



The New York Public Library
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

Letters to George Jones

1866-1930 [bulk 1866-1891]

MssCol 22990

Processed by Susan P. Waide, 2014.

Summary

Creator: Jones, George, 1811-1891

Title: Letters to George Jones

Date: 1866-1930 [bulk 1866-1891]

Size: .63 linear feet (2 boxes)

Source: Purchased from Mrs. Hudson's Fine Books and Paper, 2014 and 2017.

Abstract: George Jones (1811-1891) was the first publisher of the New York Times. He founded the New-York Daily Times in 1851 with Henry J. Raymond and Edward B. Wesley. After Raymond's death in 1869, Jones took over the editorship of the paper. The collection, dating 1866-1891 and 1930, comprises letters written to George Jones, publisher and editor of the New York Times, 1871-1888, chiefly by prominent persons regarding U.S. politics, as well as some family letters, invitations, and unsorted items, 1866-1891 and 1930. Letters refer to New York Times editorial positions, Ulysses S. Grant's presidency and his bid for a third term in 1880, efforts to establish a retirement fund for Grant, and other matters reflecting Jones's influence in national and Republican Party affairs. Notable correspondents include James G. Blaine, Andrew Carnegie, George W. Childs, Jay Gould, Ulysses S. Grant, General Nelson A. Miles, Edwin B. Morgan, Daniel E. Sickles, Oscar S. Straus, Elihu B. Washburne, and Fernando Wood. The collection also includes letters from New York Times staff and the paper's foreign correspondents, and requests for employment with the Times.

Preferred citation: Letters to George Jones, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English

Processing note: Processed by Susan P. Waide, 2014; additional letters interfiled in 2018.

Creator History

George Jones (1811-1891) was the first publisher of the New York Times. He founded the New-York Daily Times in 1851 with Henry J. Raymond and Edward B. Wesley. After Raymond's death in 1869,

Jones took over the editorship of the paper. Under his leadership, the Times was responsible for the downfall of Tammany Hall and William M. "Boss" Tweed in 1871.

Scope and Content Note

The collection, dating 1866-1891 and 1930, comprises letters written to George Jones, publisher and editor of the New York Times, 1871-1888, chiefly by prominent persons regarding U.S. politics, as well as some family letters, invitations, and unsorted items, 1866-1891 and 1930. Letters refer to New York Times editorial positions, Ulysses S. Grant's presidency and his bid for a third term in 1880, efforts to establish a retirement fund for Grant, and other matters reflecting Jones's influence in national and Republican Party affairs. Notable correspondents include James G. Blaine, Andrew Carnegie, George W. Childs, Jay Gould, Ulysses S. Grant, General Nelson A. Miles, Edwin B. Morgan, Daniel E. Sickles, Oscar S. Straus, Elihu B. Washburne, and Fernando Wood. The collection also includes letters from New York Times staff and the paper's foreign correspondents, and requests for employment with the Times.

Ulysses S. Grant's letter of May 26, 1880 thanks Jones for his support in light of the upcoming Republican National Convention in Chicago. Letters from George W. Childs, publisher of the Philadelphia Public Ledger, refer to celebrations for President Grant in Philadelphia in 1879, Jones's monetary donation supporting a local Republican candidate, and a subscription for a monument to newspaper publisher Joseph Gales, handled by Jones and Robert C. Winthrop. Letters dated 1880 from Joseph Medill of the Chicago Tribune, U.S. Representative Fernando Wood, and others, concern the cost of newsprint paper and efforts to have Congress reduce tariffs on wood pulp and paper.

The collection also includes letters from New York Times staff and the paper's foreign correspondents apprising Jones of their work, and requests for employment with the Times. There are numerous letters from New York Times majority shareholder Edwin B. Morgan of Aurora, New York regarding personal, political, and business matters. European contacts include John Walter and John C. MacDonald of The Times of London, Joseph Hatton, and Americans Augusta de Grasse Stevens and Carroll Tevis. Also present are requests from persons seeking the paper's endorsements of their craft or product, such as artist Constant Mayer, and letters of introduction and recommendation. A few items in the collection are addressed to Augustine Smith, Jones's son Gilbert E. Jones, and son-in-law Henry L. Dyer, all working at the New York Times.

In addition there are family letters, 1870-1891 and 1930; invitations and invitation replies, mostly for Jones, 1870-1882; and unsorted letters, 1866-1887. Family letters consist of letters to Jones concerning his grandson G. W. Ireland; letters from his nephews C. A. Seley and Francis A. Crook; letters to his son-in-law Henry Dyer from Dyer's father, grandfather Lyman Tiffany, and George Jones; and a 1930 letter to George J. Dyer seeking funds for a cemetery in Granville, Ohio. Unsorted letters consist of letters from unidentified correspondents, third-party correspondence, loose attachments and other miscellaneous items.

Key Terms

Subjects

American newspapers -- New York (State) -- New York
Newspaper publishing -- New York (State) -- New York
Publishers and publishing -- New York (State) -- New York

Occupations

Businessmen.
Capitalists and financiers
Diplomats.
Editors.
Journalists.
Politicians.
Presidents.
Publishers.
Soldiers.
Statesmen.

Geographic Names

New York (N.Y.) -- Politics and government -- To 1898
New York (State) -- Politics and government -- 1865-1950
United States -- Politics and government -- 1865-1900

Titles

New York times

Names

Blaine, James Gillespie, 1830-1893
Carnegie, Andrew, 1835-1919
Childs, George William, 1829-1894
Gould, Jay, 1836-1892
Grant, Ulysses S. (Ulysses Simpson), 1822-1885
Jones, George, 1811-1891
Miles, Nelson Appleton, 1839-1925
Morgan, Edwin Barber, 1806-1881
Sickles, Daniel Edgar, 1819-1914
Straus, Oscar S. (Oscar Solomon), 1850-1926
Washburne, E. B. (Elihu Benjamin), 1816-1887
Wood, Fernando, 1812-1881
New York Times Company

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 Agnew, John T 1880 April 26 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 2 Allen, Elmer A 1880 Feb 28 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 4 Blaine, James G 1880 May 19 (2 items)
Letter and an undated postscript.
- b. 1 f. 5 Boyd, J 1879 (2 items)
- b. 1 f. 6 Brown, Eliphalet M 1872 Dec 24 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 7 Butler, William Allen 1880 May 6 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 8 Butterworth, Mary F 1879 April 12, undated 1879 (3 items)
- b. 1 f. 9 Campbell, Allan 1880 January 10 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 10 Carnegie, Andrew 1885 Sep 28 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 11 Carroll, Harold 1879 January 31 (1 item)
 - b. 1 f. 3 Bennett, James Gordon 1882 Sep 17 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 12 Chamberlain, Daniel H 1884 Nov 6 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 13 Childs, George W 1872-1884, undated (16 items)
- b. 1 f. 14 Collins, George 1879 June 24 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 15 Conant, S. S 1872 October 4 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 16 Crapsey, Amanda 1879 February 13 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 17 De Young, M. H 1880 June 7 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 18 Derby, J. C 1881 November 29 (1 item with enclosure)
Encloses letter of author Miriam C. Harris, 1881 November 22
- b. 1 f. 19 Evelyn, William 1871 (2 items)
- b. 1 f. 20 Forbes, John Murray 1881, 1883 (2 items)
- b. 1 f. 21 French, Stephen B 1882 January 5 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 22 Gerry, Elbridge T 1883 May 25 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 23 Gould, Jay 1885 October 5 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 24 Grant, Ulysses S 1880 May 26 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 25 Halstead, Murat 1881 October 21 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 26 Harper, Joseph W 1884 November 6 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 27 Hatton, Joseph 1880-1883 (4 items)
Letter of December 22, 1880, Hatton to Jones, is written on John C. MacDonald's letter to Hatton of August 20, 1880.
- b. 1 f. 28 Hennessy, Michael 1879 July 16 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 29 J. J. Stuart & Co 1880 January 17 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 30 James, Thomas L 1881 August 11 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 31 Janelly, Patrick 1879 May 29 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 32 Jennings, L. J 1872 July 18 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 33 Jerome, Leonard W undated (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 34 Jones, Albert Jay 1872 June 17 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 35 Lawrence, Amos A 1873 February 5 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 36 Lowell, Edward J 1880 (2 items)
- b. 1 f. 37 MacDonald, John C 1879 June 24 (1 item)

- b. 1 f. 38 MacMartin, Archibald to Gilbert E. Jones 1879 July 30 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 39 Macnabb, Donald C 1886 October 29 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 40 MacVeagh, Wayne 1880 November 5 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 41 Maddick, Alfred 1879 July 29 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 42 Marseilles, Charles 1880 March 24 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 43 Marsh, Luther R 1888 March 26 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 44 Mattison, O. B 1885 January 24 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 45 Mayer, Constant undated (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 46 McDonald, B. A 1879 February 11 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 47 Medill, Joseph 1880-1881 (5 items)
- b. 1 f. 48 Medill, Katharine undated (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 49 Merriam, Clinton L 1880 (2 items)
- b. 1 f. 50 Merrick, R. T 1884 (2 items)
- b. 1 f. 51 Merritt, E. A 1880 May 10 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 52 Miles, Nelson A 1887-1888 (3 items)
- b. 1 f. 53 Miller, George Macculloch 1879 December 29 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 54 Morgan, Edwin B 1872-1880 (16 items)
Included is a letter of 1880 February 24 from J. Washburn, Jr., a public official in Portland, Maine, to Edwin B. Morgan, regarding a New York Times article about James G. Blaine.
- b. 1 f. 55 Morgan, Henry 1884 July 30 (1 item)
To G. Jones, Esq., possibly Gilbert E. Jones
- b. 1 f. 56 Morgan, Henry A 1884 (2 items)
One item is addressed to Henry L. Dyer, with enclosure.
- b. 1 f. 57 Morgan, J. H 1880 April 13 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 58 Morris, William Gouverneur 1879 June 3 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 59 Musgrave, Thomas B 1885 October 18 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 60 Norton, Charles S 1879 May 24 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 61 Ogden, Richard L 1879, 1883 (3 items)
- b. 1 f. 62 Olcott, Frederic P 1879 June 19 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 63 Olmsted, William A 1879 September 18 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 64 Orrs & Co 1880 (2 items)
- b. 1 f. 65 Packard, Silas S 1872 November 25 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 66 Palmer, Courtlandt 1879 January 5 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 67 Parks, Henry C 1880 July 2 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 68 Peters, Bernard 1881 January 31 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 69 Phelps, Caroline C 1879 March 11 (1 item)
Formerly Mrs. Crawford Livingston
- b. 1 f. 70 Pitney, Henry C 1888 October 27 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 71 Porter, Horace 1883-1884 (2 items)
- b. 1 f. 72 Post, George B 1888 March 21 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 72 Putnam, James O 1880 February 3 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 74 Rodrigues, José Carlos 1879 August 13 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 75 Roger, James F 1880 January 13 (1 item)

- b. 1 f. 76 Ryan, J. B. J 1879 April 28 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 77 Sandford, Alice 1879 (2 items)
- b. 1 f. 78 Sanford, Henry Shelton 1879-1880 (2 items)
- b. 1 f. 79 Sanford, J. P 1880 December 29 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 80 Sawyer, N. K 1879 (2 items)
- b. 1 f. 81 Schiff, Jacob H 1883 September 19 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 82 Schlesinger, Louis 1880 May 22 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 83 Schwatka, Frederick 1886 October 16 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 84 Scott, Thomas A 1880 January 19 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 85 Seward, C. A 1879 October 27 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 86 Seymour, S. J undated (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 87 Sharpe, George H 1880 February 12 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 88 Shoemaker, S. M 1880 (4 items)
- b. 1 f. 89 Sickles, Daniel E 1879 October 22 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 90 Simonton, J. W 1879-1880 (4 items)
- b. 1 f. 91 Smith, J. Hyatt 1880 April 2 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 92 Smith, J. Ogden 1880 May 29 (1 item)
- b. 1 f. 93 Smith, Richard 1880 (2 items; letter of 1880 April 10 is incomplete.)
- b. 1 f. 94 Somerville, William B 1880 (2 items)
 - b. 2 f. 1 Stanton, Theodore 1880 May 4 (1 item)
 - b. 2 f. 2 Starr, Theodore B 1879 April 25 (1 item)
 - b. 2 f. 3 Stebbins, Henry G 1880 December 7 (1 item)
 - b. 2 f. 4 Stevens, Augusta de Grasse 1879 (6 items)
 - b. 2 f. 5 Straus, Oscar S 1887 (2 items)
 - b. 2 f. 6 Stuart, George H 1879-1880 (2 items)
 - b. 2 f. 7 Tevis, Carroll 1879 (6 items)
 - b. 2 f. 8 Underwood, Charles 1879 May 25 (1 item)
 - b. 2 f. 9 Van der Poel, S. Oakley 1880 (2 items)
Letter of January 6, 1880 is addressed to Augustine Smith.
- b. 2 f. 10 Wakeman, Abram 1879 April 21 (1 item)
- b. 2 f. 11 Walter, John 1880-1881 (2 items)
- b. 2 f. 12 Warner, A. S 1880 March 5 (1 item)
- b. 2 f. 13 Washburne, Elihu 1880 (3 items)
- b. 2 f. 14 Weston, D. C., Mrs 1880 January 25 (1 item)
- b. 2 f. 15 White, John Jay 1871, 1879 (2 items)
Letter of 1871 written by Eli White on John Jay White's behalf.
- b. 2 f. 16 Whitty, W. H 1880 March 25 (1 item)
- b. 2 f. 17 Winthrop, Robert C 1879-1880 (5 items)
- b. 2 f. 18 Wood, Fernando 1880 (2 items)
- b. 2 f. 19 Woodford, Stewart L 1880 July 3 (1 item)
- b. 2 f. 20 Family letters 1870-1891, 1930
- b. 2 f. 21 Invitations 1870-1882

b. 2 f. 22 Unsorted 1866-1887