Summary

Creator: Jones, George, 1811-1891

Title: George Jones papers, 1825-1894 (bulk 1860-1887)

Size: .63 linear foot (2 boxes)

Source: Gift of Mrs. Gilbert E. Jones, 1939, 1950.


Access: Apply in the Special Collections Office for admission to the Manuscripts and Archives Division.

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

Related collections
Henry J. Raymond papers. Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Creator history
George Jones 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.

In 1841, Jones met Raymond while the two were working for Horace Greeley at the New York Tribune. They became friends and often discussed starting their own newspaper. In 1851, with the help of Edward B. Wesley, Jones and Raymond amassed enough capital to found the New-York Daily Times. Jones was the publisher, Raymond the editor, and Wesley the business manager.

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. Jones died in 1891.
Scope and content note
The collection consists of correspondence, financial records, and legal documents regarding politics, the *New-York Daily Times* and the Presidential Retiring Fund established by Jones. The correspondence is separated into two series. The first series consists of letters to Jones and Raymond regarding the *Times*, politics, and other topics. The second series consists of correspondence regarding Jones’ establishment of the Presidential Retiring Fund, a pension fund for Ulysses S. Grant and other presidents. In the first series, most of the letters dated 1856-1869 are addressed to Raymond. The letters dated after 1869 in the general correspondence and the entire second series are addressed to Jones.


Arrangement
The George Jones papers are organized into the following series:

Series I. General correspondence, 1845-1894, n.d.
Series II. Presidential Retiring Fund, 1880-1888, n.d.
   II. A. Correspondence, 1880-1888, n.d.
   II. C. Legal documents, 1881, 1885, n.d.
   II. D. Clippings, 1880-1881
Series III. Miscellaneous, 1825-1869, n.d.

Key terms
Subjects
American newspapers -- New York (State) -- New York
Charities -- New York (State) -- New York
Newspaper publishing -- New York (State) -- New York
Political corruption -- New York (State) -- New York
Presidents -- United States -- Health
Publishers and publishing

Names
New York times
Beecher, Henry Ward, 1813-1887
Bennett, James Gordon, 1795-1872
Colfax, Schuyler, 1823-1885
Curtis, George William, 1824-1892
Field, Cyrus W. (Cyrus West), 1819-1892
Grant, Ulysses S. (Ulysses Simpson), 1822-1885

Occupations
Editors

Places
New York (State) -- Politics and government -- 1775-1865
New York (State) -- Politics and government -- 1865-1950
New York (State) -- Politics and government -- To 1898
United States -- Politics and government -- 19th century
Greeley, Horace, 1811-1872
Jones, George, 1811-1891
New York Times Company, dates only
Raymond, Henry J. (Henry Jarvis), 1820-1869
Weed, Thurlow, 1797-1882

**Special formats**
Photographs
Container list

Series I. General correspondence, 1845-1894, n.d.
This series includes correspondence with Raymond and Jones regarding the New-York Daily Times and politics. The majority of the letters written before 1869 are addressed to Raymond and concern his political career, but there are some between Jones, Raymond, and Wesley regarding the Times. The letters after 1869 are written to Jones concerning the Times, congratulations on the success of his Tammany Hall series, and politics.


b.1 f.1  1845, 1850, 1855-1857
b.1 f.2  1860-1864
b.1 f.3  1865-1869, 1871-1875
b.1 f.4  1871-1875
b.1 f.5  1876-1879
b.1 f.6  1880-1885
b.1 f.7  1887-1889
b.1 f.8  1890
b.1 f.9  1891-1894
b.1 f.10 undated

Series II. Presidential Retiring Fund, 1880-1888, n.d.
In 1880, a subscription fund was established to support Ulysses S. Grant and other retired United States presidents. An editorial appeared in the New-York Daily Times on November 12 detailing the terms of the fund and inviting members of the public to contribute. Jones served as Treasurer and a Trustee.

This series includes correspondence and financial records regarding the establishment and management of the Presidential Retiring Fund. The correspondence is composed of letters accompanying donations to the Fund and letters from other trustees regarding the management of the Fund.


The financial records of the Presidential Retiring Fund include an account book, receipts, and subscription books listing prominent men of the time and the amount of their donations.

b.1 f.11-17 II. A. Correspondence, 1880-1888, n.d.


b.1 f.18  Account book, 1881
b.1 f.19  Receipts and subscription lists, 1881-1882, 1885-1887
b.2 f.1  Subscription books, circa 1880-1885
Series II. Presidential Retiring Fund, 1880-1... (cont.)

b.2 f.2  **II. C. Legal documents, 1881, 1885, n.d.**
This subseries includes a rental agreement for a bank safe, statement of facts regarding the will of Edwin D. Morgan, and a draft of the article of incorporation for the Presidential Retiring Fund.

b.2 f.3  **II. D. Clippings, 1880-1881**
This subseries includes editorials and letters to the editor regarding the creation of and donations to the Presidential Retiring Fund.

Series III. Miscellaneous, 1825-1869, n.d.

b.2 f.4  Clippings, 1869, 1890-1891, n.d.

b.2 f.5  Legal documents, 1825, 1834-1835, 1842, 1848, 1851-1852, 1855-1857, 1869

b.2 f.6  Photograph of George Jones, undated