

LOUISIANA STATE EXECUTIVE CORRESPONDENCE

(Mss. 1332, 2251, 2498)

Inventory

Compiled by
Hans C. Rasmussen

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library
Louisiana State University Libraries
Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

2009

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SUMMARY

Size	10 linear feet
Geographic Locations	Louisiana
Inclusive Dates	1869-1924, 1930
Bulk Dates	1920-1924
Languages	English
Summary	The Louisiana State Executive Correspondence consists of correspondence and other records created and accumulated by John M. Parker, Luther Egbert Hall, William Pitt Kellogg, Samuel Douglas McEnery, Francis Tillou Nicholls, and other governors of Louisiana in the conduct of their official duties between 1869 and 1924.
Access Restrictions	No restrictions on access.
Reproduction Note	May be reproduced.
Copyright	For those materials not in the public domain, copyright is retained by the descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. copyright law.
Related Collections	John M. Parker File, Mss. 241, 1984, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
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BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

John Milliken Parker was one of the wealthiest businessmen and planters in the South and a prominent spokesman for various commercial and agricultural interests. In the 1890s, he served as the youngest president in the history of the New Orleans Cotton Exchange and the New Orleans Board of Trade. During the period 1912 to 1920, Parker espoused causes associated with Progressivism, including women's suffrage, abolition of child labor, income and inheritance taxes, and conservation. He unsuccessfully ran for governor of Louisiana as the Progressive Party candidate in 1916 and successfully as the Democratic candidate in 1920. His priorities as governor were increased support for public education and eleemosynary institutions, expansion of Louisiana State University, the elimination of the New Orleans political machine, structural reforms and modernization of state services to be achieved partly through the adoption of a new state constitution, new or increased severance taxes on natural resources, and increased regulatory powers of the Public Service Commission. After leaving office in 1924, Parker devoted himself to his experimental farm at Bayou Sara near St. Francisville, directed flood relief in Louisiana in 1927, and became a leader of the anti-Long Constitutional League (1930-1932).

To a lesser extent, the Louisiana State Executive Correspondence pertains to the following governors, as well:

Henry Clay Warmoth (Republican, 1868-1873)
William Pitt Kellogg (Republican, 1873-1877)
Stephen B. Packard (Republican, 1877)
Francis Tillou Nicholls (Democratic, 1877-1880, 1888-1892)
Louis Alfred Wiltz (Democratic, 1880-1881)
Samuel Douglas McEnery (Democratic, 1881-1888)
Murphy J. Foster (Democratic, 1892-1900)
William Wright Heard (Democratic, 1900-1904)
Newton Crain Blanchard (Democratic, 1904-1908)
Jared Young Sanders (Democratic, 1908-1912)
Luther Egbert Hall (Democratic, 1912-1916)
Ruffin G. Pleasant (Democratic, 1916-1920)
Henry L. Fuqua (Democratic, 1924-1926)

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Louisiana State Executive Correspondence consists of correspondence, invoices, tear sheets, clippings, certificates, maps, drawings, and other records created and accumulated by Governors Henry Clay Warmoth, William Pitt Kellogg, Stephen B. Packard, Francis Tillou Nicholls, Louis Alfred Wiltz, Samuel Douglas McEnery, Murphy J. Foster, William Wright Heard, Newton Crain Blanchard, Jared Young Sanders, Luther Egbert Hall, Ruffin G. Pleasant, John M. Parker, and Henry L. Fuqua in the conduct of their official duties between 1869 and 1924. The correspondence is organized into fourteen series, one for each governor, and measures approximately ten linear feet.

The great majority of the correspondence is that of John M. Parker, dating between 1920 and 1924 and totaling 9.5 linear feet. His correspondence concerns agricultural issues, particularly with cotton, sugar, rice, and boll weevil eradication; economic development; tariffs; the National Guard; state educational and public health institutions, especially psychiatric hospitals; state boards, commissions, and police juries; local elections; bills and actions by the Louisiana Legislature; highways and transportation; levees; public utilities; natural gas conservation; people seeking pardons and appointments; citizens' grievances; and other governmental matters. Some correspondence concerns Mississippi River flooding in May 1922. Letters received from other state governors, federal officials, and foreign consuls in New Orleans are also scattered throughout the papers. Several oversized tear sheets, clippings, certificates, maps, drawings, and other items were removed from Parker's correspondence and housed separately.

After Parker, most of the remaining correspondence belongs to the administrations of Luther Egbert Hall, William Pitt Kellogg, Samuel Douglas McEnery, and Francis Tillou Nicholls. The Hall correspondence (1912-1916)—by far the largest of these—primarily concerns political appointments, especially the appointments of notaries, and also includes invoices for repairs on the governor's mansion. The Kellogg correspondence (1873-1876) concerns political appointments, law enforcement, financial issues, and Reconstruction politics and violence. The McEnery correspondence (1882-1887) concerns household furnishings and state bonds and includes formal requests for new state consolidated bonds from holders of state obligations. The Nicholls correspondence (1877-1879, 1889-1891) concerns the state funding board, agricultural universities, and financial matters and includes financial records for state expenditures. Correspondence for all other governors is of a negligible quantity, always fewer than twenty items for each administration.

LIST OF SERIES

- I. Henry Clay Warmoth Correspondence, 1869-1872, 7 items**
- II. William Pitt Kellogg Correspondence, 1873-1876, 83 items**
- III. Stephen B. Packard Correspondence, 1877, 1 item**
- IV. Francis Tillou Nicholls Correspondence, 1877-1879, 1889-1891, 22 items**
- V. Louis Alfred Wiltz Correspondence, 1880, 2 items**
- VI. Samuel Douglas McEnery Correspondence, 1882-1887, 34 items**
- VII. Murphy J. Foster Correspondence, 1892-1898, 12 items**
- VIII. William Wright Heard Correspondence, 1902, 1 item**
- IX. Newton Crain Blanchard Correspondence, 1904-1905, 17 items**
- X. Jared Young Sanders Correspondence, 1910, 2 items**
- XI. Luther Egbert Hall Correspondence, 1912-1916, 182 items**
- XII. Ruffin G. Pleasant Correspondence, 1918-1919, 5 items**
- XIII. John M. Parker Correspondence, 1920-1924, 9 linear feet**
- XIV. Henry L. Fuqua Correspondence, 1924, 11 items**

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

Each governor's papers are described as a series. Note that though some governors' terms were not successive, the records are physically organized in chronological order.

I. Henry Clay Warmoth Correspondence, 1869-1872, 7 items

The Henry Clay Warmoth correspondence concerns political appointments and financial issues.

II. William Pitt Kellogg Correspondence, 1873-1876, 83 items

The William Pitt Kellogg correspondence concerns political appointments, law enforcement, financial issues, and Reconstruction politics and violence.

III. Stephen B. Packard Correspondence, 1877, 1 item

The Stephen B. Packard correspondence consists of a single letter on Reconstruction violence in West Feliciana Parish.

IV. Francis Tillou Nicholls Correspondence, 1877-1879, 1889-1891, 22 items

The Francis Tillou Nicholls correspondence concerns the state funding board, agricultural universities, and financial matters and includes financial records for state expenditures.

V. Louis Alfred Wiltz Correspondence, 1880, 2 items

The Louis Alfred Wiltz correspondence concerns the state penitentiary and the armory of the Orleans Artillery Regiment.

VI. Samuel Douglas McEnery Correspondence, 1882-1887, 34 items

The Samuel Douglas McEnery correspondence concerns household furnishings and state bonds and includes formal requests for new state consolidated bonds from holders of state obligations.

VII. Murphy J. Foster Correspondence, 1892-1898, 12 items

The Murphy J. Foster correspondence concerns painting and repairing the Old State Capitol in 1893 and state financial matters.

VIII. William Wright Heard Correspondence, 1902, 1 item

The William Wright Heard correspondence consists of an agreement with the First National Bank of Baton Rouge to pay the expenses for mobilizing the state militia during the New Orleans streetcar strike.

IX. Newton Crain Blanchard Correspondence, 1904-1905, 17 items

The Newton Crain Blanchard correspondence consists of the account of the Camp Moore Confederate Cemetery (1904-1905) and records of expenditures by the Citizens Yellow Fever Fund Committee (1905) received by Blanchard.

X. Jared Young Sanders Correspondence, 1910, 2 items

The Jared Young Sanders correspondence concerns two minor political appointments.

XI. Luther Egbert Hall Correspondence, 1912-1916, 182 items

The Luther Egbert Hall correspondence concerns political appointments, especially the appointments of notaries, and also includes invoices for repairs on the governor's mansion.

XII. Ruffin G. Pleasant Correspondence, 1918-1919, 5 items

The Ruffin G. Pleasant correspondence concerns minor state financial matters.

XIII. John M. Parker Correspondence, 1920-1924, 9 linear feet

Box 1, May 29, 1920-Apr. 13, 1922: The correspondence concerns agricultural issues, particularly with cotton, sugar, and rice; economic development; tariffs; state educational and public health institutions; levees; state boards and police juries; public utilities; citizens' grievances; and other governmental matters.

Box 2, Apr. 15-July 8, 1922: The correspondence concerns highways, state boards and commissions, actions by the Louisiana Legislature, people seeking pardons and appointments, state educational and public health institutions, levees, Mississippi River flooding in May 1922, citizens' grievances, and other governmental matters.

Box 3, July 9-Sept. 30, 1922: The correspondence concerns agricultural issues, state boards and commissions, bills by the Louisiana Legislature, state educational and public health institutions, people seeking political appointments, public utilities, financial matters, citizens' grievances, and other governmental matters.

Box 4, Oct. 2, 1922-Jan. 17, 1923: The correspondence concerns state boards and commissions, people seeking political appointments, public utilities, financial matters,

communications with Central and South American leaders, citizens' grievances, and other governmental matters.

Box 5, Jan. 18-Apr. 24, 1923: The correspondence concerns state boards and commissions, financial matters, highways and transportation, opinions on legal and political issues, state educational and public health institutions, taxation, people seeking pardons and appointments, citizens' grievances, and other governmental matters.

Box 6, Apr. 25-July 5, 1923: The correspondence concerns state boards and commissions, the National Guard, state educational and public health institutions, the resignation and election of judges, parish prisoners awaiting incarceration in state hospitals for the insane, protests regarding a bullfight to be held in New Orleans, citizens' grievances, and other governmental matters.

Box 7, July 6-Oct. 13, 1923: The correspondence concerns agricultural issues, especially boll weevil eradication, state boards and commissions, the National Guard, state educational and public health institutions, levees, highways, public utilities, financial matters, citizens' grievances, and other governmental matters.

Box 8, Oct. 14, 1923-Jan. 22, 1924: The correspondence concerns state boards and commissions, the National Guard, state educational and public health institutions, reforestation, financial matters, economic development, people seeking pardons and appointments, citizens' grievances, and other governmental matters.

Box 9, Jan. 23-May 19, 1924: The correspondence concerns state boards and commissions, state educational and public health institutions, financial matters, economic development, natural gas conservation, people seeking pardons, citizens' grievances, and other governmental matters.

XIV. Henry L. Fuqua Correspondence, 1924, 11 items

The Henry L. Fuqua correspondence concerns legislation and resolutions.

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CONTAINER LIST

Stack

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C:10	10	1	Correspondence, 1869-1872, 7 items
			Series II. William Pitt Kellogg Correspondence, 1873-1876
		2	Correspondence, 1873-1874, 13 items
		3	Correspondence, 1875, 30 items
		4	Correspondence, 1876, 40 items
			Series III. Stephen B. Packard Correspondence, 1877 & Series IV. Francis Tillou Nicholls Correspondence, 1877-1879
		5	Correspondence, 1877-1878, 3 items
		6	Correspondence, 1879, 15 items
			Series V. Louis Alfred Wiltz Correspondence, 1880
		7	Correspondence, 1880, 2 items
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			Series IV. Francis Tillou Nicholls Correspondence, 1889-1891
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Stack

<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
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		3	Correspondence, 1902, 1 item
			Series IX. Newton Crain Blanchard Correspondence, 1904-1905
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		11	Correspondence, 1918-1919, 5 items

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<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
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35:35	9	1-44	Correspondence, Jan. 23-June 10, 1924; Oct. 11, 1924; June 9, 1930
OS:L		1-2	Tear sheets, clippings, certificates, maps, drawings, and other items removed from correspondence, 1922-1924
Series XIV. Henry L. Fuqua Correspondence, 1924			
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