**  
**RG.233.46.House**  
**46th Congress**

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

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	U.S. House of Representatives, Office of the Clerk, Office of Art and Archives
<b>Title</b>	House Records of the 46th Congress
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1879-1881
<b>Extent</b>	211.91 Cubic feet
<b>Language</b>	English

## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

U.S. House of Representatives, Office of the Clerk, Office of Art and Archives

### Conditions Governing Access note

The records are governed by Rule VII(3)b of the House Rules:

(b) (1) A record shall immediately be made available if it was previously made available for public use by the House or a committee or a subcommittee. (2) An investigative record that contains personal data relating to a specific living person (the disclosure of which would be an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy), an administrative record relating to personnel, or a record relating to a hearing that was closed under clause 2(g)(2) of rule XI shall be made available if it has been in existence for 50 years. (3) A record for which a time, schedule, or condition for availability is specified by order of the House shall be made available in accordance with that order. Except as otherwise provided by order of the House, a record of a committee for which a time, schedule, or condition for availability is specified by order of the committee (entered during the Congress in which the record is made or acquired by the committee) shall be made available in accordance with the order of the committee. (4) A record (other than a record referred to in subparagraph (1), (2), or (3)) shall be made available if it has been in existence for 30 years.

Records of Legislative Proceedings

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## Collection Inventory

### Records of Legislative Proceedings 1879-1881

#### Minute Books and Journals 1879-1881 3.0 Cubic feet (8 volumes)

##### Scope and Contents note

The minute books and journals series includes a legislative journal, 1st session (46A-A1); a minute book, 2d session (46A-A2) a legislative journal, 2d session (46A-A3); a minute book, 3d session (46A-A4); a legislative journal, 3d session (46A-A5); and a minute book 45th Congress, 3d session, to 46th Congress, 1st session (45A-A3).

#### Bills and Resolutions Originating in the House 1879-1881 13.0 Cubic feet

##### Scope and Contents note

The bills and resolutions originating in the House include twenty-eight volumes of original House bills (46A-B1); original House joint resolutions (46A-B2); original House concurrent resolutions (46A-B3); House simple resolutions, motions, and orders (46A-B4); desk copies of House bills passed (46A-B5); desk copies of House joint resolutions passed (46A-B6); and eight volumes of engrossed House bills and resolutions (46A-B7).

##### Arrangement note

The records are arranged numerically within each group, except 46A-B3, which is arranged chronologically, and 46A-B4, which is arranged alphabetically by Congressman.

**Bills and Resolutions Originating in the Senate and Considered in the Hous**

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**Bills and Resolutions Originating in the Senate and Considered in the House 1879-1881 0.58 Cubic feet****Scope and Contents note**

The bills and resolutions originating in the Senate and considered in the House include Senate bills (46A–C1); and Senate joint resolutions (46A–C2).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged numerically within each group.

**Accompanying Papers File 1879-1881 73.0 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 (46A–D1).

**Arrangement note**

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

**Committee Reports 1879-1881 5.0 Cubic feet (23 volumes)****Scope and Contents note**

Original committee reports cover the 46th Congress, 1st session (46A–E1), 2d session (46A–E2), and 3d session (46A–E3).

**Arrangement note**

## Committees

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The records are arranged numerically within each group.

### Committees 1879-1881

#### Committee on Accounts 1879-1881

##### **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 1879-1881

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Accounts document various subjects (46A–F1.1), arranged by subject; and statements of accounts before the committee, 46th Congress, 1st session, to 47th Congress, 2d session (46A–F1.2). There is also a volume of minutes, 41st Congress, 1st session, to 47th Congress, 1st session (41A–F1.3); and a docket volume, 45th Congress, 1st session, to 47th Congress, 2d session (45A–F1.2).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1879-1881

**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 Accounts document inequities in the pay of employees of the House (46A–H1.1); payment of employees of the House for uncompensated services (46A–H1.2); and various subjects (46A–H1.3).

**Arrangement note**

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

Committee on Agriculture 1879-1881

**Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Agriculture was created on May 3, 1820, to provide a forum for the interests of the large agricultural population of the country. The committee's jurisdiction includes adulteration of seeds, insect pests, and protection of birds and animals in forest reserves; agriculture generally; agricultural and industrial chemistry; agricultural colleges and experiment stations; agricultural economics and research; agricultural education extension services; agricultural production and marketing and stabilization of prices of agricultural products, and commodities (not including distribution outside of the United States); animal industry and diseases of animals; commodity exchanges; crop insurance and soil conservation; dairy industry; entomology and plant quarantine; extension of farm credit and farm security; inspection of livestock, poultry, meat products, and seafood and seafood products; and forestry in general and forest reserves other than those created from the public domain. The committee has oversight over the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Committee Papers 1879-1881

**Scope and Contents note**



## Committees

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The committee papers of the Committee on Agriculture document diseased cattle (46A–F2.1); and various subjects (46A–F2.2). There is also a docket volume (46A–F2.3).

### **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 1879-1881

### **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 of food (46A–H2.1); control of contagious diseases of domestic animals (46A–H2.2); establishment of a Department of Agriculture headed by a Secretary with Cabinet status (46A–H2.3); prohibition of the manufacture and sale of oleomargarine (46A–H2.4); speculation in cereal products (46A–H2.5); tobacco (46A–H2.6); and various subjects (46A–H2.7).

### **Arrangement note**

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

Committee on Appropriations 1879-1881

### **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

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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 1879-1881

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Appropriations include papers from or about executive departments and agencies: Agriculture (46A-F3.1); Interior, general (46A-F3.2); Interior, census (46A-F3.3); Interior, Indian affairs (46A-F3.4); Interior, patents (46A-F3.5); Interior, pensions (46A-F3.6); Interior, public lands (46A-F3.7); Joint Commission on the Completion of the Washington Monument (46A-F3. 8); Justice (46A-F3.9); National Board of Health (46A-F3.10); Navy (46A-F3.11); Post Office (46A-F3.12); Smithsonian Institution (46A-F3.13); Southern Claims Commission (46A-F3.14); State (46A-F3.15); Treasury (46A-F3.16); and War (46A-F3.17); claims (46A-F3.18); District of Columbia (46A-F3.19); Federal courts (46A-F3.20); House of Representatives (46A-F3.21); and various subjects (46A-F3.22). 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); and another volume of letterpress copies of outgoing correspondence, 1867-1880, 40th Congress, 2d session, to 46th Congress, 2d session (40A-F2.21).

#### **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 1879-1881

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

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The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Appropriations include an appointment of a committee of entomologists to study the boll weevil (46A–H3.1); appropriation to cover various expenses in the Territories (46A–H3.2); coastal, river, and harbor defense (46A–H3.3); pay increases for Government employees and adjustment and settlement of pay allegedly due (46A–H3.4); relief of destitute colored women and children (46A–H3.5); settlement of contract obligations for goods and services (46A–H3.6); ships, shipyards, and aids to navigation (46A–H3.7); surveys of the Black Hills in Dakota Territory (46A–H3.8); and various subjects (46A–H3.9).

### **Arrangement note**

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

## Committee on Banking and Currency 1879-1881

### **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 1879-1881

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Banking and Currency include administrative papers (46A–F4.1); investigation of the German National Bank of Chicago (46A–F4.2); papers accompanying specific bills (46A–F4.3); and various subjects (46A–F4.4). There is also a docket

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volume (46A–F4.5); and a volume of minutes, 45th Congress, 1st session, to 48th Congress, 2d session (45A–F4.2).

### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 46A–F4.3, which is arranged numerically by bill.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1879-1881

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency document legislation relating to the currency of the United States (46A–H4.1); prohibition of the issuance of money by corporations chartered by State or Federal Government (46A–H4.2); and repeal of the laws taxing bank deposits and checks (46A–H4.3).

### **Arrangement note**

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

Committee on Claims 1879-1881

### **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

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of claims such as war claims, pensions, and private land claims. Under the 1880 revised House Rules, subjects relating to "private and domestic claims and demands other than war claims against the United States" were to be referred to the Claims Committee. At the end of the 79th Congress the committee was abolished under the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, and jurisdiction over the subjects that had formerly been referred to it was transferred either to the Judiciary Committee or the executive departments.

### Committee Papers 1879-1881

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Claims document various subjects (46A–F5.1), arranged chronologically; a volume of rough minutes for the 2d and 3d sessions (46A–F5.2); a docket volume (46A–F5.3); and an index to House Members presenting claims (46A–F5.4). There is also a volume of rough minutes, 45th Congress, 1st session, to 46th Congress, 2d session (45A–F5.2); and a volume of minutes, 43d Congress, 1st session, to 46th Congress, 3d session (43A–F5.3).

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1879-1881

#### **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 (46A–H5.1).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged alphabetically by petitioner.

### Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures 1879-1881

## Committees

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### Biographical/Historical note

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

Committee Papers 1879-1881

### Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures include a docket volume 46th Congress, 1st session, to 47th Congress, 2d session (46A–F6.1); and a volume of minutes, 45th Congress, 1st session, to 48th Congress, 2d session (45A–F6.1).

Committee on Commerce 1879-1881

### 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

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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 1879-1881

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Commerce document the collectors of customs for the districts of Cape Vincent and Oswego, New York (46A-F7.1); improvement of navigation on inland waters (46A-F7.2); maps accompanying Capt. R. M. Brown's 11th report on the South Pass of the Mississippi River (46A-F7.3); and various subjects (46A-F7.4).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged by subject.

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1879-1881

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

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Commerce document the abolition of compulsory pilotage (46A-H6.1); the completion of the Davis Island Dam on the Ohio River (46A-H6.2); the harbor and life-saving station at Waukegan, Illinois (46A-H6.3); the improvement of the Harlem River

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(46A–H6.4); the Marine Hospital Service (46A–H6.5); the regulation of interstate commerce (46A–H6.6); rivers and harbors (46A–H5.7); and various subjects (46A–H6.8).

### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged by subject.

## Committee on the District of Columbia 1879-1881

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on the District of Columbia was established on January 27, 1808. The committee's duty was to consider all petitions and memorials relating to the affairs of the District of Columbia referred to them by the House. Jurisdiction consisted of various municipal concerns of the District of Columbia including those involving streets, schools and teachers, railroads, police and fire departments, claims against the District Government, insurance, taxes, health and safety, liquor sales, incorporation of organizations and societies, and other matters that were the normal concerns of city and State governments. Since its creation the committee has shared jurisdiction on District concerns with other committees, and in particular with the Committees on Education and Labor, Interior, Banking and Currency, Judiciary, and Public Works. The committee was known as the Committee on the District of Columbia from 1801-1995. The committee was split and absorbed by subcommittees of the Committee on Appropriations and by the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

## Committee Papers 1879-1881

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on the District of Columbia document the investigation of the charges brought against the District Commissioners by the Treasurer of the United States (46A–F8.1). There is also a volume of minutes (46A–F8.2); and a docket volume, 46th Congress, 1st session, to 47th Congress, 2d session (46A–F8.3).



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### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1879-1881

#### **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 various subjects (46A–H7.1).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

### Committee on Education and Labor 1879-1881

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

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

### Committee Papers 1879-1881

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Education and Labor document the 8-hour day (46A–F9.1); and various subjects (46A–F9.2).

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### **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 1879-1881

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Education and Labor document the 8-hour day (46A-H8.1).

### **Arrangement note**

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

Committee on Elections 1879-1881

### **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 1879-1881

### **Scope and Contents note**

## Committees

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The committee papers of the Committee on Elections document the contested election cases of Andrew G. Curtin v. Seth H. Yocum, Pennsylvania (46A–F10.1); Charles Albright v. Robert Klotz, Pennsylvania (46A–F10.2); J. McCabe v. Godlove S. Orth, Indiana (46A–F10.3); and James E. O’Hara v. William H. Kitchin, North Carolina (46A–F10.4); and various subjects (46A–F10.5). There is also a volume of minutes (46A–F10.6).

### Arrangement note

The records are arranged by subject.

### Controlled Access Headings

#### Personal Name(s)

- Albright, Charles, 1830-1880
- Curtin, Andrew Gregg, 1817-1894
- Kitchin, William Hodges, 1837-1901
- Klotz, Robert, 1819-1895
- Orth, Godlove S. (Godlove Stein), 1817-1882
- O’Hara, James Edward, 1844-1905
- Yocum, Seth Hartman, 1834-1895

Committee on Expenditures in the Interior Department 1879-1881

### Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Expenditures in the Interior Department was created on March 16, 1860, and existed until 1927.

Committee Papers 1879-1881

**Committees**

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**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Expenditures in the Interior Department include a volume containing the contingent expenses of the Patent Office (46A–F11.1).

**Committee on Expenditures in the State Department 1879-1881****Committee Papers 1879-1881****Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Expenditures in the State Department document D. H. Bailey and H. S. Loring, consul and vice consul respectively, at Hong Kong (46A–F12.1); fees collected by U. S. diplomatic and consular offices (46A–F12.2); George F. Seward, U. S. Minister to China (46A–F12.3); Joseph W. Stryker, U. S. consul at Pernambuco, Brazil (46A–F12.4); and various subjects (46A–F12.5). There is also a combination minute and docket book (46A–F12.6).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group.

**Committee on Expenditures in the Treasury Department 1879-1881****Committee Papers 1879-1881****Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Expenditures in the Treasury Department document various subjects (46A–F13.1), arranged by subject. There is also a docket volume (46A–F13.2).

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**Committee on Expenditures in the War Department 1879-1881**

Committee Papers 1879-1881

**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Expenditures in the War Department include inspections of money accounts of Army disbursing officers (46A–F14.1).

**Committee on Foreign Affairs 1879-1881****Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Foreign Affairs gained status as a standing committee of the House of Representatives in 1822, however, its antecedents date as far back as 1775 when the Continental Congress established a committee to correspond with friends abroad. The jurisdiction of the committee includes relations of the United States with foreign nations generally; acquisition of land and buildings for embassies and legations in foreign countries; establishment of boundary lines between the United States and foreign nations; export controls, including nonproliferation of nuclear technology and nuclear hardware; foreign loans; international commodity agreements (other than those involving sugar), including all agreements for cooperation in the export of nuclear technology and nuclear hardware; international conferences and congresses; international education; intervention abroad and declarations of war; diplomatic service; measures to foster commercial intercourse with foreign nations and to safeguard American business interests abroad; international economic policy; neutrality; protection of American citizens abroad and expatriation; the American National Red Cross; trading with the enemy; and United Nations organizations. The committee has oversight over the U.S. Department of State.

Committee Papers 1879-1881

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### Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Foreign Affairs document the Australian International Exhibition, 1879–1880 (46A–F15.1); establishment of a consulate at Nantes, France (46A–F15.2); Japanese indemnity fund (46A–F15.3); U. S. policy in reference to an interoceanic canal (46A–F15.4); and various subjects (46A–F15.5). There is also a docket volume (46A–F15.6); and a volume of minutes, 45th Congress, 1st session, to 46th Congress, 3d session (45A–F15.8).

### 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 1879-1881

### 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 European markets for leaf tobacco (46A–H9.1); and various subjects (46A–H9.2).

### Arrangement note

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

Committee on Indian Affairs 1879-1881

### 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

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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 1879-1881

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Indian Affairs include papers accompanying specific bills (46A–F16.1); Ponca Indians of Dakota (46A–F16.2); Ute Indians (46A–F16.3); and various subjects (46A–F16.4). There is also a volume of minutes, 46th Congress, 2d session, to 48th Congress, 2d session (46A–F16.5); a docket volume (46A–F16.6); and a minute book, 44th Congress, 1st session, to 46th Congress, 2d session (44A–F17.4).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 46A–F16.1, which is arranged numerically by bill.

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1879-1881

#### **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 settlement of treaty obligations with the Chippewas of Lake Superior and the Mississippi Valley (46A–H10.1); and the treatment of Indians in general (46A–H10.2).

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### **Arrangement note**

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

#### Committee on Invalid Pensions 1879-1881

### **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 1879-1881

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Invalid Pensions include a volume of minutes (46A–F17.1); four docket volumes (46A–F17.2); letterpress copies of outgoing correspondence, 46th Congress, 2d session, to 47th Congress, 1st session (46A–F17.3); and records of files furnished to the committee by the Pension Office (46A–F17.4).

#### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1879-1881

### **Scope and Contents note**



## Committees

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The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Invalid Pensions document the administration of the pension laws (46A–H11.1); increase in pension of amputees (46A–H11.2); pension for soldiers who were prisoners of war (46A–H11.3); and various subjects (46A–H11.4).

### **Arrangement note**

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

## Committee on the Judiciary 1879-1881

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The standing Committee on the Judiciary was established on June 3, 1813, to take into consideration matters touching judicial proceedings. In 1880 the rule defining its jurisdiction was revised to read "judicial proceedings, civil and criminal law," and this remained the formal definition of the jurisdiction of the committee until the reorganization of Congress in 1946. The committee's jurisdiction includes judiciary and judicial proceedings, civil and criminal; administrative practice and procedure; apportionment of Representatives; bankruptcy, mutiny, espionage, and counterfeiting; civil liberties; constitutional amendments; criminal law enforcement; Federal courts and judges, and local courts in the Territories and possessions; immigration policy and nonborder enforcement; interstate compacts generally; claims against the United States; meetings of Congress; attendance of Members, Delegates, and the Resident Commissioner; and their acceptance of incompatible offices; National penitentiaries; patents, the Patent and Trademark Office, copyrights, and trademarks; Presidential succession; protection of trade and commerce against unlawful restraints and monopolies; revision and codification of the Statutes of the United States; state and territorial boundary lines; and subversive activities affecting the internal security of the United States. The committee has oversight over the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Committee Papers 1879-1881

## Committees

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### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group.

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on the Judiciary document the national bankruptcy law (46A–F18.1); *United States v. Four Cases of Lastings in the District Court for the Southern District of New York* (46A–F18.2); and various subjects (46A–F18.3). There is also a volume of minutes (46A–F18.4); and three docket volumes (46A–F18.5).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1879-1881

### **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 bankruptcy law (46A–H12.1); woman suffrage (46A–H12.2); and various subjects (46A–H12.3).

### **Arrangement note**

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

Committee on Levees and Improvements of the Mississippi River 1879-1881

### **Biographical/Historical note**

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

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terminated in the 62d Congress on April 5, 1911. Its successor was the Committee on Rivers and Harbors.

Committee Papers 1879-1881

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Levees and Improvements of the Mississippi River include a docket volume, 45th Congress, 1st session, to 46th Congress, 1st session, and 48th Congress, 1st session (45A–F19.1).

Committee on Manufactures 1879-1881

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Manufactures was established in 1819 as a result of the split of the Committee on Commerce and Manufactures (1795-1819). Jurisdiction of the committee includes matters relating to the manufacturing industries, but became inactive during the later years of its existence and was eliminated in 1911. The committee's functions were absorbed by the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce (1892-1968).

Committee Papers 1879-1881

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Manufactures include a list of committee members (46A–F20.1); and a docket volume (46A–F20.2).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1879-1881

## 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 Manufactures document the adulteration of food and drugs (46A–H13.1); creation of a Department of Manufactures, Mechanics, and Mines (46A–H13.2); manufacture and sale of oleomargarine (46A–H13.3); prohibition of the use of alum in baking powder (46A–H13.4); and various subjects (46A–H13.5).

### Arrangement note

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

## Committee on Military Affairs 1879-1881

### Biographical/Historical note

A succession of House select committees considered legislation on military affairs from 1811 until 1822, when the House established a standing Committee on Military Affairs. The jurisdiction of the committee included appropriation bills covering the military establishment, the public defense, and the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York. The committee reported the military appropriation bills until 1920, when that power was transferred to the Appropriations Committee. Jurisdiction of the committee also included the establishment and care of national cemeteries and battlefields; acquisition and conveyance of lands for military reservations and improvements upon such grounds; disposition of war trophies and distribution of obsolete weapons and armament; conduct of joint operations of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps; and promotion of 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 1879-1881

### Scope and Contents note

## Committees

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The committee papers of the Committee on Military Affairs document the court-martial of Col. Thomas Worthington at Memphis, in 1862 (46A–F21.1); purchase of the papers of Generals Braxton Bragg and Leonidas Polk (46A–F21.2); purchase of sites in Texas for military posts (46A–F21.3); and various subjects (46A–F21.4). There is also a volume of minutes, 46th Congress, 1st session, to 48th Congress, 2d session (46A–F21.5); and two docket volumes, 46th Congress, 1st session, to 47th Congress, 1st session (46A–F21.6).

### **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 1879-1881

### **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 the equalization of bounties (46A–H14.1); payment of additional money to Civil War veterans to compensate for the wartime inflation of the currency (46A–H14.2); and various subjects (46A–H14.3).

### **Arrangement note**

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

Committee on the Militia 1879-1881

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The standing Committee on the Militia was created on December 10, 1815, with jurisdiction over miscellaneous aspects of the militia organization and operation in the several states and the District of Columbia. The committee's jurisdiction included fostering greater efficiency in the militia units, encouraging rifle practice, reorganizing the militia, and issuing armaments to the militia units and

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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 1879-1881

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

The committee papers of the Committee on the Militia document various subjects (46A–F22.1), arranged chronologically. There is also a docket volume (46A–F22.2).

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1879-1881

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

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on the Militia document financial support of the militia (46A–H15.1); and various subjects (46A–H15.2).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

### Committee on Mines and Mining 1879-1881

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

## Committees

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

Committee Papers 1879-1881

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Mines and Mining include a docket volume (46A–F23.1).

Committee on Naval Affairs 1879-1881

### **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.

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### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1879-1881

#### **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 various subjects (46A–H16.1).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

### Committee on the Pacific Railroads 1879-1881

#### **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 1879-1881

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

The committee papers of the Committee on the Pacific Railroads include administrative papers (46A–F24.1); sinking fund of the Union and the Central Pacific Railroads (46A–F24.2); Sioux City and Pacific Railroad Co. (46A–F24.3); Texas and Pacific Railroad Co. (46A–F24.4); and various subjects (46A–F24.5). There is also a docket volume, 46th Congress, 1st session, to 47th



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Congress, 2d session (46A–F24.6); and a volume of minutes, 45th Congress, 2d session, to 48th Congress, 2d session (45A–F24.5).

### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1879-1881

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on the Pacific Railroads document various subjects (46A–H17.1).

### **Arrangement note**

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

Committee on Patents 1879-1881

### **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.

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### Committee Papers 1879-1881

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Patents document the extension of the patent of Daniel M. Cook for a sugar evaporator (46A–F25.1); and various subjects (46A–F25.2). There is also a docket volume, 46th Congress, 1st session, to 47th Congress, 2d session (46A–F25.3); and a volume of minutes, 44th Congress, 1st session, to 46th Congress, 3d session (44A–F25.3).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged by subject.

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1879-1881

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

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Patents document the amendment of the patent laws (46A–H18.1); and protests against the extension of patents (46A–H18.2).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

### Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads 1879-1881

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

A Select Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads was established in 1806 and made a standing committee in 1808. The jurisdiction of the committee extended to all proposed legislation relating to the carrying of the mails, both foreign and domestic. It included the determination of the location,

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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 1879-1881

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

The committee papers of the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads include administrative papers (46A–F26.1); claims (46A–F26.2); double postal cards (46A–F26.3); ocean mail service (46A–F26.4); papers accompanying specific bills (46A–F26.5); railway mail service (46A–F26.6); repeal of the “Comstock Laws” (46A–F26.7); use of the mails for lotteries (46A–F26.8); and various subjects (46A–F26.9).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 46A–F26.5, which is arranged numerically by bill.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1879-1881

## 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 Post Office and Post Roads document the discontinuance of the letter service of Wells, Fargo, and Co. (46A–H19.1); establishment of a postal telegraph system (46A–H19.2); reduction of the postage rate on business circulars (46A–H19.3); repeal or modification of the “Comstock Postal Laws” prohibiting the importation or mailing of immoral literature or art, or contraceptives (46A–H19.4); salaries of postal employees (46A–H19.5); and various subjects (46A–H19.6).

### **Arrangement note**

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

Committee on Printing 1879-1881

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Printing was established in 1846 and its jurisdiction included all proposed legislation or orders involving printing. In practice this included the general supervision of the printing, management, and policies of the Government Printing Office (GPO). Jurisdiction also occasionally included the pay of its employees; the letting of contracts; procurement of suitable paper; control of the arrangement, style, bulk, and indexing of the "Congressional Record"; and supervision of the printing of the "Congressional Directory." The committee reported bills and resolutions regarding the printing, binding, and distribution of public documents, including the annual reports of executive agencies, bureaus, and commissions; messages of the President; special scientific studies and reports; public health reports and statements; historical documentary publications such as the “Territorial Papers of the United States”; and hearings of congressional committees. The Committee on Printing acted as a standing committee of the House until 1947 when it was incorporated into the House Administration Committee.

Committee Papers 1879-1881

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### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Printing document administrative papers (46A–F27.1); Office of the Public Printer (46A–F27.2); and various subjects (46A–F27.3).

### **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 1879-1881

### **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 payment of employees of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing for the period of the transfer of the Bureau to its new building (46A–H20.1); printing and distribution of congressional proceedings and public documents (46A–H20.2); and various subjects (46A–H20.3).

### **Arrangement note**

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

Committee on Private Land Claims 1879-1881

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Private Land Claims was established on April 29, 1816. The committee reported general as well as special legislation relating to the settlement of individual claims to public lands. It has reported bills to establish a land court to provide for the judicial investigation and settlement of private land claims in certain states and territories. The committee was abolished in 1911 along

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with several other committees that had suffered from diminished legislative activity. Jurisdiction was later transferred to the Judiciary Committee.

### Committee Papers 1879-1881

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Private Land Claims includes claims (46A–F28.1), arranged alphabetically by claimant. There is also a volume of minutes (46A–F28.2); and a docket volume (46A–F28.3).

### Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds 1879-1881

#### **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 1879-1881

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds document the construction of public buildings (46A–F29.1); lighting the Capitol Building and Grounds by electricity (46A–F29.2); papers accompanying specific bills (46A–F29.3); and various subjects

## Committees

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(46A–F29.4). There is also a docket volume (46A–F29.5); and a volume of minutes, 42d Congress, 1st session, to 46th Congress, 3d session (42A–F22.10).

### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 46A–F29.3, which is arranged numerically by bill.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1879-1881

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds document the construction of Federal buildings in various cities (46A–H21.1); erection of a marine hospital in Baltimore (46A–H21.2); and installation of elevators in public buildings (46A–H21.3).

Committee on Public Expenditures 1879-1881

Committee Papers 1879-1881

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Public Expenditures include a volume of minutes, 45th Congress, 1st session, to 47th Congress, 1st session (45A–F29.1).

Committee on Public Lands 1879-1881

### **Biographical/Historical note**

## Committees

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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 1879-1881

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Public Lands include a volume of minutes (46A–F31.1); a docket volume (46A–F31.2); and a rough docket, 45th Congress, 1st session, to 47th Congress, 2d session (45A–F30.5).

### Committee on Railways and Canals 1879-1881

#### **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



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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 1879-1881

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

The committee papers of the Committee on Railways and Canals document administrative papers (46A-F32.1); Austin-Topolovampo Pacific Railroad route (46A-F32.2); Dismal Swamp Canal (46A-F32.3); New Orleans, Baton Rouge, and Vicksburg Railroad (46A-F32.4); Oregon and California Railroad (46A-F32.5); Oregon Pacific Railroad (46A-F32.6); St. Joseph and Denver City Railroad (46A-F32.7); and various subjects (46A-F32.8). There is also a docket volume, 46th Congress, 1st session, to 47th Congress, 1st session (46A-F32.9); and a volume of minutes, 44th Congress, 1st session, to 46th Congress, 3d session (44A-F32.1).

#### **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 1879-1881

#### **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 the construction of a railroad from the Falls of the Saint Marys River at Sault St. Marie to some point on the Marquette and Mackinaw Rivers (46A-H22.1); construction of a ship canal in the bed of the old Wabash and Ohio Canal (46A-H22.2); enactment of legislation to prevent fluctuating and discriminating transportation charges (46A-H22.3); railroads in the Southwest (46A-H22.4); and various subjects (46A-H22.5).

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### **Arrangement note**

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

#### Committee on Revolutionary Pensions 1879-1881

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Revolutionary Pensions was created in 1831 to administer the part of the jurisdiction of the defunct Committee on Military Pensions (1825-1831) that included all matters respecting pensions for services in the Revolutionary War, other than invalid pensions. In 1867, in order to reduce the workload of the Invalid Pensions Committee, the committee's jurisdiction was expanded to include the pension matters of soldiers who fought in the War of 1812. The committee was abolished in 1880 and jurisdiction was referred to the Committee on Pensions.

#### Committee Papers 1879-1881

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions document various subjects (46A-F33.1), arranged chronologically. There is also a docket volume (46A-F33.2); and a volume of minutes 45th Congress, 1st session, to 46th Congress, 2d session (45A-F33.2).

#### Committee on the Territories 1879-1881

### **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

## Committees

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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 1879-1881

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on the Territories document various subjects (46A–F34.1), arranged by subject. There is also a docket volume (46A–F34.2); and a volume of minutes, 44th Congress, 1st session, to 46th Congress, 3d session (44A–F36.10).

Committee on War Claims 1879-1881

### **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 1879-1881

## Committees

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### Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on War Claims include claims rejected by the Commissioners of Claims, i.e., Southern Claims Commission, Report No. 9 (46A–F35.1) and report No. 10 (46A–F35.2); barred claims (46A–F35.3); and various subjects (46A–F35.4). There is also a docket volume (46A–F35.5); and an alphabetical list, by state, of allowed claims reported in the 9th Report (46A–F35.6); and the "Consolidated Index of Claims Reported by the Commissioners of Claims to the House of Representatives from 1871 to 1880" (42A–F29.5).

### Arrangement note

The records are arranged numerically within each group, except 46A–F35.3, which is arranged alphabetically by claimant, and 46A–F35.4, which is arranged by subject.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1879-1881

### Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on War Claims document various subjects (46A–H23.1).

### Arrangement note

The records are arranged alphabetically by petitioner.

Committee on Ways and Means 1879-1881

### 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;

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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 1879-1881

#### Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Ways and Means include the appointment of a Tariff Commission (46A-F36.1); imposition of a duty on fish caught in Canadian waters (46A-F36.2); papers accompanying specific bills (46A-F36.3); sale of oleomargarine (46A-F36.4); tariff on hoop iron (46A-F36.5); newspapers, magazines, and periodicals (46A-F36.6); printing type (46A-F36.7); and sugar (46A-F36.8); tax on matches (46A-F36.9); perfumes, cosmetics, and proprietary medicines (46A-F36.10); and tobacco (46A-F36.11); and various subjects (46A-F36.12). There is also a volume of minutes (46A-F36.13); and two docket volumes (46A-F36.14).

#### 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 1879-1881

#### 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 food and drugs (46A-H24.1); amendment of statutes relating to the transportation of dutiable goods (46A-H24.2); appointment of a Tariff Commission to study revision of import duties (46A-H24.3); cattle, sheep, and horses (46A-H24.4); chrome, iron ore, and bichromate of potash (46A-H24.5);

## Committees

cigarettes, cigars, and tobacco (46A–H24.6); claim of Calvin Bronson (46A–H24.7); claims for tax refunds (46A–H24.8); earthenware (46A–H24.9); fish (46A–H24.10); foreign trade (46A–H24.11); friction matches (46A–H24.12); glycerine (46A–H24.13); income tax (46A–H24.14); legacy and succession taxes (46A–H24.15); legislation to secure the savings of depositors in the Freedman’s Savings and Trust Co. (46A–H24.16); licorice and licorice paste (46A–H24.17); malt (46A–H24.18); medicine, perfumes, and cosmetics (46A–H24.19); newspapers and periodicals (46A–H24.20); paper and materials used in the manufacture of paper (46A–H24.21); payment of the national debt (46A–H24.22); quinine (46A–H24.23); regulation of interstate commerce (46A–H24.24); salt (46A–H24.25); seizure and forfeiture of vessels for breach of the revenue laws (46A–H24.26); steel rails (46A–H24.27); sugar (46A–H24.28); taxing and regulating the sale of oleomargarine (46A–H24.29); tax on bank deposits and checks (46A–H24.30); type (46A–H24.31); vinegar (46A–H24.32); wages and hours in Government service (46A–H24.33); wine, distilled and fermented liquors, and beer (46A–H24.34); zinc (46A–H24.35); and various subjects (46A–H24.36).

## Select Committees 1879-1881

## Select Committee on the Alcoholic Liquor Traffic 1879-1881

**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 1879-1881

**Scope and Contents note**

## Committees

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The committee papers of the Select Committee on the Alcoholic Liquor Traffic include bills and joint resolutions referred to the committee (46A–F37.1).

### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged by type, thereunder numerically.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1879-1881

### **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 Traffic include an appointment of a commission of inquiry concerning the alcoholic liquor traffic (46A–H25.1); prohibition of the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages (46A–H25.2); and various subjects (46A–H25.3).

### **Arrangement note**

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

Select Committee on the Origin, Introduction, and Prevention of Epidemic Diseases in the United States 1879-1881

Committee Papers 1879-1881

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Select Committee on the Origin, Introduction, and Prevention of Epidemic Diseases in the United States document various subjects (46A–F38.1), arranged by subject. There is also a docket volume (46A–F38.2); and a volume of minutes, 45th Congress, 3d session, to 46th Congress, 3d session (45A–F37.3).

## Committees

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### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1879-1881

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

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Select Committee on the Origin, Introduction, and Prevention of Epidemic Diseases in the United States document various subjects (46A–H26.1).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

### Select Committee to Inquire Into the Alleged Abuses of the Franking Privilege 1879-1881

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

The records of the Select Committee to Inquire into the Abuses of the Franking Privilege document various subjects (46A–F39.1), and are arranged by subject.

### Select Committee on the Interoceanic Ship Canal 1879-1881

#### Committee Papers 1879-1881

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

The records of the Select Committee on the Interoceanic Ship Canal document various subjects (46A–F40.1), arranged by subject. There is also a volume of minutes (46A–F40.2); and a docket volume (46A–F40.3).



## Committees

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### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1879-1881

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

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Select Committee on the Interoceanic Ship Canal document various subjects (46A–H27.1).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

### Select Committee on the Payment of Pensions, Bounty, and Back Pay 1879-1881

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

The Select Committee on the Payment of Pensions, Bounty, and Back Pay, created on January 12, 1880, considered the cases of 539 dissatisfied veterans.

### Committee Papers 1879-1881

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

The committee papers of the Select Committee on the Payment of Pensions, Bounty, and Back Pay document various subjects (46A–41.1), arranged by subject. There is also a volume of minutes (46A–F41.2).

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1879-1881

## 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 Select Committee on Payment of Pensions, Bounty, and Back Pay document various subjects (46A–H28.1).

### **Arrangement note**

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

## Select Committee on Reform in the Civil Service 1879-1881

### Committee Papers 1879-1881

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

The committee papers of the Select Committee on Reform in the Civil Service document various subjects (46A–F42.1), arranged by subject. There is also a docket volume (46A–F42.2).

## Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1879-1881

#### **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 (46A–H29.1).

#### **Arrangement note**

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

**Originals of Printed House Documents**

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**Select Committee on the Census 1879-1881****Scope and Contents note**

The records of the Select Committee on the Census include a docket volume, 45th Congress, 3d session to 46th Congress, 3d session (45A-F37.2).

**Originals of Printed House Documents 1879-1881 43.0 Cubic feet (180 volumes)****Scope and Contents note**

The originals of printed documents consist of original executive documents, 1st session (46A-G1), 2d session (46A-G2), and 3d session (46A-G3); and original miscellaneous documents, 1st session (46A-G4), 2d session (46A-G5), and 3d session (46A-G6).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged numerically within each group.

**Election Records 1879-1881 2.0 Cubic feet****Scope and Contents note**

The election records include credentials of Representatives and Delegates (46A-J1).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged alphabetically by state or territory.

**Other Records 1879-1881 2.0 Cubic feet**

**Records of Impeachment Proceedings**

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**Scope and Contents note**

Other records consist of copies of telegrams sent (46A–K1); and copies of telegrams received (46A–K2) through the departmental telegraph lines; and various papers (46A–K3).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 46A–K3, which is arranged by subject.

**Records of Impeachment Proceedings 1879-1881****Impeachment of George F. Seward 1879-1881 0.16 Cubic feet****Scope and Contents note**

The papers pertain to impeachment proceedings against George F. Seward, late consul general at Shanghai (46B–A1); also included are impeachment records from the 45th Congress (45B–B1).

**Records of the Office of the Clerk 1879-1881****Index 1879-1881****Scope and Contents note**

The geographical index to petitions covers the 44th Congress, 1st session, to 46th Congress, 2d session (44C–C1).

**Record Books 1879-1881 2.0 Cubic feet (14 volumes)**

## Other Records

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### **Scope and Contents note**

The record books include a bill book of House bills and resolutions together with an index (46C–A1); bill book of Senate bills and resolutions (46C–A2); individual ledger (46C–A3); daily order of business and calendars (46C–A4); register of committee reports (46C–A5); register of executive documents (46C–A6); and register of miscellaneous documents (46C–A7).

### **Other Records 1879-1881**

### **Scope and Contents note**

Other records include various papers (46C–B1), arranged by subject.