Hillard was active in the Prohibition Party, the Young People's Prohibition League, and a variety of other prohibition organizations in New York City from at least the 1880s through 1914 - the dates these papers cover. Standard reference sources (New York City directories, New York Times Obituaries Index), Who's Who) reveal no biographical information about Hillard - all information here was deduced from the collection. Readers should be aware that the collection was found in extreme disorder, and that the order it is in now reflects decisions made by the New York Public Library and not by Hillard.

An 1889 supplement to The Voice - a prohibition newspaper - listing the attributes of Prohibition Party candidates for various offices describes Hillard, running for State Senator, as a carpenter. Printed material and a few small memorandum books relating to commercial parquet floor construction back this up. A business card describes Hillard as President, Local 2, Paper Box, Bop, and Novelty Workers International Union.
Additional printed material concerning paper box manufacturing and the union are included. Printed material issued by various labor unions, and by New York City groups concerned about the South African Boer War suggest other interests. Letters to Hillard, 1897, from a representative of the New York Headquarters of the Sons of Confederate Veterans concerning his participation in their parade suggest that either he or his family might have come from the South. Letters, business cards, and other materials in the collection put him at several addresses in Brooklyn and Manhattan.

For the Prohibition Party, City and County of New York, Hillard served as a county organizer; poll watcher; delegate to New York City, New York State, and national Prohibition Party conventions; chairman of the Banquet Committee, Greater New York Campaign Committee, and Public Meetings Committee; and candidate for Judge of the Supreme Court, Borough President of Manhattan, and State Senator (there is no evidence that he won any of these elections). He appears to have carried out some of these activities for the Kings County (Brooklyn) Prohibition Committee as well. Manuscripts in the collection suggest that Hillard delivered speeches (an undated clipping mentions him as a speaker at a Young People's Prohibition League meeting). Letters, printed material, notes, and accounts show him arranging for the manufacture and distribution of Prohibition Party buttons, pins, pictures, and a banner; selling tickets to Party events; arranging for meeting halls, catering, and entertainment for Party banquets; organizing transportation and accommodations for Prohibition Party, Young People's Prohibition League, and other Prohibition groups travelling to conventions and other out of town events; and obtaining parade permits.

The Prohibition Party was in favor of women's suffrage, and in its stance against "legalized vice" stood with other anti-"vice" movements of its time. The collection is a good source of information about where prohibition stood in the era's overall reform atmosphere, documenting its relation to the women's suffrage and women's rights movements particularly well.
Prohibition Party Records

Approximately half of the collection consists of Prohibition Party material, and the bulk of this was produced by the New York County Committee. Some material was produced by the Prohibition Committees of Kings (Brooklyn) and Westchester counties, the New York State committee, and the national Prohibition Party. One item, a blank membership card of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Prohibition Party, City and County of New York, is included. One folder contains a few items of printed material, 1891, 1892, and n.d., of the Massachusetts Prohibition State Committee. Records date from 1886-1914, with some undated items. Files for 1902 and 1904 are the largest.

Included are: announcements, circulars, flyers, menus, posters, programs, and tickets for Party banquets, conferences, meetings, rallies, and other events; printed treasurers’ reports; lists of Party candidates, officers, and members; certificates submitted to the New York City Police Board, later to the Board of Elections, notifying them of Party candidates for various offices; printed pamphlets stating platforms, facts, and statistics, describing candidates, and containing speeches; lists of delegates, delegate certificates issued to Hillard, handbooks, local maps, and other material relating to New York City, New York State, and national Party conventions; constitutions, by-laws, and rules of order; poll watcher certificates issued to Hillard; statistics on voting; scattered minutes; miscellaneous notes and accounts.

Letters to Hillard concerning Party matters from William Wardwell, Alfred Lee Manierre, John McKee, and other New York Party officials; Party officials from elsewhere in the state; New York City government officials; others.

Included is a file containing letters to Hillard from Party officials requesting supplies of buttons, pins, pictures, a banner, and other items, or acknowledging receipt of them, and from manufacturers of these items concerning Hillard’s orders for the Party. Sketches for flyers and buttons; catalogs of political novelty items; and examples of these items are included. Dated material is largely from 1904.
Prohibition Organizations

Included in the collection is a substantial amount of, mostly, printed material issued by a variety of prohibition groups ranging in size from small, local clubs to national organizations. Some material comes from anti-vice, church, political, reform, women's, or other groups that supported prohibition or expressed positions about it. Organizations are located very largely in the five boroughs of New York City; some are national organizations; a small number are located in New Jersey, and a handful are from elsewhere in the United States and abroad. Groups represented include: American Temperance Union; Catholic Total Abstinence Union of America; Central Prohibition Workers Club, New York; Clinton B. Fisk Prohibition League, Elizabeth, New Jersey; Committee of Fifteen, New York; Epworth League, Chapter 2623, Brooklyn; Flying Squadron of America; the Friends (the Quarterly Meeting's Temperance Committee, Brooklyn, and the New York Monthly Meeting's Philanthropic Committee); Intercollegiate Prohibition League, Chicago; Junior League; Junior Prohibition League; Manhattan Liberal Club; National Prohibition Park, Staten Island; National Temperance Society; New York Anti-Saloon League; North Side Prohibition Workers Club, Bronx; political parties (American Party, Citizens' Union, Democratic Party, People's Party, Republican Party, Social Democratic Party); Royal Templars of Temperance, Manhattan Council #87; Sons of Temperance of the Eastern District of New York State; Women's Christian Temperance Union; Woman's Prohibition Club of America; World's Temperance Centennial Congress, held 1908; Saratoga Springs, New York; Young Men's Christian Association; Yorkville and Harlem Workers Prohibition Club, New York; the Young People's Prohibition League (with separate Bronx, Brooklyn, Harlem, Manhattan, and West Side groups, and an interstate New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania group); others.

Material dates from approximately the 1880s through 1914. Included are announcements, invitations, programs, tickets, menus, broadsides, posters, circulars, and flyers for events sponsored by these organizations: rallies, meetings, conferences, debates, lectures, oratorical contests, holiday celebrations, picnics, banquets, plays, concerts, excursions, socials, tea parties, receptions, and memorial services. Information brochures, publications, constitutions and by-laws, membership cards, temperance pledge cards,
and song sheets of these organizations are included. Letters to Hillard are included, and some of the printed material is addressed to him.

Also included here is printed material issued by individual prohibitionist speakers and writers, notably J.H. Hector, a black prohibitionist known as the "Black Knight," prohibition lectures Rev. C. Henry Mead; and Rev. Stephen Merritt, Prohibitionist and New York City undertaker.

Of note is a large file, 1890s-1900s, on National Prohibition Park. The Park, founded in the early 1890s and located on Staten Island, New York, was a residence and summer resort community, as well as a meeting place for prohibition and religious groups. Programs of events, souvenir and promotional brochures, advertising material for the Park Hotel and Restaurant, and letters concerning lots in the Park are included. B.F. Funk and Isaac K. Funk, of the Funk and Wagner Company were President and Secretary.

Banquet, Entertainment, and Travel Information

Printed material and letters to Hillard, ca.1892-1907, document banquet, conference, entertainment, and travel arrangements he made for groups from the Prohibition Party, the Young People's Prohibition League, and unspecified organizations. New York City meeting halls (Grand Central Palace, Madison Hall, West Side Lyceum, and others); hotels in New York State and throughout the United States; railroads and steamboats, mostly New York State routes; restaurants and caterers; entertainers (elocutionists, singers, "physical culture" specialists, and schools and teachers of these skills); and a few children's camps are represented by advertising brochures, train timetables, blank hotel and steamboat company stationery, menus, programs, business cards, and some letters.

Of note is a pamphlet: "Pocket information for the use of members of the Hampton-Winston-Tuskegee party, April, 1901," containing an itinerary and travel information for a group travelling from New York and Philadelphia to black colleges in the South. Hillard is not listed among the participants, and the pamphlet's relation to the collection is unknown.
Included are several files of letters received by Hillard, 1895-1914 and undated concerning both personal and prohibition matters. Of note is a long letter, 1901, from John Koch, a United States soldier at Matanzas, Cuba, describing activities of Koch's troop (V Troop 2, United States Cavalry) and complaining about the prohibitionists' efforts to close down army canteens. Some miscellaneous, personal, printed material of Hillard's, including business cards describing him as a Prohibition Party representative are also included.

Following these is material whose relation to Hillard is not always clear. Included are: advertising brochures, 1901, and blank workers' time sheets of the Battle Parquet Floor Company, Brooklyn and Manhattan, and several small memorandum and calendar books, 1904, containing notes on bags of nails, finish, wood, and other woodworking supplies in commercial quantities (one pocket calendar was published by the Union Medical Council, New York City, 1904, and contains extensive information about men's sexual disorders); one file relates to paper box manufacturing and contains Hillard's business cards as President, Local 2, New York, N.Y., Paper Box, Bag, and Novelty Workers International Union, and other printed material relating to the paper box making industry and the union; printed subscription and advertising material from the New Voice, the Defender, and other, largely, prohibition publications - a 1905 letter from the New Voice to Hillard contains a request for New York City prohibition news. One file contains prohibition songs in published songbooks and songsheets and is manuscript; another contains letters to Hillard, March-April, 1897, from the Sons of Confederate Veterans concerning their parade to Grant's Tomb on April 27, in which Hillard was to be a participant; tickets, programs, leaflets, and other printed material relating to meetings held in New York, 1900, by the New York Committee to Aid the United Republics of South Africa and possibly other groups; constitutions, by-laws, reports, agreements, and other printed material concerning New York City unions representing workers in the wood and metal trades; one leaflet issued by the New York Typographical Union concerns a strike against the New York Sun [1899].

Miscellaneous manuscript material is included and this consists of lists of names, accounts, rough manuscripts of speeches, statistics on liquor, a typescript poem, a list describing daily activities, April 1-26, 1896
(mostly preparations for and attendance at prohibition events), and notes and memoranda. A file of miscellaneous printed material is also included.

Scrapbooks

Scrapbooks, 1884-1890s, contain clippings of articles about prohibition news in New York City and State and nationally. Prohibition Party campaigns, including New York State conventions and the national conventions in Pittsburgh, 1884, Indianapolis, 1888, and Cincinnati, 1892, are particularly well covered. Printed material of the Prohibition Party and of various prohibition organizations is also included.
I. Prohibition Party, 1886-1914, n.d.
II. Prohibition Groups, ca.1880s-1914.
III. Banquet, Entertainment, and Travel Information, ca.1892-1907.
IV. Personal and Miscellaneous, ca.1895-1914.
V. Scrapbooks, ca.1884-1890s.
Prohibition Party, 1886-1914, n.d.
1 1886-1898
2 1899-1903
3 1904-1914; n.d.
4 n.d.; Supplies; Women's Auxiliary to the Prohibition Party, City and County of New York; Massachusetts Prohibition State Committee.

Prohibition Groups, ca.1880s-1914.

5 A-R
6 S-Y; Material produced by more than one organization or by unidentified organizations.

Banquet, Entertainment, and Travel Information, ca.1892-1907
7 Camps; entertainers; halls; hotels; railroads; restaurants and caterers; steamboats; travel information - general.

Personal and Miscellaneous, ca.1895-1916,
7 Hillard, correspondence, 1895-1914, n.d.
8 Hillard, printed material, n.d.
9 Buttle Parquet Floor Co.; papers; box; publications; songs; Sons of Confederate Veterans, N.Y.; South Africa; Unions; miscellaneous manuscript and printed material.

Scrapbooks, ca.1884-1890s.
9 1884-1895; oversized items from Prohibition Party 1889, 1897, 1910.
10 Fragmentary, 1890s.
11 Fragmentary, 1890s.
12 (Loose clippings)