



# Smithsonian Institution Archives

## Henderson Family Papers, 1868-1923

by Smithsonian Institution Archives

Smithsonian Institution Archives  
Washington, D.C.  
Contact us at [osiaref@si.edu](mailto:osiaref@si.edu)  
<http://siarchives.si.edu>

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## Collection Overview

Repository:	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., <i>osiaref@si.edu</i>
Title:	Henderson Family Papers
Dates:	1868-1923
Quantity:	1.2 linear meters.

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## Administrative Information

### Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 7075, , Henderson Family Papers

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## Historical Note

John Brooks Henderson (1826-1913), a lawyer and politician, served as United States senator from Missouri from 1862 to 1869. In 1869, he returned to St. Louis where he practiced law and remained active in both local and national politics. In 1889, he retired from practice and moved to Washington, D.C. From 1892-1911, he served as a citizen member of the Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents.

Henderson's wife, Mary Foote Henderson (1841-1931), was involved in the suffrage and temperance movements. She was also a well-known socialite in Washington and a devotee of the arts, as well as an author of children's books and books on health.

John Brooks Henderson, Jr. (1870-1923), the son of John Brooks and Mary Foote Henderson, graduated from Harvard University in 1891 and Columbian Law School (now George Washington University) in 1893. From 1896-1897, Henderson was secretary to John W. Foster, a diplomatic advisor to the Chinese government. In 1897, he traveled with General Nelson A. Miles on a tour of Europe and the Ottoman Empire as a civilian observer of the armies of the great European powers. He was appointed a citizen member of the Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents in 1911 and retained that post until his death. Interested in shell collecting as a youth, Henderson later concentrated on marine shell life of the West Indies and participated in several expeditions to the Caribbean. His collections were donated to the United States National Museum. He did volunteer work in the Division of Mollusks in his spare time, and wrote several articles for the *Proceedings of the United States National Museum* and *Bulletin of the United States National Museum*. He was the author of *American Diplomatic Questions*, 1901, and *The Cruise of the Tomas Barrera*, 1916, based on his expedition to Cuba in 1914.

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## Introduction

This finding aid was digitized with funds generously provided by the Smithsonian Institution Women's Committee.

## Descriptive Entry

The Henderson family papers contains John Brooks Henderson, Jr.'s correspondence; literary manuscripts; scientific notebooks; lists of shells from the Caribbean, Maine, and North Carolina; Henderson family correspondence, including John Brooks Henderson, Jr.'s correspondence describing his travels, and correspondence concerning the endorsement of Irving Fisher for secretary of the Smithsonian Institution; canceled checks; appointment calendars; medical and real estate records; notes, genealogy; Mary Foote Henderson's recipe and guest books; also records from the United States Treasury Department on imports and exports; immigration and population statistics; federal expenditure statistics, 1892-1893; photographs, some of which were taken by Matthew Brady; blueprints and architectural drawings; and newspaper and journal articles.

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Zoology

Types of Materials:

Architectural drawings

Photographs

Names:

Board of Regents

Brady, Mathew B., 1823 (ca.)-1896

Clapp, George H., 1858-1949

Fisher, Irving.

Henderson, J. B. (John Brooks), 1870-1923

Henderson, J. B. (John Brooks), 1870-1923

Henderson, Mary F. (Mary Foote), 1842-1931.

Nutting, Charles Cleveland, 1858-1927

Pilsbry, Henry Augustus, b. 1862

Simpson, Charles Torrey, 1846-1932

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: JOHN BROOKS HENDERSON, JR. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE, 1892-1923. ARRANGED ALPHABETICALLY.

This series consists of correspondence to and from John Brooks Henderson, Jr., mostly with amateur shell collectors, shell salesmen, conchologists, marine scientists, lawyers, court officers, and publishers concerning the exchange, purchase, and study of West Indian shells; the estate of John Brooks Henderson; and the publication of Henderson, Jr.'s book, *The Cruise of the Tomas Barrera*.

#### Box 1

Folder 1 A

Folder 2 Shepard Barclay, 1916-1919

Folder 3 Be - Bu

Folder 4 Ca - Ch

Folder 5 George H. Clapp, 1898-1919

Folder 6 D - E

Folder 7 F - G

Folder 8 Henry Hemphill, 1898-1901

Folder 9 Beatrice Van Rensselaer Henderson, 1921-1922

Folder 10 Her - Hi

Folder 11 Adolph A. Hoehling, Jr., 1913-1916

Folder 12 Hor - J

Folder 13 K - O

Folder 14 Pe - Po

Folder 15 G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1915-1920

Folder 16 R

Folder 17 S - V

Folder 18 Wa - Web

Folder 19 William Wesley and Son, 1897-1902

Folder 20 Wet - Wr

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## Series 2: JOHN BROOKS HENDERSON, JR., LITERARY MANUSCRIPTS AND DESCRIPTION OF HAITI.

### Box 1

Folder 21 Play: *The Peace Envoy*

Folder 22 Short Story: *All for Janet*

Folder 23 Short Story: untitled

Folder 24 Treatise: *The Evolution of Peace*

Folder 25 Description of Haiti. Undated with pages missing

Folder 26 Catalogue of books at "Glenwood"

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Series 3: JOHN BROOKS HENDERSON, JR., SCIENTIFIC NOTEBOOKS,  
LOGBOOK, AND MANUSCRIPTS. 1899-1914.

Box 2

*Haitian Mollusks, Volume I*

*Descriptive List of Haitian Snails, Volume I* (Stenogyridae, Varicella,  
Oleacina, Urocoptis, Macroceramus, Bulimulidae, Simpulopsis, Cerion)

*Descriptive List of Haitian Snails, Volume II* (Zonitidae, Helicidae, Pupillidae,  
Succinea)

*Descriptive List of Haitian Snails, Volume III* (Operculates)

Box 3

*Dredging Paper, and Notes, 1899*

*Handbook of Cuban Land and Fresh Water Shells* (Glandina, Streptostyla,  
Circinaria, Zonitidae, Helicidae, Bulimulidae, Bulimulus, Drymaeus, Liguns)

*Land and Fresh Water Mollusca of the Bahama Islands*

*Cuban Urocoptidae* including Macroceramus, Microceramus, Pineria, and  
Brachypodella

Box 4

*Logbook of the Tomas Barrera (Cuban Expedition), May-June, 1914*

Folder 1 mss., pp. 1-40

Folder 2 mss., pp. 41-66

Folder 3 mss. pp. 67-97

Folder 4 mss., pp. 98-164

Folder 5 mss., pp. 165-202

Folder 6 mss., pp. 203-317

Folder 7 mss., pp. 318-414

Folder 8 List of West Indian Terrestrial Mollusks

Folder 9 List of marine shells in southeastern United States, and the West  
Indies in the John Ford Collection

Folder 10 List of Cuban Shells

Box 5

Book - Beaufort Island, North Carolina Collection

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## Series 4: HENDERSON FAMILY GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE. 1868-1923. ARRANGED ALPHABETICALLY.

This series consists mostly of incoming correspondence to Mary Foote Henderson and John Brooks Henderson, with occasional outgoing correspondence from the two parties. Correspondents include family members, especially John Brooks Henderson, Jr.; politicians; diplomats; publishers; scientists; lawyers; members of the Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents, including Alexander Graham Bell; and friends. The correspondence concerns health problems; family business affairs; personal family problems; social affairs; real estate matters; Washington, D.C. affairs; and publication of Mary Foote Henderson's books. Materials of special interest include: responses from the candidates for the secretary of the Smithsonian Institution (filed under Alexander Graham Bell); the endorsement of Irving Fisher for secretary of the Smithsonian Institution (filed under Irving Fisher, John Brooks Henderson, Mary Foote Henderson, and the Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents); and correspondence regarding John Brooks Henderson, Jr.'s, trips to Cuba, Haiti, Florida, Jamaica, Europe, and the Ottoman Empire as a civilian observer under General Nelson A. Miles.

### Box 6

Folder 1 Add - Arm

Folder 2 Augusta Foote Arnold, 1870-1882

Folder 3 Henry Arnold, circa 1919

Folder 4 Bac - Bea

Folder 5 Alexander Graham Bell, 1906

Folder 6 Bev - Bro

Folder 7 Calling Cards

Folder 8 Cam - Cha

Folder 9 Christmas Cards

Folder 10 Christopher, A. H. - Christopher, J.

Folder 11 Cl - Cu

Folder 12 D - E

Folder 13 Fai - Fil

Folder 14 Irving Fisher, 1906-1907

Folder 15 Fisher, M. - Fisher, W.

Folder 16 Amanda Foote, 1921

Folder 17 Elisha Foote, 1871-1883

Folder 18 Eunice Newton Foote, 1870-1871

Folder 19 For - Har



Folder 20 Beatrice Van Rensselaer Henderson, 1921-1923

Folder 21 John Brooks Henderson, 1868-1872

Folder 22 John Brooks Henderson, 1874-1896

Folder 23 John Brooks Henderson, 1906

Folder 24 John Brooks Henderson, Jr., 1877-1890

Folder 25 John Brooks Henderson, Jr., 1890-1892

Folder 26 John Brooks Henderson, Jr., 1895-1896

Box 7

Folder 1 John Brooks Henderson, Jr., 1897

Folder 2 John Brooks Henderson, Jr., 1900-1901

Folder 3 John Brooks Henderson, Jr., 1907

Folder 4 John Brooks Henderson, Jr., circa 1915-circa 1920

Folder 5 John Brooks Henderson, Jr., 1921-1922

Folder 6 Mary Foote Henderson, 1872-circa 1880

Folder 7 Mary Foote Henderson, 1906

Folder 8 Hof - Kei

Folder 9 John Harvey Kellogg, 1906-1922

Folder 10 Lee - Mor

Folder 11 N - O

Folder 12 P - R

Folder 13 Sch - Smith

Folder 14 Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents, 1906

Folder 15 Sp - Sz

Folder 16 T

Folder 17 V - Z

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**Series 5: HENDERSON FAMILY GENEALOGY, APPOINTMENT CALENDARS,  
MEDICAL REPORTS, FISCAL AND REAL ESTATE RECORDS, BLUEPRINTS,  
AND DRAWINGS.**

Box 7

Folder 18 Genealogy, "Origin of the Henderson Family," circa 15th century to 1923

Folder 19 Calendars, 1893-1900

Folder 20 Calendars, 1904-1922

Folder 21 Account book, 1921

Box 8

Folder 1 Canceled checks of Mary Foote Henderson, October 9, 1909, November 1922 to September 1923

Folder 2 Canceled checks of John Brooks Henderson, Jr., October 1922 to December 1922

Folder 3 John Brooks Henderson, statements from the Bank of Louisiana, 1903-1913

Folder 4 Sale receipts for household goods

Folder 5 Sale receipts from William Wesley and Son

Folder 6 Statements of notes owned by John Brooks Henderson held for collection and collected by A. M. Harrah

Folder 7 Contracts and receipts from C. P. Putnam's Sons

Folder 8 Medical and laboratory test reports of Mary Foote Henderson and John Brooks Henderson, Jr.

Folder 9 Papers pertaining to V and 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. property

Folder 10 Papers pertaining to properties on Meridian Hill (Lot 10 and Lot 26, Block 20), Washington, D.C.

Folder 11 Papers pertaining to properties on Meridian Hill (Lot 807, 808, 21, and 22), Washington, D.C.

Folder 12 Papers pertaining to Virginia farm property

Folder 13 Papers pertaining to Olive Street, St. Louis, Missouri property

Folder 14 Real estate miscellaneous

Folder 15 Blueprints, data, and photographs of yachts

Folder 16 Architectural drawings and correspondence for a new British  
Embassy

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## Series 6: HENDERSON FAMILY GUEST BOOK, RECIPE BOOKS, NOTES, PAMPHLETS, NEWSPAPER AND JOURNAL ARTICLES, AND PHOTOGRAPHS.

### Box 9

Folder 1 Mary Foote Henderson's Guest Book

Folder 2 Mary Foote Henderson's Recipe Books

Folder 3 Notes by Mary Foote Henderson

Folder 4 Notes by John Brooks Henderson

Folder 5 Information provided by the United States Treasury Department  
on imports and exports; population; and United States government  
expenditures, 1892-1893

Folder 6 Typewritten copies of newspaper articles

Folder 7 Pamphlets (no dates)

Folder 8 Pamphlets, 1885-1908

Folder 9 Pamphlets, 1910-1922

Folder 10 Journal articles, 1893-1921

Folder 11 Newspaper articles regarding Meridian Hill, 1909-1914

Folder 12 Newspaper articles: reviews of *The Cruise of the Tomas Barrera*,  
1916

Folder 13 Newspaper articles regarding domestic news, 1872-1935

Folder 14 Newspaper articles regarding international news, 1884-1922

Folder 15 Newspaper articles regarding society columns; circa 1891-1921

Folder 16 Photograph of John Nichols (?); also photographs probably of  
John Brooks Henderson, Mary Foote Henderson, and (?) Fowler by Matthew  
Brady

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**Series 7: JOHN BROOKS HENDERSON, JR., CORRESPONDENCE  
CONCERNING WEST INDIAN MOLLUSKS, 1898-1922.**

Box 10

Folder 1 A-C

Folder 2 D-M

Folder 3 N-R

Folder 4 S-Z

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