

The Filson Club Historical Society
The Papers of
Henry Watterson

The papers of Henry Watterson, Confederate soldier, editor of the Louisville *Courier-Journal*, and Congressman from Kentucky.

For information regarding literary and copyright interests for these papers, see the Curator of Manuscripts.

Size of Collection

1 cubic foot

Locator Number Mss.\A\W344

Biographical Note

Henry Watterson was born in Washington, D.C. in 1840. At the age of twelve he was sent to the Academy of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Philadelphia where he remained for four years. During the Civil War he enlisted in the Confederate Army. His greatest contribution to the Southern cause was as the editor of *Rebel*, the most widely read newspaper of the Confederate Army. Before the end of the war, Watterson went to Cincinnati where he edited the *Evening Times*. After the war he returned to Nashville to work on the *Republican Banner*. In 1868, he took over the editorship of the *Louisville Journal* from George D. Prentice. He waged a competition with the *Courier* which resulted in the merger of the two papers under the combined ownership of Watterson and Walter N. Haldeman. Watterson played an active role in national politics. His most notable foray was his attempt to secure the 1876 election for Samuel J. Tilden. He supported much of the progressive program of the early twentieth century. Watterson sold the *Courier-Journal* to Robert Worth Bingham in 1917. His opposition to President Wilson led to his resignation as editor in 1919. He died in 1921 and was buried in Cave Hill Cemetery.

Scope and Content Note

A collection of papers consisting of mostly incomplete correspondence, 1885-1915; chapters of a novel, practically all incomplete, numbered I-XXXIX, with gaps and duplications of numbers; and drafts of speeches, editorials, articles, a play, and another novel, nearly all of which are incomplete. This material was found in Watterson's desk and was apparently an accumulation of first drafts and unused material. It has been arranged as systematically as possible, but it is too fragmentary to be readily usable.

Mss.

A
W344 Henry Watterson
Papers. 1885-1915.

Box 1

- fl. 1 Correspondence, 1885-1915 and n.d.
- fl. 2 Novel chapters, 1 and 2.
- fl. 3 Novel chapters 3 and 4.
- fl. 4 Novel chapters 5 and 6.
- fl. 5 Novel chapters 7 and 8.
- fl. 6 Novel chapters 9 and 12.
- fl. 7 Novel chapter 13.
- fl. 8 Novel chapters 14 and 15.
- fl. 9 Novel chapter 16.
- fl. 10 Novel chapters 17 and 18.
- fl. 11 Novel chapter 19.
- fl. 11a Novel chapter 28.
- fl. 12 Novel chapter 29.
- fl. 13 Novel chapter 30.
- fl. 14 Novel chapter 31 and odd pages.
- fl. 15 Novel chapter 31.
- fl. 16 Novel chapter 32.
- fl. 17 Novel chapter 32.
- fl. 18 Novel chapter 33.
- fl. 19 Novel chapter 34.
- fl. 20 Novel chapter 37.

Box 2

- fl. 21 Novel chapter 39.
- fl. 22 Novel chapter 1 of book 2.
- fl. 23 Novel chapters 3 and 4 of book 2.
- fl. 24 Novel incomplete sections.
- fl. 25 Novel miscellaneous pages.
- fl. 26 Novel miscellaneous pages.
- fl. 27 Novel miscellaneous pages.
- fl. 28 Griddles: a comedy in three acts.
- fl. 29 The Humor of the South.
Concerning Papers Collars.
- fl. 30 Novel (incomplete).
- fl. 31 Chapter of a novel (incomplete).
- fl. 32 Untitled speeches.
- fl. 33 Articles.
- fl. 34 Speeches and articles (incomplete).
- fl. 35 Article (incomplete).

- fl. 36 Article (incomplete).
- fl. 37 Article (incomplete).
- fl. 38 Article (incomplete).

Box 3

- fl. 39 Article (incomplete).
- fl. 40 Miscellaneous pages.
- fl. 41 Article (incomplete).
- fl. 42 Miscellaneous.
- fl. 43 Article (incomplete).
- fl. 44 Miscellaneous writings (incomplete).
- fl. 45 Miscellaneous writings (incomplete).
- fl. 46 Miscellaneous writings (incomplete).
- fl. 47 Miscellaneous writings (incomplete).
- fl. 48 Miscellaneous writings (incomplete).
- fl. 49 Fragments.
- fl. 50 Newspaper clippings.