



Smithsonian Institution Archives

Henderson Family Papers, 1868-1923

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Smithsonian Institution Archives
Washington, D.C.
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., osiaref@si.edu
Title:	Henderson Family Papers
Identifier:	Record Unit 7075
Date:	1868-1923
Extent:	4.93 cu. ft. (9 document boxes) (1 12x17 box)
Creator:::	
Language:	English

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 7075, Henderson Family Papers

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.

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.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Mollusks
Zoology

Types of Materials:

Architectural drawings
Black-and-white photographs
Manuscripts

Names:

Brady, Mathew B., approximately 1823-1896
Clapp, George H., 1858-1949
Columbian University
Fisher, Irving
Foster, John W.
George Washington University
Harvard University
Henderson, J. B. (John Brooks), 1870-1923
Henderson, John Brooks, 1826-1913
Henderson, Mary F. (Mary Foote), 1842-1931
Miles, Nelson Appleton, 1839-1925
Nutting, Charles Cleveland, 1858-1927
Pilsbry, Henry Augustus, 1862-
Simpson, Charles Torrey, 1846-1932
Smithsonian Institution. Board of Regents
Thomas Barrera Expedition to Cuba, ca. 1918
United States National Museum
United States National Museum. Division of Mollusks
United States. Congress. Senate
United States. Dept. of the Treasury

Geographic Names:

Caribbean Area

Maine
North Carolina
West Indies

Preferred Titles:

American Diplomatic Questions (Monograph : 1901)
The Cruise of the Tomas Barrera (Monograph : 1916)

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

Box 1 of 10	Folder 1 A
Box 1 of 10	Folder 2 Shepard Barclay, 1916-1919
Box 1 of 10	Folder 3 Be - Bu
Box 1 of 10	Folder 4 Ca - Ch
Box 1 of 10	Folder 5 George H. Clapp, 1898-1919
Box 1 of 10	Folder 6 D - E
Box 1 of 10	Folder 7 F - G
Box 1 of 10	Folder 8 Henry Hemphill, 1898-1901
Box 1 of 10	Folder 9 Beatrice Van Rensselaer Henderson, 1921-1922
Box 1 of 10	Folder 10 Her - Hi
Box 1 of 10	Folder 11 Adolph A. Hoehling, Jr., 1913-1916
Box 1 of 10	Folder 12 Hor - J
Box 1 of 10	Folder 13 K - O
Box 1 of 10	Folder 14 Pe - Po
Box 1 of 10	Folder 15 G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1915-1920
Box 1 of 10	Folder 16 R

Box 1 of 10	Folder 17 S - V
Box 1 of 10	Folder 18 Wa - Web
Box 1 of 10	Folder 19 William Wesley and Son, 1897-1902
Box 1 of 10	Folder 20 Wet - Wr

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

Box 1

Box 1 of 10	Folder 21 Play: <i>The Peace Envoy</i>
Box 1 of 10	Folder 22 Short Story: <i>All for Janet</i>
Box 1 of 10	Folder 23 Short Story: untitled
Box 1 of 10	Folder 24 Treatise: <i>The Evolution of Peace</i>
Box 1 of 10	Folder 25 Description of Haiti. Undated with pages missing
Box 1 of 10	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

- Box 2 of 10 *Haitian Mollusks, Volume I*
[Digital Content](#)
- Box 2 of 10 *Descriptive List of Haitian Snails, Volume I* (Stenogyridae, Varicella,
Oleacina, Urocoptis, Macroceramus, Bulimulidae, Simpulopsis, Cerion)
- Box 2 of 10 *Descriptive List of Haitian Snails, Volume II* (Zonitidae, Helicidae, Pupillidae,
Succinea)
- Box 2 of 10 *Descriptive List of Haitian Snails, Volume III* (Operculates)

Box 3

- Box 3 of 10 *Dredging Paper, and Notes, 1899*
[Digital Content](#)
- Box 3 of 10 *Handbook of Cuban Land and Fresh Water Shells* (Glandina, Streptostyla,
Circinaria, Zonitidae, Helicidae, Bulimulidae, Bulimulus, Drymaeus, Liguns)
- Box 3 of 10 *Land and Fresh Water Mollusca of the Bahama Islands*
- Box 3 of 10 *Cuban Urocoptidae* including Macroceramus, Microceramus, Pineria, and
Brachypodella

Box 4

- [Digital Content: Logbook of the Tomas Barrera \(Cuban Expedition\), May-
June, 1914](#)
Logbook of the Tomas Barrera (Cuban Expedition), May-June, 1914
Note: • Manuscripts on shells from places unknown.
- Box 4 of 10 Folder 1 mss., pp. 1-40
- Box 4 of 10 Folder 2 mss., pp. 41-66
- Box 4 of 10 Folder 3 mss. pp. 67-97
- Box 4 of 10 Folder 4 mss., pp. 98-164

- Box 4 of 10 Folder 5 mss., pp. 165-202
- Box 4 of 10 Folder 6 mss., pp. 203-317
- Box 4 of 10 Folder 7 mss., pp. 318-414
- Box 4 of 10 Folder 8 List of West Indian Terrestrial Mollusks
- Box 4 of 10 Folder 9 List of marine shells in southeastern United States, and the West Indies in the John Ford Collection
- Box 4 of 10 Folder 10 List of Cuban Shells

Box 5

- Box 5 of 10 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

Box 6 of 10	Folder 1 Add - Arm
Box 6 of 10	Folder 2 Augusta Foote Arnold, 1870-1882
Box 6 of 10	Folder 3 Henry Arnold, circa 1919
Box 6 of 10	Folder 4 Bac - Bea
Box 6 of 10	Folder 5 Alexander Graham Bell, 1906
Box 6 of 10	Folder 6 Bev - Bro
Box 6 of 10	Folder 7 Calling Cards
Box 6 of 10	Folder 8 Cam - Cha
Box 6 of 10	Folder 9 Christmas Cards
Box 6 of 10	Folder 10 Christopher, A. H. - Christopher, J.
Box 6 of 10	Folder 11 Cl - Cu
Box 6 of 10	Folder 12 D - E
Box 6 of 10	Folder 13 Fai - Fil
Box 6 of 10	Folder 14 Irving Fisher, 1906-1907

Box 6 of 10 Folder 15 Fisher, M. - Fisher, W.

Box 6 of 10 Folder 16 Amanda Foote, 1921

Box 6 of 10 Folder 17 Elisha Foote, 1871-1883

Box 6 of 10 Folder 18 Eunice Newton Foote, 1870-1871

Box 6 of 10 Folder 19 For - Har

Box 6 of 10 Folder 20 Beatrice Van Rensselaer Henderson, 1921-1923

Box 6 of 10 Folder 21 John Brooks Henderson, 1868-1872

Box 6 of 10 Folder 22 John Brooks Henderson, 1874-1896

Box 6 of 10 Folder 23 John Brooks Henderson, 1906

Box 6 of 10 Folder 24 John Brooks Henderson, Jr., 1877-1890

Box 6 of 10 Folder 25 John Brooks Henderson, Jr., 1890-1892

Box 6 of 10 Folder 26 John Brooks Henderson, Jr., 1895-1896

Box 7

Box 7 of 10 Folder 1 John Brooks Henderson, Jr., 1897

Box 7 of 10 Folder 2 John Brooks Henderson, Jr., 1900-1901

Box 7 of 10 Folder 3 John Brooks Henderson, Jr., 1907

Box 7 of 10 Folder 4 John Brooks Henderson, Jr., circa 1915-circa 1920

Box 7 of 10 Folder 5 John Brooks Henderson, Jr., 1921-1922

Box 7 of 10 Folder 6 Mary Foote Henderson, 1872-circa 1880

Box 7 of 10 Folder 7 Mary Foote Henderson, 1906

Box 7 of 10 Folder 8 Hof - Kei

Box 7 of 10 Folder 9 John Harvey Kellogg, 1906-1922

Box 7 of 10	Folder 10 Lee - Mor
Box 7 of 10	Folder 11 N - O
Box 7 of 10	Folder 12 P - R
Box 7 of 10	Folder 13 Sch - Smith
Box 7 of 10	Folder 14 Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents, 1906
Box 7 of 10	Folder 15 Sp - Sz
Box 7 of 10	Folder 16 T
Box 7 of 10	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

- Box 7 of 10 Folder 18 Genealogy, "Origin of the Henderson Family," circa 15th century to 1923
- Box 7 of 10 Folder 19 Calendars, 1893-1900
- Box 7 of 10 Folder 20 Calendars, 1904-1922
- Box 7 of 10 Folder 21 Account book, 1921

Box 8

- Box 8 of 10 Folder 1 Canceled checks of Mary Foote Henderson, October 9, 1909, November 1922 to September 1923
- Box 8 of 10 Folder 2 Canceled checks of John Brooks Henderson, Jr., October 1922 to December 1922
- Box 8 of 10 Folder 3 John Brooks Henderson, statements from the Bank of Louisiana, 1903-1913
- Box 8 of 10 Folder 4 Sale receipts for household goods
- Box 8 of 10 Folder 5 Sale receipts from William Wesley and Son
- Box 8 of 10 Folder 6 Statements of notes owned by John Brooks Henderson held for collection and collected by A. M. Harrah
- Box 8 of 10 Folder 7 Contracts and receipts from C. P. Putnam's Sons
- Box 8 of 10 Folder 8 Medical and laboratory test reports of Mary Foote Henderson and John Brooks Henderson, Jr.
- Box 8 of 10 Folder 9 Papers pertaining to V and 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. property
- Box 8 of 10 Folder 10 Papers pertaining to properties on Meridian Hill (Lot 10 and Lot 26, Block 20), Washington, D.C.

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|-------------|---|
| Box 8 of 10 | Folder 11 Papers pertaining to properties on Meridian Hill (Lot 807, 808, 21, and 22), Washington, D.C. |
| Box 8 of 10 | Folder 12 Papers pertaining to Virginia farm property |
| Box 8 of 10 | Folder 13 Papers pertaining to Olive Street, St. Louis, Missouri property |
| Box 8 of 10 | Folder 14 Real estate miscellaneous |
| Box 8 of 10 | Folder 15 Blueprints, data, and photographs of yachts |
| Box 8 of 10 | 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

- Box 9 of 10 Folder 1 Mary Foote Henderson's Guest Book
[Digital Content: Mary Foote Henderson's Guest Book \[Image nos. SIA2017-058303 to SIA2017-058340\]](#)
- Box 9 of 10 Folder 2 Mary Foote Henderson's Recipe Books
- Box 9 of 10 Folder 3 Notes by Mary Foote Henderson
- Box 9 of 10 Folder 4 Notes by John Brooks Henderson
- Box 9 of 10 Folder 5 Information provided by the United States Treasury Department on imports and exports; population; and United States government expenditures, 1892-1893
- Box 9 of 10 Folder 6 Typewritten copies of newspaper articles
- Box 9 of 10 Folder 7 Pamphlets (no dates)
- Box 9 of 10 Folder 8 Pamphlets, 1885-1908
- Box 9 of 10 Folder 9 Pamphlets, 1910-1922
- Box 9 of 10 Folder 10 Journal articles, 1893-1921
- Box 9 of 10 Folder 11 Newspaper articles regarding Meridian Hill, 1909-1914
- Box 9 of 10 Folder 12 Newspaper articles: reviews of *The Cruise of the Tomas Barrera*, 1916
- Box 9 of 10 Folder 13 Newspaper articles regarding domestic news, 1872-1935
- Box 9 of 10 Folder 14 Newspaper articles regarding international news, 1884-1922
- Box 9 of 10 Folder 15 Newspaper articles regarding society columns; circa 1891-1921
- Box 9 of 10 Folder 16 Photograph of George Ward Nichols; also photographs of Senator George Henry Williams, Mary Foote Henderson, and Senator Joseph S. Fowler by Matthew Brady

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

Box 10

Box 10 of 10	Folder 1 A-C
Box 10 of 10	Folder 2 D-M
Box 10 of 10	Folder 3 N-R
Box 10 of 10	Folder 4 S-Z

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