Daniel Scott Lamont Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2010

Contact information:
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact

Additional search options available at:
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms011220

LC Online Catalog record:
http://lccn.loc.gov/mm77029249

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Collection Summary

Title: Daniel Scott Lamont Papers
Span Dates: 1853-1928
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1893-1905)
ID No.: MSS29249
Creator: Lamont, Daniel Scott, 1851-1905
Extent: 21,500 items ; 108 containers ; 30 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Summary: Financier, private secretary to President Grover Cleveland, and secretary of war. Correspondence, letterbooks, copies of telegrams, diaries, drafts of speeches and memoranda, financial papers, scrapbooks, newspaper clippings, and memorabilia relating principally to Lamont's role and interest in New York state Democratic politics and to his work as private secretary to President Grover Cleveland and as secretary of war.

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
Bacon, Edward Rathbone, 1846-1915.
Belmont, August, 1853-1924.
Belmont, Perry, 1850-1947.
Benedict, Erastus Cornelius, 1800-1880.
Bissell, Wilson Shannon, 1847-1903.
Bryant, Joseph D. (Joseph Decatur), 1845-1914.
Carnegie, Andrew, 1835-1919.
Cleveland, Grover, 1837-1908.
Dickinson, Donald McDonald, 1846-1917.
Gilder, Richard Watson, 1844-1909.
Grace, William Russell, 1832-1904.
Hanna, Marcus Alonzo, 1837-1904.
Hill, James Jerome, 1838-1916.
Lamont, Daniel Scott, 1851-1905.
Manning, Daniel, 1831-1887.
Morton, J. Sterling (Julius Sterling), 1832-1902.
Olney, Richard, 1835-1917.
Parker, Alton B. (Alton Brooks), 1852-1926.
Stillman, James, 1850-1918.
Whitney, William C. (William Collins), 1841-1904.

Organizations
Democratic Party (N.Y.)
Northern Pacific Railway Company.
United States. War Department.

Subjects
Railroads.

Places
New York (State)--Politics and government--1865-1950.

Occupations
Cabinet officers.
Financiers.

Secretaries, Presidential.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Daniel Scott Lamont, financier, personal secretary to President Grover Cleveland, and secretary of war, were given to the Library of Congress in 1929-1960 by Lamont's heirs, Frances Lamont Robbins, Nancy Boyd Sokoloff, and Mrs. Robert E. Montgomery. Further installments were given, 1960-1974, by Sokoloff, Mrs. Montgomery, William Biederman, and Mrs. James Boyd and her estate.

Processing History

The papers of Daniel Scott Lamont were arranged and described in 1977. The finding aid was revised in 2010.

Additional Guides

A card index for the bound volumes of general correspondence in the collection is available in the Manuscript Division Reading Room.

Transfers

Four posters have been transferred to the Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as part of the Daniel Scott Lamont Papers.

Related Material

The Grover Cleveland Papers in the Manuscript Division also contain letters from various correspondents addressed to Lamont, as well as letters exchanged between Lamont and Cleveland.

Copyright Status

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

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Daniel Scott Lamont 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, Daniel Scott Lamont Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	*Event*
1851, Feb. 9	Born, Cortland County, N.Y.
1868-circa 1871	Attended Union College, Schenectady, N.Y.
1870	Appointed engrossing clerk, New York state legislature
1871	Appointed assistant ground clerk, New York state legislature
1872-1882	Clerk, New York Democratic State Committee

1874	Married Julia Kinney
1875-1882	Chief clerk, New York Department of State
1877-1882	Legislative reporter and managing editor, Albany Argus
1883-1885	Private secretary to Governor Cleveland; also on his military staff with rank of colonel
1885-1889	Private secretary to President Grover Cleveland
1889-1893	Worked with William C. Whitney in Whitney's financial ventures in the street-railway system, New York, N.Y.
1893-1897	Secretary of war
1898-1904 .	Vice president, Northern Pacific Railway Co
1905, July 23	Died, Milbrook, N.Y

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Daniel Scott Lamont (1851-1905) span the years 1853 to 1928, with the greatest portion covering the period 1893-1905. The collection is organized in five series: General Correspondence, Letterbooks, Diaries, Papers Relating to Grover Cleveland, and Miscellany.

Included are letters by Lamont to a friend, Milford S. Bean, written in the 1860s while Lamont was a student at Union College in Schenectady, New York, that reveal an early interest in politics. Other papers reflect his role and interest in New York state Democratic politics in the 1870s and 1880s when he first met Grover Cleveland. The close relationship between the two men is indicated in a series of memoranda of conversations between the two from December 1892 to late February 1893. Letters to Lamont and his wife, Julia, from President Cleveland and Frances Folsom Cleveland during the years 1886-1906 reveal the closeness of their relationship.

Important items in the collection include letterbooks kept by Lamont of copies of telegrams sent and received by the executive mansion during 1885-1888. There is also personal correspondence and letterbooks for when Lamont was secretary of war, 1893-1897, and after, reflecting the administration of the War Department and Lamont's influence with the president. Material after 1897 relates chiefly to his financial interests, especially to his work as vice president of the Northern Pacific Railway Company and as member of the boards of other corporations. A principal topic of the correspondence is the development of railroads in this country and abroad.

Prominent correspondents in addition to Grover Cleveland and Frances Folsom Cleveland include Joseph D. Bryant, physician in charge of the operation on President Cleveland's mouth, Marcus Alonzo Hanna, William C. Whitney, Daniel Manning, Richard Olney, Edward Rathbone Bacon, Erastis Cornelius Benedict, Richard Watson Glider, Alton B. Parker, Wilson Shannon Bissell, James Stillman, James Jerome Hill, August Belmont, Perry Belmont, Andrew Carnegie, Julius Sterling Morton, Donald McDonald Dickinson, and William Russell Grace.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in five series:

- General Correspondence, 1865-1917
- Letterbooks, 1885-1905
- Diaries, 1860-1903
- Papers Relating to Grover Cleveland, 1882-1896

- Miscellany, 1853-1928

Description of Series

Container	*Series*
BOX 1-80	**General Correspondence, 1865-1917**
BOX 1-80	**Bound, 1871-1897** Letters received. Arranged chronologically, with undated letters organized alphabetically.
BOX 81-87	**Unbound, 1865-1917** Miscellaneous general correspondence received, letters from Grover Cleveland, memoranda of conversations with Cleveland, and correspondence of Julia Lamont. Arranged by type of correspondence and therein chronologically.
BOX 88-93	**Letterbooks, 1885-1905** Bound volumes of copies of letters sent kept chiefly during the period Lamont was secretary of war. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 94	**Diaries, 1860-1903** Diaries containing intermittently kept brief notations. Includes diaries of Julia Lamont.
BOX 95-97	**Papers Relating to Grover Cleveland, 1882-1896** Correspondence, subject file, speeches and writings, and miscellany. Arranged by type of material and therein chronologically.
BOX 98-108	**Miscellany, 1853-1928** Autographs, financial records including bills and receipts, material relating to Lamont's death, memorabilia, newspaper clippings, photographs, printed matter, and other material. Arranged alphabetically by type of material or subject..

Container List

Container	*Contents*
BOX 1-80	**General Correspondence, 1865-1917**
BOX 1-80	**Bound, 1871-1897**
	Letters received.
	Arranged chronologically, with undated letters organized alphabetically.
BOX 1	1871, 11 Sept.-1893, 31 Jan.
BOX 2	1893
BOX 2	1-22 Feb.
BOX 3	23 Feb.-5 Mar.
BOX 4	6-10 Mar.
BOX 5	11-17 Mar.
BOX 6	18-27 Mar.
BOX 7	28 Mar.-6 Apr.
BOX 8	7-16 Apr.
BOX 9	17-24 Apr.
BOX 10	25 Apr.-7 May
BOX 11	8-16 May
BOX 12	17-28 May
BOX 13	29 May-13 June
BOX 14	14-22 June
BOX 15	23-30 June
BOX 16	1-29 July
BOX 17	30 July-9 Aug.
BOX 18	16-24 Aug.
BOX 19	25 Aug.-7 Sept.
BOX 20	8-20 Sept.
BOX 21	21-29 Sept.
BOX 22	30 Sept.-9 Oct.
BOX 23	10-21 Oct.
BOX 24	22 Oct.-4 Nov.
BOX 25	5-17 Nov.
BOX 26	18-28 Nov.
BOX 27	29 Nov.-11 Dec.
BOX 28	12-22 Dec.
BOX 29	1893, 23 Dec.-1894, 5 Jan.
BOX 30	1894
BOX 30	6-18 Jan.
BOX 31	19-31 Jan.
BOX 32	1-14 Feb.
BOX 33	15-27 Feb.
BOX 34	28 Feb.-12 Mar.

Container	*Contents*
BOX 35	13 Mar.-3 Apr.
BOX 36	4-28 Apr.
BOX 37	29 Apr.-20 May
BOX 38	21 May-13 June
BOX 39	14 June-6 July
BOX 40	7 July-2 Aug.
BOX 41	3-27 Aug.
BOX 42	28 Aug.-24 Sept.
BOX 43	25 Sept.-4 Nov.
BOX 44	5 Nov.-2 Dec.
BOX 45	3-26 Dec.
BOX 46	1894, 27 Dec.-1895, 19 Jan.
BOX 47	1895
BOX 47	20 Jan.-14 Feb.
BOX 48	15 Feb.-9 Mar.
BOX 49	10-27 Mar.
BOX 50	28 Mar.-18 Apr.
BOX 51	19 Apr.-8 May
BOX 52	9-31 May
BOX 53	1 June-8 July.
BOX 54	9 July-15 Aug.
BOX 55	16 Aug.-13 Sept.
BOX 56	14 Sept.-10 Oct.
BOX 57	11 Oct.-8 Nov.
BOX 58	9 Nov.-1 Dec.
BOX 59	2-19 Dec.
BOX 60	1895, 20 Dec.-1896, 9 Jan.
BOX 61	1896
BOX 61	10-31 Jan.
BOX 62	1-27 Feb.
BOX 63	28 Feb.-20 Mar.
BOX 64	21 Mar.-11 Apr.
BOX 65	12 Apr.-1 May
BOX 66	2-31 May
BOX 67	1-23 June
BOX 68	24 June-24 July
BOX 69	25 July-31 Aug.
BOX 70	1 Sept.-2 Oct.
BOX 71	3-31 Oct.
BOX 72	1 Nov.-4 Dec.
BOX 73	1896, 5 Dec.-1897, 4 Jan.
BOX 74	1897
BOX 74	5-28 Jan.
BOX 75	29 Jan.-17 Dec.
BOX 76	Undated
BOX 76	A-C

Container	*Contents*
BOX 77	D-H
BOX 78	I-N
BOX 79	O-S
BOX 80	T-Y
BOX 81-87	**Unbound, 1865-1917**
	Miscellaneous general correspondence received, letters from Grover Cleveland, memoranda of conversations with Cleveland, and correspondence of Julia Lamont.
	Arranged by type of correspondence and therein chronologically.
BOX 81	Miscellaneous
BOX 81	1865-1895
BOX 82	1896-1898
BOX 83	1899
BOX 84	1900-1901
BOX 85	1902-1903
BOX 86	1904, Sept. 1904,
BOX 87	Oct.-1905, June, undated
BOX 87	Cleveland, Grover
BOX 87	Correspondence, 1886-1906
BOX 87	Memoranda of conversations, 1892-1893, undated
BOX 87	Lamont, Julia, correspondence, 1912-1917
BOX 88-93	**Letterbooks, 1885-1905**
	Bound volumes of copies of letters sent kept chiefly during the period Lamont was secretary of war.
	Arranged chronologically.
BOX 88	Letterpress copies, 1885-1888
	(3 vols.)
BOX 89	Letterbooks
BOX 89	1893, 28 Mar.-1 June
	(3 vols.)
BOX 90	1893, 19 June-14 Dec.
	(2 vols.)
BOX 91	1893, 14 Dec.-1895, 20 May
	(2 vols.)
BOX 92	1895, 21 May-1897, 1 Mar.
	(2 vols.)
BOX 93	1898, 25 Mar.-1905, 13 July
	(3 vols.)
BOX 94	**Diaries, 1860-1903**
	Diaries containing intermittently kept brief notations. Includes diaries of Julia Lamont.
BOX 94	1860, 1870-1871
	(2 vols.)
BOX 94	1876, Julia Lamont

Container	*Contents*
BOX 94	1893, fragments
BOX 94	1895-1897, Julia Lamont
BOX 94	1902-1903, travel diary [kept by Kate Reynolds?] of the Lamonts' tour of Europe and Africa
BOX 95-97	**Papers Relating to Grover Cleveland, 1882-1896**
	Correspondence, subject file, speeches and writings, and miscellany.
	Arranged by type of material and therein chronologically.
BOX 95	Correspondence
BOX 95	Letters received
BOX 95	1882-1887
BOX 95	1888, Jan.-Aug.
BOX 95	1888, Sept.-Oct.
BOX 95	1888, Nov.-1889, Feb., undated
BOX 95	Telegrams received
BOX 96	1882
BOX 96	1884
	(3 folders)
BOX 96	1884
	(3 folders)
BOX 96	1883, 1886
BOX 96	Drafts of letters sent
BOX 96	1885-1888, undated
BOX 96	Subject file
BOX 96	Geronimo, 1886
BOX 96	Railroad tour, 1887
BOX 96	Taylor, Edward J., nomination, 1894
BOX 97	Speeches and writings
BOX 97	First annual message to Congress, 1885
BOX 97	Draft
BOX 97	Galley proof
BOX 97	Third annual message to Congress, draft, 1887
BOX 97	Legislative message, 17 Jan. 1896
BOX 97	Speech
BOX 97	3 Oct. 1887
BOX 97	6 Oct. 1887
BOX 97	18 Oct. 1887
BOX 97	20 Oct. 1887
BOX 97	Executive order, 1 July 1886
BOX 97	Miscellany
BOX 97	White House miscellany
BOX 97	Photograph
BOX 98-108	**Miscellany, 1853-1928**
	Autographs, financial records including bills and receipts, material relating to Lamont's death, memorabilia, newspaper clippings, photographs, printed matter, and other material.
	Arranged alphabetically by type of material or subject..

Miscellany, 1853-1928

Container	*Contents*
BOX 98	Autographs, 1853-1898
BOX 99	Financial records, 1889-1897
	(8 folders)
BOX 100	(6 folders)
BOX 101	Lamont's death
BOX 101	Letters of condolence
BOX 102	Telegrams of condolence
BOX 102	Obituaries
	(2 vols.)
BOX 103	(2 vols.)
BOX 104	(1 vols.)
BOX 105	Lamont, Julia, engagement book, 1895-1896
BOX 105	Memorabilia
BOX 105	Miscellaneous material
BOX 105	Junior Officers' Club correspondence, 1918-1920, 1928, undated
BOX 105	White House
BOX 105	Form letters
BOX 105	Social
BOX 105	Stationery
BOX 106	Newspaper clippings, circa 1883-1908
BOX 106	Photographs and etching
BOX 106	Posters
BOX 107	Printed matter
BOX 107	Regulations on employment at United States Navy Yards, 1893
BOX 107	Scrapbooks of newspaper clippings on Grover Cleveland
BOX 107	New York gubernatorial campaign and election, 1882
BOX 108	New York gubernatorial campaign, 1882, and presidential campaign, 1884
BOX 108	Cleveland and labor, 1884
BOX 108	Inauguration and beyond, 1885-1886