

James R. Doolittle

A Register of His Papers at the Library of Congress

Prepared by Joseph Sullivan

Revised by Joseph K. Brooks



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

2007

Contact information: <http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/mss/address.html>

**Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress
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Finding aid URL: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc/mss/eadmss.ms007062>

Latest revision: 2008 May

Collection Summary

Title: Papers of James R. Doolittle

Span Dates: 1859-1927

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1859-1896)

ID No.: MSS18762

Creator: Doolittle, James R. (James Rood), 1815-1897

Extent: 130 items; 1 container; .4 linear feet; 1 microfilm reel

Language: Collection material in English

Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: United States senator and jurist. Correspondence, speeches, newspaper clippings, and miscellaneous material relating mostly to Doolittle's Senate career and touching on the issues of the Civil War and Reconstruction.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Names:

Doolittle, James R. (James Rood), 1815-1897.

Hendricks, Thomas A. (Thomas Andrews), 1819-1885--Correspondence.

Johnson, Andrew, 1808-1875.

Lee, Samuel Phillips, 1812-1897--Correspondence.

Paulding, Hiram, 1797-1878--Correspondence.

Reed, Amos--Correspondence.

Seward, William Henry, 1801-1872--Correspondence.

Subjects:

African Americans--Africa.

Indians of North America--Government relations.

Reconstruction (U.S. history, 1865-1877)

Slavery.

Middle West--History.

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Occupations:

Jurists.

Senators, U.S. Congress--Wisconsin.

Administrative Information

Provenance:

The papers of James R. Doolittle, United States senator and jurist, were given to the Library of Congress by Duane Mowry between 1913 and 1932.

Processing History:

The papers of James R. Doolittle were arranged and described in 1968. The collection and the finding aid were revised in 2007.

Copyright Status:

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of James R. Doolittle is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Microfilm:

A microfilm edition of these papers is available on one reel. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan.

Preferred Citation:

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, James R. Doolittle Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1815, Jan. 15	Born, Hampton Township, Washington County, N.Y.
1834	Graduated from Geneva (now Hobart) College, Geneva, N.Y.
1837	Admitted to the bar, Rochester, N.Y. Married Mary L. Cutting
1847-1850	District attorney, Wyoming County, N.Y.
1851	Settled in Racine, Wisconsin
1853	Elected judge of the First Circuit Court, Wisconsin
1857-1869	United States senator from Wisconsin
1869	Returned to private practice in Racine, Wis., and Chicago, Ill.
1871	Unsuccessful Democratic candidate for governor of Wisconsin
1897, July 27	Died, Providence, R.I.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of James Rood Doolittle (1815-1897) consist of letters received and a few letters sent, typed transcripts of letters sent and received, copies of speeches, and newspaper clippings. The transcripts, in part, are annotated by Duane Mowry, the donor of the collection. The papers span 1859-1927, with the bulk of the collection concentrated in 1859-1896.

The collection relates primarily to Doolittle's interests while he served in the United States Senate, and later, as a lawyer in private practice. There is no documentation for his career prior to his election to the Senate.

Correspondence for the years Doolittle spent in the Senate (1857-1869) touches on the issue of slavery and its aftermath, in particular the resettlement of African Americans in Africa and political reaction in Ohio and other Midwestern states to President Andrew Johnson's veto of congressional measures in 1866. Correspondence with Amos Reed, a federal official in the Utah Territory, discusses hostility toward the United States by Indians living in the territory and includes an appraisal of the Indian Bureau. Correspondence with Secretary of State William Henry Seward relates to negotiations between the United States and Denmark regarding the purchase of the Danish West Indies. Other correspondents include Thomas A. Hendricks, Samuel Phillips Lee, and Hiram Paulding.

Among subjects discussed in Doolittle's post-Senate period are Radicalism and the Republican Party, tariff issues, and bimetallism.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material and therein chronologically.

Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no.14,110

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1 REEL 1	General correspondence, 1859-1896, n.d. (13 folders)
BOX 1 REEL 1	Mowry, Duane, 1913, 1927, n.d.
BOX 1 REEL 1	Newspaper clippings, 1859, 1864, 1875, 1903-1904, 1913, n.d. (2 folders)
BOX 1 REEL 1	Speech file, 1870, 1884-1886, n.d. (8 folders)