

**The New York Public Library  
Stephen A. Schwarzman Building  
Manuscripts and Archives Division**

Guide to the  
**Alexander Clarence Flick papers**  
circa 1830-1938 (bulk 1928-1938)  
MssCol 1031

Compiled by Charles Kronick, January 1986

## **Summary**

**Creator:** Flick, Alexander Clarence, 1869-1942

**Title:** Alexander Clarence Flick papers, circa 1830-1938 (bulk 1928-1938)

**Size:** 1.67 linear feet (2 boxes)

**Source:** Received from A. C. Flick.

**Abstract:** The papers of historian Alexander Clarence Flick consist of correspondence, research notes, and printed matter relating to his biography of Samuel J. Tilden. The correspondence contains letters of inquiry to other scholars, and 19th century letters referring to Tilden and political events from the 1870s to the 1890s. Research notes and printed matter, ca. 1838-1930, include manuscript fragments, historical materials, publications, and clippings relating to Tilden's political career.

**Access:** Apply to Manuscripts and Archives Division for access at <http://www.nypl.org/mssref>.

**Preferred citation:** Alexander Clarence Flick papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

**Processing note:** Revised by Kit Messick, 2012

## **Related collections**

Samuel J. Tilden papers, 1794-1886, bulk (1835-1876). Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

## **Creator history**

Alexander Clarence Flick (1869-1942) was a historian and university professor. He taught history and political science at Syracuse University from 1899 to 1923, before becoming the New York State historian and Director of Archives from 1923 to 1939. A specialist in European history, he also wrote on New York history, the American Revolution and church history.

## **Scope and content note**

The papers of historian Alexander Clarence Flick consist of correspondence, research notes, and printed matter relating to his biography of Samuel J. Tilden.

The correspondence is comprised of letters of inquiry to other scholars working in the same area of study, though the correspondent best represented is Mrs. Emma A. Smith, widow of George W. Smith, Tilden's confidential secretary. Mrs. Smith was the final administrator of the Tilden Estate. Other correspondents include Poultney Bigelow, J. Franklin Jameson, and Allan Nevins.

Also included in the correspondence is a group of 19th century letters referring to Tilden and political events from the 1870s to the 1890s. Correspondents include John Bigelow, S.E. Church, Sol Hewitt, D. B. Hill, Francis Kernan, and Samuel Tilden.

The research notes, including manuscript fragments, all relate to Samuel J. Tilden: A Study in Political Sagacity. The printed matter, circa 1838 to 1930, include historical materials and publications relating to Tilden's political career, as well as clippings from the popular press.

## Arrangement

The Alexander Clarence Flick papers are organized into the following series:

- I. Correspondence
- II. Research notes and manuscript material
- III. Printed matter

## Key terms

### Subjects

Elections -- United States  
Political parties -- United States  
Presidential candidates -- United States

### Names

Bigelow, John, 1817-1911  
Bigelow, Poultney, b. 1855  
Church, Sanford E. (Sanford Elias), 1815-1880  
Flick, Alexander Clarence, 1869-1942  
Hewitt, Sol  
Hill, David B. (David Bennett), 1843-1910  
Jameson, J. Franklin (John Franklin), 1859-1937  
Kernan, Francis  
Nevins, Allan, 1890-1971  
Smith, Emma A.  
Tilden, Samuel J. (Samuel Jones), 1814-1886

### Occupations

Historians

### Places

United States -- Politics and government -- 1846-1877

## Container list

### **I. Correspondence**

b.1 f.1 19th century

b.1 f.2 1929-1931

b.1 f.3 1932-1938

b.1 f.4-17 **II. Research notes and manuscript material**

### **III. Printed matter**

b.1 f.18 Unsorted

b.2 Unsorted