



Smithsonian Institution Archives

Correspondence and Memoranda, 1879-1907

by Smithsonian Institution Archives

Smithsonian Institution Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., <i>osiaref@si.edu</i>
Creator:	Smithsonian Institution, Assistant Secretary in charge of the United States National Museum
Title:	Correspondence and Memoranda
Dates:	1879-1907
Quantity:	10 linear meters.

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 112, Smithsonian Institution, Assistant Secretary in charge of the United States National Museum, Correspondence and Memoranda

Access Restriction

Record unit available on microfilm.

Descriptive Entry

These records comprise the primary outgoing correspondence of the officer in immediate charge of the United States National Museum from the appointment of George Brown Goode as Assistant Director in 1880. Volumes are numbered sequentially with the prefix "L." Records from the years 1879-1881 mostly pertain to the United States Fish Commission, and Commission business is included through the year of Spencer F. Baird's death in 1887. In 1888, Goode was made Assistant Secretary in Charge of the United States National Museum. After Goode's death in 1896, the business of this office was administered for a time by the Executive Curator, Frederick W. True. Richard Rathbun became Assistant Secretary in 1898, but most correspondence in this series in the period 1896-1902 is signed by the Executive Curator; after that, most is signed by the Assistant Secretary.

Several peculiarities of this record series should be noted. Predominance of Fish Commission correspondence in the pre-1881 years has been described. Although volumes are numbered sequentially, dates do not always follow in strict chronological order; sometimes special books were designated for an official to use when out of the city or when discharging special duties. Many letters are signed by subordinates and quite a few are signed by the Secretary or by the Assistant Secretary as Acting Secretary. Apparently, the sequential numbering was imposed at a later date than the earliest volumes, although the exact time of numbering is not known. These records were in the custody of the Registrar for many years.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Museums -- Administration.

Names:

Assistant Secretary in Charge of the United States National Museum

Assistant Secretary in charge of the United States National Museum. United States National Museum, Director

Assistant Secretary. United States National Museum, Director

Goode, G. Brown (George Brown), 1851-1896

Rathbun, Richard, 1852-1918

True, Frederick William, 1858-1914

United States Fish Commission

United States National Museum, Executive Curator

Container Listing

Box 1

L1 February 1879-November 1879

L2 November 1879-April 1880

L3 August 1880-January 1881

Box 2

L4 January 1881-June 1881

L5 June 1881-December 1881

L6 December 1881-April 1882

Box 3

L7 April 1882-August 1882

L8 August 1882-October 1882

L9 October 1882-January 1883

L10 December 1882-April 1883

Box 4

L11 April 1883-June 1883

L12 June 1883-October 1883

L13 October 1883-January 1884

L14 January 1884-May 1884

Box 5

L15 May 1884-August 1884

L16 August 1884-October 1884

L16 1/2 August 1884-September 1884

L17 October 1884-January 1885

Box 6

L18 January 1885-April 1885

L19 April 1885-July 1885

L20 July 1885-November 1885

L21 August 1885-September 1885

Box 7

L22 April 1885-January 1886

L23 November 1885-March 1886

L24 March 1886-June 1886

L25 July 1886-October 1886

Box 8

L26 October 1886-February 1887

L27 February 1887-April 1887

L28 April 1887-June 1887

L29 June 1887-September 1887

Box 9

L30 September 1887-November 1887

L31 November 1887-January 1888

L32 January 1888-February 1888

Box 10

L33 February 1888-April 1888

L34 April 1888-June 1888

L35 June 1888-August 1888

Box 11

L36 August 1888-October 1888

L37 October 1888-December 1888

L38 December 1888-January 1889

Box 12

L39 January 1889-March 1889

L40 March 1889-May 1889

L41 May 1889-July 1889

Box 13

L42 July 1889-August 1889

L43 August 1889-October 1889

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Box 14

L45 December 1889-January 1890

L46 February 1890-March 1890

L47 March 1890-April 1890

Box 15

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L50 July 1890-August 1890

Box 16

L51 August 1890-October 1890

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L60 August 1891-September 1891

L61 September 1891-October 1891

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L63 November 1891-January 1892

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L68 May 1892-July 1892

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L69 July 1892-August 1892

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L71 September 1892-October 1892

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L72 October 1892-November 1892

L73 November 1892-December 1892

L74 December 1892-January 1893

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L75 January 1893-February 1893

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L83 September 1893-October 1893

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L103 April 1895-May 1895

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L106 July 1895-August 1895

L107 August 1895-September 1895

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L108 September 1895-October 1895

L109 October 1895-November 1895

L110 November 1895-December 1895

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L111 December 1895-January 1896

L112 January 1896-February 1896

L113 February 1896-March 1896

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L115 April 1896-May 1896

L116 May 1896-June 1896

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L119 August 1896-September 1896

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L120 September 1896-October 1896

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L122 November 1896-December 1896

Box 40

L123 December 1896-January 1897

L124 January 1897

L125 January 1897-February 1897

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L126 February 1897-March 1897

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L137 January 1898-February 1898

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L138 February 1898-March 1898

L139 March 1898-April 1898

L140 April 1898-May 1898

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L141 May 1898-July 1898

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L143 August 1898-October 1898

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L144 October 1898-November 1898

L145 November 1898-January 1899

L146 January 1899-February 1899

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L195 January 1904-February 1904

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L209 April 1905-May 1905

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L210 Number skipped

L211 May 1905-June 1905

L212 June 1905-July 1905

L213 July 1905-September 1905

Box 70

L214 September 1905-October 1905

L215 October 1905-November 1905

L216 November 1905-December 1905

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L217 December 1905-January 1906

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L219 January 1906-February 1906

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L220 February 1906-March 1906

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L222 March 1906-April 1906

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L229 November 1906-December 1906

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L232 February 1907

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