

Caleb B. Smith Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the
Library of Congress

Prepared by Richard Bickel



Manuscript Division, Library of
Congress

Washington, D.C.

2009

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

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Collection Summary

Title: Caleb B. Smith Papers

Span Dates: 1841-1862

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1849)

ID No.: MSS40303

Creator: Smith, Caleb B. (Caleb Blood), 1808-1864

Extent: 1,200 items; 9 containers; 3.4 linear feet; 4 microfilm reels

Language: Collection material in English

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

Abstract: Lawyer, statesman, jurist, and United States representative from Indiana. Principally correspondence from 1849, the last year of Smith's term as a Whig from Indiana in the House of Representatives.

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

Barnett, Theodore J.

Bruen, Luther B. (Luther Barnett), 1822-1864.

Bundy, Martin L., b. 1818.

Butterfield, Justin, 1790-1855.

Carnan, Robert N.

Colfax, Schuyler, 1823-1885.

Corwin, Robert G., 1794-1865.

Corwin, Thomas, 1794-1865.

Cushing, Courtland.

Davis, John S., 1787-1854

Defrees, John D. (John Dougherty), 1810 or 11-1882

Dowling, Thomas, 1806-1876.

Halloway, David P.

Hannah, Samuel.

King, Rufus, 1814-1876.

McGaughey, Edward W.

McLean, John, 1785-1861.

Parker, Samuel Wilson, 1805-1859.

Sample, Thomas Jefferson.

Smith, Caleb B. (Caleb Blood), 1808-1864.

Smith, John L.

Stevenson, Thomas B., fl. 1848.

Taylor, Zachary, 1784-1850.

Thayer, James S.

Valette, Henry.

Walpole, Thomas D.

Washburne, E. B. (Elihu Benjamin), 1816-1887.

Watton, William.

Yaryan, John.

Organizations

Whig Party (U.S.)

Subjects

Elections--United States--1848.

Places

Indiana--Politics and government.

United States--Politics and government--1845-1861.

Occupations

Jurists.

Lawyers.

Representatives, U.S. Congress--Indiana.

Statesmen.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Caleb B. Smith, lawyer, statesman, jurist, and United States representative from Indiana, were purchased by the Library of Congress in 1898.

Processing History

The papers of Caleb B. Smith were described and prepared for filming in 1983. The finding aid was revised in 2009..

Additional Guides

A partial index of the collection is available in the Manuscript Division Reading Room.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Caleb B. Smith is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Caleb B. Smith 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.

Microfilm

A microfilm edition of these papers is available on four reels. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition.

Preferred Citation

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

Biographical Note

Date

Event

1808, Apr. 16

Born, Boston, Mass.

1814

Moved with family to Cincinnati Ohio, and later studied law at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio,

circa 1827-1828	Admitted to the bar and entered law office of Oliver H. Smith, Connersville, Ind.; later married Elizabeth Walton
1834	Won election to the Indiana house of representatives
1842	Elected to U.S. House of Representatives, the first of three terms
1850	Returned to law practice in Indiana
1851	President, Cincinnati and Chicago Railroad Co.
1859	As leader of the Indiana delegation to the Republican Convention, Chicago, Ill., fought for nomination of Abraham Lincoln for president
1861	Appointed secretary of the interior
1862	Resigned cabinet position and returned to Indianapolis, Ind. Appointed judge, U.S. District Court of Indiana
1864, Jan. 2	Died, Indianapolis, Ind.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Caleb Blood Smith (1808-1864) span the years 1841-1862, with the bulk of the correspondence and related matter from 1849, the last year of Smith's term as a Whig from Indiana in the United States House of Representatives. Subjects include state and national politics, Smith's opportunities for a cabinet appointment, and Zachary Taylor's campaign for president and election of 1848. The collection is organized chronologically.

Correspondents include Theodore J. Barnett, Luther B. Bruen, Martin L. Bundy, Justin Butterfield, Robert N. Carnan, Schuyler Colfax, Robert G. Corwin, Thomas Corwin, Courtland Cushing, John S. Davis, John D. Defrees, Thomas Dowling, Samuel Hannah, David P. Halloway, Rufus King, Edward W. McGaughey, John McLean, Samuel W. Parker, Thomas Jefferson Sample, John L. Smith, Thomas B. Stevenson, James S. Thayer, Henry Vallette, Thomas D. Walpole, E. B. Washburne, William Watton, and John Yaryan.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged chronologically.

Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 18,625

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1 REEL 1	Correspondence and related matter
BOX 1 REEL 1	1841, May 21-1848, Dec. 19
BOX 2 REEL 1	1848, Dec. 20-1849, Mar. 3
BOX 3 REEL 2	1849
BOX 3 REEL 2	Mar. 4-May 2
BOX 4 REEL 2	May 3-June 5
BOX 5 REEL 3	June 6-July 27
BOX 6 REEL 3	July 28-Sept. 28
BOX 7 REEL 3	1849, Sept. 20-1850, Jan. 18
BOX 8 REEL 4	1850, Jan. 20-1859, June 11
BOX 9 REEL 4	1862, Oct. 6-29, undated