



Guide to the William Mahone Papers, 1853-1895

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Summary

Collection Title:

William Mahone papers, 1853-1895

Creator:

Mahone, William, 1826-1895

Extent:

110.9 Linear Feet

100,000 items

Physical Location:

For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the library's online catalog.

Language:

English.

Collection ID:

RL.00836

Permalink:

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m10s7v>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], William Mahone Papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University

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Background

Scope and Content

The papers of William Mahone span the period 1853 to 1895, with the bulk of the material dating from 1876 to 1892. The collection consists of copies of letters written by Mahone to others, incoming letters to Mahone, subject files on a variety of topics, clippings, and scrapbooks, but primarily focuses on Mahone's railroad and political interests. There is a great deal of overlap of topics between the different series in the collection; thus information

concerning Mahone's political and railroad interests is repeated in the different series.

Mahone's involvement in the railroad business dates from 1850 when he became the Assistant Engineer of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. While there is information about several of the railroads in which Mahone held positions, including both the Orange and Alexandria and the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroads, the bulk of the material concerning railroads is related to the Atlantic, Mississippi, and Ohio Railroad (AMandO). There are both financial and legal papers concerning the AMandO after it ran into financial difficulties in 1873 following the economic panic of that year. Included is correspondence with two Englishmen, John Collinson, who helped Mahone finance a loan to buy the AMandO in 1870, and W. H. Chase, who tried to assist Mahone in saving the railroad. Controversies surrounding the consolidation of railroads in the United States and more particularly in Virginia during the mid to late 19th century are also well documented in the collection.

The bulk of the collection deals with Mahone's political interests and activities. The collection traces the rise of the Readjuster movement in Virginia in the late 1870s, due largely to the efforts of Mahone; Mahone's allegiance to the Republican Party once he was elected to the Senate in 1880; his efforts to build a well organized political machine in Virginia; and finally the loss of support both for Mahone and for the Republican Party in Virginia in the late 1880s.

A central issue in the Readjuster movement was the state's debt, which kept taxes at a high level and almost destroyed the new public school system. The readjusters insisted that the changed conditions of the post-bellum period necessitated the readjustment of the debt. Raising the spectre of class antagonism, Mahone was able to appeal to both poor whites and blacks in order to unite them in a movement of self-interest and reform. This led to the organization of the state-wide Readjuster Party in 1878.

The Readjuster Party won control of the Virginia legislature in 1879 and gained the governorship in 1881 with the election of William E. Cameron. The new party scaled down the debt in the Riddleberger Bill of 1882, enacted laws in social and economic arenas that were of interest to the masses, and, led by Mahone, apportioned governmental offices among the party's leaders. However, in 1883 and thereafter the Readjusters were unable to capture the state legislature or governorship again, although sometimes they lost only narrowly.

Clearly shown through the collection is Mahone's emphasis on organizing the cause of the Readjusters. The focus on organization, including the canvassing of voters before elections, is evident in Mahone's campaigns for the Senate in 1880 and 1886 and for governor of Virginia in 1889. Many of the papers deal with appointing canvassers, creating clubs that would encourage participation in the political process, targeting particular groups to be canvassed such as blacks and "mild" Democrats, making sure political speeches were made in the

various precincts, and finding out who had not paid their head-tax and then arranging to have the tax paid. One key element was the Richmond Whig in which Mahone had a financial and editorial interest and which became the official organ of the Readjuster movement.

After Mahone was elected to the United States Senate, he had to choose whether his allegiance would be to the Democrats or Republicans. Once he had aligned himself with the Republicans, Virginia was sometimes viewed as having broken the Solid South, that is, Virginia was seen as one state in the South where Republicans could be elected. Both Virginia and Mahone served as role models for politicians in other southern states who wanted to foster the growth of the Republican Party.

While the collection primarily relates to local and state political matters in Virginia, there are scattered letters in the collection from other areas of the country where the Republican Party was being promoted. There are several letters from William M. Burwell from New Orleans, 1880 to 1884, asking for guidance and giving progress reports on the status of the Republican Party in Louisiana. A letter (1883, March 15) from James T. Beach, Secretary of the Missouri State Republican Committee, relates to his efforts to create a National Cooperative Organization. One of its goals was to secure equal civil and political rights for a free vote.

Mahone was appointed Chair of the United States Senate Committee on Agriculture in 1882 and served on the Committee on Naval Affairs, the Committee on Post-offices and Post-roads, and the Committee on Education and Labor. Evidence of his work on these committees is best shown in the Letterbooks, Correspondence, and Subject Files. It is in the appointment of persons to positions, however, where Mahone's influence is most clearly documented. Requests for patronage positions, particularly in the Post Office, dominate the constituent correspondence. Other letters requested that particular post offices be closed or opened.

Other departments to which persons sought appointment included the Government Printing Office, the Norfolk Navy Yard, the Navy Department, the Treasury Department, and the Internal Revenue Service. Included in both the Correspondence and the Subject Files (Politics: Appointments) series are recommendations, requests and petitions for persons seeking positions.

One incident documented in the collection is a riot that occurred in Danville, Va., on November 3, 1883, three days before the Virginia state elections. Under the Readjuster legislature, blacks held a number of governmental offices in Danville. The Democrats opposed the appointment of blacks and dubbed it "Mahoneism." It is difficult today to pinpoint the origin of the violence that occurred or trace its progress, but as a result of it, several blacks and whites died. Readjusters contended the uprising had been provoked by Democrats for campaign purposes. They also blamed their loss of a majority in the state

legislature on the Danville Riot. The collection includes eyewitness accounts of the incident which are located in the Subject Files.

The collection also includes much information about voters and voting patterns down to the precinct level in Virginia during the 1880s. The files relating to election frauds, which date from 1882 to 1889, provide yet another perspective on voting concerns. These files contain standardized forms and letters reporting voting irregularities. The majority of the documented frauds are from 1889 when Mahone lost his bid for governor. There were some who believed that had voting irregularities not occurred, Mahone would have been elected governor in 1889.

The collection records the rise and fall of Mahone's political career in the 1880s, as well as developments and controversies within the Republican Party in Virginia during this period. In 1888 the Republican Party split into factions which led to rival state conventions and delegations to the national convention. The Mahone defeat of 1889 brought a check to Republican activity in Virginia and in 1893 the Republicans made no effort even to nominate candidates for the governorship or the legislature.

Political allies Mahone cultivated in Virginia are among the chief correspondents. They include Frank S. Blair, Stith Bolling, William E. Cameron, Abram Fulkerson, William Lamb, John E. Massey, John Paul, Harrison Holt Riddleberger, and John S. Wise.

There is very little personal material relating to Mahone or his family. There are a few letters from his son William Mahone, Jr., and in the Subject Files there are several folders of financial receipts representing items bought for the Mahone family.

A Duke University doctoral dissertation was written about Mahone in 1932 by Nelson Morehouse Blake entitled William Mahone of Virginia: Builder, Soldier and Insurgent. It was published in 1935 with the title William Mahone of Virginia, Soldier and Political Insurgent. There are additional Mahone papers in the Mahone-McGill Collection in the Rubenstein Library at the University of Virginia Library in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Biographical/Historical

Date	Description
1826, Dec. 1	Born Monroe, Southhampton Co., Va.
1847	Graduated from Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, Va.

Date	Description
1850	Became Assistant Engineer of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad
1852	Became Chief Engineer, Fredericksburg and Valley Plank Road Company
1855	Married Otelia Butler
1861	Became President and Chief Engineer of the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad
1861	Commissioned Brigadier General in the Confederate Army
1863	Elected to the Virginia State Senate
1864	Commanded unit known as "Mahone's Brigade" at the Battle of the Petersburg Crater
1865	Simultaneously became President of both the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad and the South Side Railroad
1870	Created the privately owned Atlantic, Mississippi, and Ohio Railroad (AMandO)
1877	Defeated in seeking the Virginia Democratic gubernatorial nomination
1879	Organized and assumed leadership of the Readjuster Party in Virginia
1880	Elected to the United States Senate and pledged his

Date	Description
	allegiance to the Republican Party
1882	Became Chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture
1886	Ran unsuccessfully for reelection to the United States Senate
1889	Ran unsuccessfully for Governor of Virginia on the Republican ticket
1895, Oct. 8	Died in Washington, D.C. Buried in Petersburg, Va., where the Daughters of the Confederacy erected a monument to him

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of

the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

Acquisition Information

The William Mahone Papers were placed on deposit in the Manuscript Department in 1930 and donated to Duke University in 1985 and 1986.

Processing Information

Processed by Janie C. Morris

Date Completed: 05/09/89

Last Updated: 04/11/2001

Encoded by Alvin Pollock, Stephen Miller, Mohammad Hutasukhut, and Ruth E. Bryan

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Names and Subjects

- Voting -- Virginia
- Railroads -- Virginia
- Patronage, Political -- Virginia
- Debts, Public -- Virginia
- Elections -- Virginia
- Electioneering -- Virginia
- Bolling, Stith
- Blair, Frank Simpson, 1839-1899
- Fulkerson, Abram
- Cameron, William Evelyn, 1842-1927
- Atlantic, Mississippi and Ohio Railroad Company
- Republican Party (Va.)
- Paul, John, 1839-1901
- Wise, John S. (John Sargeant), 1846-1913
- Riddleberger, Harrison Holt, 1844-1890
- Lamb, William, 1835-1909
- Gwynn, Walter, 1802-1882
- Mahone, William, 1826-1895

Collection Inventory

Letterbooks, 1866-1893 (bulk 1876-1889)

Physical Description: 94 Volumes

Scope and Contents note

Letterpress books containing copies of Mahone's outgoing letters. Relating chiefly to political matters in Virginia, they concern local and state-wide issues, his work in organizing the Virginia Readjuster Party, his gubernatorial and senatorial campaigns, state conventions, the canvassing of voters before elections, and the appointment of personnel to various governmental offices.

Other letters deal with railroad policy. Financial matters related to his own railroad, the Atlantic, Mississippi, and Ohio, are mentioned frequently, as are other financial and business interests of Mahone. There are two gaps in the time period covered: 1879, June 19 to 1882, September 1 and 1885, June 29 to September 3.

Most of the letterbooks contain alphabetical indexes in the front that list the people to whom Mahone was writing. The number beside each name corresponds to the page in the volume where Mahone's letter to that person can be found. In some cases the dates given on the outside of the letterbook are off by a day or so from the dates of letters actually in the letterbook. An effort has been made to specify on the container list the dates of letters actually found in the letterbook, even if they vary slightly from the dates on the cover. Letters are arranged chronologically within each letterbook.

1866 March 15-1866 April 30	Volume 1
1866 April 30-1866 September 12	Volume 2
1866 October 8-1867 January 14	Volume 3
1867 January 14-1867 May 2	Volume 4
1867 May 2-1867 July 8	Volume 5
1867 July 8-1867 September 7	Volume 6
1867 September 15-1867 November 15	Volume 7
1867 November 17-1868 January 31	Volume 8
1868 February 12-1868 March 30	Volume 9

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1868 March 29-1868 June 11	Volume 10
1868 June 12-1868 September 10	Volume 11
1868 September 10-1868 December 21	Volume 12
1868 December 21-1869 March 31	Volume 13
1869 March 31-1869 September 13	Volume 14
1869 September 13-1869 November 29	Volume 15
1869 November 29-1870 April 6	Volume 16
1870 April 6-1870 December 3	Volume 17
1870 December 3-1872 February 26	Volume 18
1872 February 28-1873 August 15	Volume 19
1873 August 28-1875 January 21	Volume 20
1875 January 20-1875 April 22	Volume 21
1875 April 22-1876 April 6	Volume 22
1876 April 6-1876 June 26	Volume 23
1876 June 26-1876 October 16	Volume 24
1876 October 19-1877 January 31	Volume 25
1877 February 1-1877 June 15	Volume 26
1877 June 15-1877 September 15	Volume 27
1877 September 15-1877 November 19	Volume 28
1877 November 20-1879 May 1	Volume 29
1877 May 12-1879 May 3	Volume 30
1879 May 1-1879 June 18	Volume 31
1882 September 2-1882 October 12	Volume 32
1882 October 13-1882 October 23	Volume 33

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1882 October 30-1882 December 30	Volume 35
1882 December 31-1883 January 19	Volume 36
1883 January 19-1883 February 18	Volume 37
1883 February 18-1883 March 17	Volume 38
1883 March 17-1883 April 6	Volume 39
1883 April 6-1883 April 29	Volume 40
1883 April 29-1883 June 16	Volume 41
1883 June 16-1883 July 13	Volume 42
1883 July 13-1883 August 20	Volume 43
1883 August 20-1883 September 11	Volume 44
1883 September 11-1883 October 5	Volume 45
1883 October 5-1883 November 3	Volume 46
1883 November 3-1883 December 22	Volume 47
1883 December 22-1884 February 11	Volume 48
1884 February 12-1884 March 31	Volume 49
1884 April 5-1884 June 26	Volume 50
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1884 August 30-1884 October 4	Volume 52
1884 October 4-1884 November 11	Volume 53
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1885 January 5-1885 March 10	Volume 55
1885 March 10-1885 May 11	Volume 56
1885 May 11-1885 June 11	Volume 57

1885 June 12-1885 July 28	Volume 58
1885 September 4-1885 September 18	Volume 59
1885 September 18-1885 September 29	Volume 60
1885 September 28-1885 October 18	Volume 61
1885 October 18-1885 October 26	Volume 62
1885 October 26-1885 November 24	Volume 63
1885 November 25-1886 March 9	Volume 64
1886 March 9-1886 May 18	Volume 65
1886 May 18-1886 August 13	Volume 66
1886 August 16-1886 September 29	Volume 67
1886 September 28-1886 November 4	Volume 68
1886 November 3-1886 November 28	Volume 69
1886 November 30-1887 January 27	Volume 70
1887 January 27-1887 March 15	Volume 71
1887 March 13-1887 May 15	Volume 72
1887 May 14-1887 June 24	Volume 73
1887 June 24-1887 August 18	Volume 74
1887 August 18-1887 September 5	Volume 75
1887 September 5-1887 September 23	Volume 76
1887 September 23-1887 October 16	Volume 77
1887 October 16-1887 November 7	Volume 78
1887 November 7-1887 November 27	Volume 79
1887 November 29-1888 January 20	Volume 80
1887 January 20-1888 April 4	Volume 81

1888 April 4-1888 May 24	Volume 82
1888 May 24-1888 August 10	Volume 83
1888 August 10-1888 October 6	Volume 84
1888 October 7-1888 December 1	Volume 85
1888 December 2-1889 January 26	Volume 86
1889 January 26-1889 July 25	Volume 87
1889 July 27-1889 September 9	Volume 88
1889 September 9-1889 October 11	Volume 89
1889 October 11-1889 November 19	Volume 90
1889 November 18-1890 March 25	Volume 91
1890 March 26-1891 March 22	Volume 92
1891 March 23-1891 October 31	Volume 93
1891 October 31-1893 August 15	Volume 94

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Correspondence, 1854-1895 (bulk 1879-1892) and undated

Physical Description: 167 containers; 72 lin. ft.

Scope and Contents note

This series consists almost entirely of letters sent to Mahone, although there are a few scattered letters from Mahone to others. The most prominently represented topics relate to local and state political matters in Virginia. Among them are the Virginia state debt; rise of the Readjuster movement; Mahone's gubernatorial and senatorial campaigns; canvassing of voters before elections; requests and recommendations for governmental positions; the use of clubs to encourage involvement in politics; and the schism which developed in the Republican Party in Virginia in the late 1880s.

Other subjects include railroad matters in Virginia, particularly as they concerned the financial issues surrounding the Atlantic, Mississippi, and Ohio Railroad; the Richmond Whig; legislation relating to the taxation of various products such as whiskey and tobacco; and several correspondents' interest in having Mahone serve in Benjamin Harrison's cabinet.

Many of the letters are numbered on the back and list the name of the letter writer, the date of the letter, a brief summary of the letter's contents, and the place where the letter was written. This information is also preserved in the correspondence indexes. However, not all the correspondence for these years is covered by these volumes. See the description of the Correspondence Indexes below. The correspondence is arranged chronologically.

1854-1869, May Physical Description: 7 folders	Box 1
1869, June-1870, October Physical Description: 6 folders	Box 2
1870, December-1871, December(6 folders)	Box 3
1872, January-1873, May Physical Description: 7 folders	Box 4
1873, June-1874, May Physical Description: 7 folders	Box 5
1874, June-1875, September Physical Description: 7 folders	Box 6
1875, October-1876, May 19 Physical Description: 6 folders	Box 7
1876, May 20-1876, September Physical Description: 5 folders	Box 8
1876, October-1877, April Physical Description: 6 folders	Box 9
1877, May 1-1877, June 30 Physical Description: 5 folders	Box 10
1877, July 1-1877, July 29 Physical Description: 7 folders	Box 11
1877, July 30-1877, December 15 Physical Description: 7 folders	Box 12

1877, December 16-1878, June 15 Physical Description: 7 folders	Box 13
1878, June 16-1879, February 15 Physical Description: 7 folders	Box 14
1879, February 16-1879, August 31 Physical Description: 7 folders	Box 15
1879, September 1-1879, November 15 Physical Description: 7 folders	Box 16
1879, November 20-1879, December 31 Physical Description: 8 folders	Box 17
1880, January 1-1880, March 31 Physical Description: 8 folders	Box 18
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1880, August 1-1880, September 5 Physical Description: 8 folders	Box 21
1880, September 6-1880, October 10 Physical Description: 7 folders	Box 22
1880, October 11-1880, November 30 Physical Description: 8 folders	Box 23
1880, December 1-1881, January 31 Physical Description: 7 folders	Box 24
1881, February 1-1881, March 11 Physical Description: 8 folders	Box 25
1881, March 12-1881, March 24 Physical Description: 7 folders	Box 26

1881, March 25-1881, April 6 Physical Description: 9 folders	Box 27
1881, April 7-1881, April 22 Physical Description: 8 folders	Box 28
1881, April 23-1881, May 8 Physical Description: 7 folders	Box 29
1881, May 9-1881, May 31 Physical Description: 8 folders	Box 30
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1882, July 30-1882, August 10 Physical Description: 7 folders	Box 53
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1889, April 23-1889, May 6 Physical Description: 6 folders	Box 133
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1889, November 17-1889, November 30 Physical Description: 6 folders	Box 154
1889, December 1-1889, December 31 Physical Description: 9 folders	Box 155
1890, January 1-1890, January 31 Physical Description: 9 folders	Box 156
1890, February 1-1890, February 28 Physical Description: 7 folders	Box 157
1890, March 1-1890, March 31 Physical Description: 7 folders	Box 158
1890, April 1-1890, April 30 Physical Description: 3 folders	Box 159
1890, May 1-1890, August 30 Physical Description: 8 folders	Box 160
1890, September 1-1891, January 31 Physical Description: 6 folders	Box 161
1891, February 3-1891, August 31 Physical Description: 7 folders	Box 162
1891, September 3-1891, December 31 Physical Description: 6 folders	Box 163
1892, January 1-1892, July 29 Physical Description: 6 folders	Box 164
1892, August 1-1892, October 31 Physical Description: 5 folders	Box 165
1892, November 1-1894, August 30 Physical Description: 6 folders	Box 166
1894, September 4-1895, September 22 Physical Description: 7 folders	Box 167

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Correspondence Indexes, 1879-1888

Physical Description: 17 volumes; 2 lin. ft.

Scope and Contents note

Indexes to the incoming correspondence to Mahone. Inside each volume correspondents' last names are listed alphabetically with a number or numbers beside each name. The numbers indicate what pages in the volumes represent that person's letters to Mahone. One of the volumes for 1881 has on the cover "general applications." Letter writers represented in this volume wrote to Mahone with requests for placement in various governmental positions. Another volume for 1881 indexes letters that are unrelated to position requests.

The following information is given about each letter noted by the index: 1) who the letter is from; 2) the date; 3) a number; 4) a brief summary; and 5) the place where the letter was written from. This information also appears on the back of the letters themselves. Some of the correspondence dating before 1879 and after 1888 also have this information, but the only indexes in the collection date from 1879 to 1888. One can therefore move easily between the correspondence indexes and the letters for these years. One of the volumes is undated, except for the month and day the letters were written. Volumes are arranged in chronological order.

1879-1881(6 volumes)	Box 168
1882(3 volumes)	Box 169
1883-1884,Volume I (3 volumes)	Box 170
1884,Volume II- 1887,Volume 1 (3 volumes)	Box 171
1887,Volume 2- 1888(2 volumes)	Box 172

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Subject Files, 1853-1891 (bulk 1870-1889) and undated

Physical Description: 33 containers; 14.5 lin. ft.

Scope and Contents note

The Subject File series is arranged alphabetically and primarily relates to Mahone's political and business interests. Many of the topical headings are further subdivided. Politics comprises the bulk of the series and includes the following major subdivisions:

Appointments, 1870-1890. Includes recommendations, requests, and petitions for people to be assigned to various governmental offices, the most extensive file of which pertains to local post-office positions in Virginia. Other offices and departments represented in this file include the Government Printing Office, the Norfolk Navy Yard and Navy Department, the Treasury Department, the Interior Department, the Internal Revenue Service, and judicial appointments.

Canvassing, 1880-1889. Contains lists of canvassers, groups to be canvassed, the number of registered voters by political party and often by race, the number of people who voted in previous elections, and the number of people who were delinquent in paying their head tax. This information is usually quite detailed and broken down to the precinct level.

Elections, 1879-1889. Includes lists of county and city electoral officials, information about election frauds, and election returns, the majority of the material being from 1889 when Mahone ran for governor.

Financial Papers, 1880-1890. Includes records of campaign expenses for several elections.

Virginia state conventions, lists of delegates to the state, Conservative (1877), Readjuster (1880, 1881) and Republican (1886, 1892) conventions.

Printed Material, 1867-1894. Primarily pamphlets and broadsides. Usually the broadsides relate to a particular candidate, meeting, or campaign issue, while the pamphlets concern a variety of issues. Highlighted in the pamphlets is information about the Republican national, state, and district conventions; tariff duties on various items such as sugar and woolens; the Virginia state debt; and the Readjuster movement.

Another major topic is **Railroads**. Included is information on several railroads in which Mahone had a financial interest. Among them are the Norfolk and Petersburg, the Orange and Alexandria, and the Virginia and Tennessee railroads. However, the bulk of these files concerns the Atlantic, Mississippi, and Ohio (AMandO) Railroad which Mahone created in 1870. There are extensive files relating to the financial and legal issues surrounding the railroad which suffered an economic setback after the panic of 1873 and went into receivership about 1879. (The railroad was later sold and became known as the Norfolk and Western Railroad.) These files also contain maps of the routes of several railroads and other miscellaneous items pertaining to railroads in general.

Other topics found in the **Subject Files** include the **Civil War** (commissary papers from Mahone's Brigade, 1863 Jan. - Dec.); the **Danville Riot**, 1883; **Richmond Whig** (financial records, 1875-1885); the **Virginia Military Institute**, 1865-1881; the **Roanoke Navigation Company**, 1880-1892; the

American Reduction Company, 1887-1888; and the Carolina Oil and Creosote Company, 1886-1890.

Agricultural, Horticultural, and Immigration Association, 1870-1871	Box 173
American Reduction Company, 1887-1888(3 folders)	Box 173
Blandford Cemetery (Petersburg, VA), 1876-1878)	Box 173
Carolina Oil and Cresote Company, 1886 August-1890, February Physical Description: 2 folders	Box 173
Carolina Oil and Cresote Company: Printed Material 1886-1889 and undated	Box 173
Central Lunatic Asylum (Virginia), 1881-1884	Box 173
Central Mining, Manufacturing and Land Company, 1891 and undated	Box 173
Civil War: Commissary Papers, 1863, January-1863, December Physical Description: 5 folders	Box 174
Civil War: Speeches and Writings, 1871	Box 174
Civil War: Miscellaneous, 1864-1889 and undated	Box 174
Danville, Virginia: Riot, 1883 Physical Description: 2 folders	Box 175
Financial Papers: Receipts, 1853-1875 Physical Description: 3 folders	Box 175
Financial Papers: Receipts, 1875-1882 Physical Description: 6 folders	Box 176
Financial Papers: Receipts, 1882-1886 Physical Description: 6 folders	Box 177

Financial Papers: Receipts, 1887-1894 and undated	Box 178
Physical Description: 4 folders	
Financial Papers: Miscellaneous, 1860-1886 and undated	Box 178
Legal Papers, 1872-1886	Box 178
Game Ridge Mill, 1888	Box 178
Petersburg Daily News, 1875	Box 178
Politics: Agriculture Department, 1882	Box 178
Politics: Appointments, 1881-1884	Box 178
Politics: Appointments, undated	Box 179
Politics: Appointments: Agriculture Department, 1882 July-August and undated	Box 179
Politics: Appointments: Census Bureau, 1889	Box 179
Politics: Appointments: Collector of Customs, 1881-1882	Box 179
Politics: Appointments: Government Printing Office 1882 August-October 1884 and undated	Box 179
Politics: Appointments: Interior Department, 1882 January-March	Box 179
Politics: Appointments: Interior, 1882 April-1889 and undated	Box 179
Politics: Appointments: Internal Revenue Service 1880-1889	Box 179
Politics: Appointments: Judicial, 1870-1882	Box 179
Politics: Appointments: Navy Department, 1882 and undated	Box 179
Politics: Appointments: Navy Yard, 1881-1889	Box 179

Politics: Appointments: Navy Yard Scratch Book of Names for Appointment Laborers and Mechanics	Box 180
Physical Description: 2 folders	
Politics: Appointments: Post Office, 1881 May-1882 February	Box 180
Physical Description: 6 folders	
Politics: Appointments: Post Office, 1882 March-1882 April	Box 181
Physical Description: 3 folders	
Politics: Appointments: Post Office, 1882 May-1882 September	Box 182
Physical Description: 6 folders	
Politics: Appointments: Post Office, 1882 October-1883, February	Box 183
Physical Description: 6 folders	
Politics: Appointments: Post Office, 1883 March-1883 September	Box 184
Physical Description: 6 folders	
Politics: Appointments: Post Office, 1883 October-1885 February	Box 185
Physical Description: 7 folders	
Politics: Appointments: Post Office, 1885 July-1885 December	Box 186
Physical Description: 6 folders	
Politics: Appointments: Post Office, 1889	Box 186
Politics: Appointments: Post Office, 1890 and undated	Box 187
Politics: Appointments: Railway Mail Service, 1881-1889	Box 187
Politics: Appointments: Treasury Department, 1881-1882 and undated	Box 187

Politics: Appointments: U.S. Marshals, 1881-1889	Box 187
Politics: Appointments: Miscellaneous, 1873-1889 and undated	Box 187
Politics: Cabinet Position for Mahone (proposed), 1889	Box 187
Politics: Canvassing, 1880 August-1881, October	Box 187
Politics: Canvassing, 1880-1883, September Physical Description: 7 folders	Box 188
Politics: Canvassing, 1883 September-1889 October (online item available) Physical Description: 5 folders Digital Object: Politics: Canvassing, 1883 September-1889 October	Box 189
Politics: Canvassing: Black Churches and Ministers, 1883	Box 189
Politics: Canvassing: Black Ministers, 1889	Box 190
Politics: Canvassing: County and District Canvassers, 1888 Physical Description: 2 folders	Box 190
Politics: Canvassing: Local Canvassers, 1885	Box 190
Politics: Canvassing: Schedules and Maps for Canvassers, 1882-1887	Box 190
Politics: Canvassing: Schedules of Canvassers, 1889	Box 190
Politics: Canvassing: Voters, Mild Democrats, 1887-1888	Box 190
Politics: Canvassing; Voters, Mild Democrats, 1887-1888	Box 191
Politics: Canvassing: Miscellaneous, 1888-1889 and undated	Box 191

Politics: Congressional Campaign Club, 1876 and undated	Box 191
Politics: Elections: County Electoral Officials, Recommendations for, 1880, 1882, 1888	Box 191
Politics: Elections: County Officers, 1883	Box 191
Politics: Elections: County Officers, 1883	Box 192
Politics: Elections: Frauds, 1882-1888 Physical Description: 6 folders	Box 192
Politics: Elections: Frauds, 1889 Physical Description: 5 folders	Box 193
Politics: Elections, Returns, 1879-1889 and undated Physical Description: 5 folders	Box 194
Politics: Tickets, 1885	Box 194
Politics: U.S. Commissioner: Recommendations for, 1884	Box 194
Politics: Miscellaneous, 1874-1885	Box 194
Politics: Financial Papers, 1883-1889 and undated Physical Description: 2 folders	Box 194
Politics: Financial Papers: Campaign, 1880, 1890 and undated Physical Description: 7 folders	Box 195
Politics: Financial Papers: Subscriptions to the National Commission's Reserve Fund, 1889-1890 and undated	Box 195
Politics: Mailing Lists, 1839-1884 and undated	Box 195
Politics: National Minute Men of America, 1882	Box 195
Politics: Navy Department, 1882-1883	Box 195
Politics: Post Office, 1882	Box 195

Politics: Post Office, 1883-1884 Physical Description: 2 folders	Box 196
Politics: Post Office Book: W. R. Robinson's, undated	Box 196
Politics: Public Buildings and Grounds Committee, 1882-1887 and undated	Box 196
Politics: Republican Clubs, 1884-1889 and undated Physical Description: 3 folders	Box 196
Politics: Chairmen and Committees, 1884-1885	Box 196
Politics: Republican County Chairmen and Committees, 1885-1886 and undated	Box 196
Politics: Republican Party Leadership, undated	Box 197
Politics: Seed Distribution, 1881 January-1887 and undated Physical Description: 4 folders	Box 197
Politics: Speeches and Writings, 1887 and undated	Box 197
Politics: Speeches and Writings of Others, 1879-1885 and undated	Box 198
Politics: Spoils System, 1884-1885	Box 198
Politics: Tobacco Legislation, 1882-1886 and undated	Box 198
Politics: U.S. District and Circuit Courts for Western District of Virginia, 1882-1884 and undated	Box 198
Politics: Veterans, 1882-1885	Box 198
Politics: Virginia County, District, Precinct Meetings, 1875-1892 and undated Physical Description: 3 folders	Box 198

Politics: Virginia Debt, 1872-1891 and undated Physical Description: 2 folders	Box 198
Politics: Virginia State Convention: Delegates Conservative Convention Notebook, 1877 Physical Description: 2 folders	Box 199
Politics: Virginia State Convention: Readjuster Delegates, 1880-1881 Physical Description: 3 folders	Box 199
Politics: Virginia State Convention: Republican Congressional Convention, 1886	Box 199
Politics: Virginia State Convention: Roll of Delegates to State Republican Convention, 1892	Box 199
Politics: Printed Material, 1867-1881 Physical Description: 2 folders	Box 199
Politics: Printed Material, 1882-1894 and undated Physical Description: 4 folders	Box 200
Politics: Miscellaneous, 1876-1885	Box 200
Politics: Miscellaneous, 1886-1892 and n.d	Box 201
Railroads: Financial Papers: Miscellaneous, 1873-1876 and undated	Box 201
Railroads: Specifications, 1872 and undated	Box 201
Railroads: Atlantic, Mississippi and Ohio: General Information, 1875-1876 and undated	Box 201
Railroads: Atlantic, Mississippi and Ohio: Financial Papers, 1870-1882 and undated	Box 201
Railroads: Atlantic, Mississippi and Ohio: Legal Papers, 1870-1876 August	Box 201
Railroads: Atlantic, Mississippi and Ohio: Legal Papers, 1876 September-1881 and undated Physical Description: 3 folders	Box 202

Railroads: Atlantic, Mississippi and Ohio: Miscellaneous, 1867-1889 and undated	Box 202
Railroads: Atlantic, Mississippi and Ohio: Clippings, 1876-1880	Box 202
Railroads: B-New York	Box 202
Railroads: Norfolk and Edenton	Box 202
Railroads: Norfolk and Petersburg: Financial Papers, 1853-1884 and undated	Box 202
Railroads: Norfolk and Petersburg: Legal Papers, 1861-1868 and undated	Box 202
Railroads: Norfolk and Petersburg: Clippings, 1853	Box 202
Railroads: Norfolk and W-N	Box 203
Railroads: Orange and Alexandria R.R. Co. 1849-1851	Box 203
Railroads: Petersburg Railroad Company, 1872-1873	Box 203
Railroads: R-Southern...	Box 203
Railroads: Southside R.R. Co., 1867-1877	Box 203
Railroads: Virginia and Kentucky, 1857-1876 and undated	Box 203
Railroads: Virginia and Tennessee Railroad Company, 1871-1874	Box 203
Railroads: Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad Company	Box 203
Railroads: Miscellaneous, 1852-1888 and undated	Box 203
Richmond Whig: Financial Papers, 1885-1880	Box 203

Physical Description: 3 folders

Richmond Whig: Financial Papers, 1879 June-1875 December	Box 204
Physical Description: 5 folders	
Richmond Whig: Mailing List, 1877	Box 204
Roanoke Navigation Company, 1880-1892 and undated	Box 205
S. V. White and Co.	Box 205
Southwest Virginia Improvement Company, 1889-1890 and undated	Box 205
Virginia Military Institute, 1865-1881	Box 205
Miscellaneous, 1871-1889 and undated	Box 205
Physical Description: One half of a container; 0.2 lin. ft.	
Scope and Contents note	
Includes specifications for a fountain to be built in Mahone's honor, an obituary for Mahone's nine year old daughter, Elise, social invitations, unidentified photographs, architectural drawings, and a few other items.	
Clippings, 1872-1892 and undated	Box 205
Physical Description: One half of a container; 0.2 lin. ft.	
Scope and Contents note	
Chiefly articles related to political issues and concerns in Virginia including the state debt and the rival political parties the Readjusters and Funders, many from the Richmond Whig. Also articles (1886) about John Goode of Virginia who was rejected by the United States Senate for Solicitor General of the United States and articles concerning Mahone in 1889 when he ran for governor of Virginia.	

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Scrapbooks, 1868-1889

Physical Description: 41 Volumes

Scope and Contents note

Forty-one scrapbooks primarily containing clippings but also including circular letters, broadsides, and a few handwritten notes. In the container listing, the dates that have been given on the cover of the scrapbooks are noted. However,

the period covered by the scrapbooks does not always match the dates that appear on the scrapbooks' covers. All but three are stored in boxes. The three not in boxes are oversized and shelved immediately after the boxed scrapbooks. Loose items found in the scrapbooks were placed in folders and are filed in the boxes with the scrapbooks.

Topics primarily concern local and state political matters in Virginia, many relating to Mahone. Among the chief topics are the rise of the Readjuster movement and early efforts to organize the Readjusters into a state political party; the state debt; the free school system; Virginia state, district, and county conventions; canvassing voters; Mahone's election to the United States Senate in 1880; the Danville Riot in 1883; support for Mahone to be appointed to a post in Benjamin Harrison's cabinet; Mahone's gubernatorial race in 1889; and the schism which developed in the Virginia Republican Party in the late 1880s. Many of the broadsides announce political speeches.

To a lesser degree, materials about railroads are also included, particularly materials relating to the controversial consolidation of railroads in Virginia and the financial difficulties of the Atlantic, Mississippi, and Ohio Railroad.

No. 1B, 1870-1871, 1876, 1882	Box 206
No. 1B (folder)	Box 206
No. 2A, 1870	Box 206
No. 2B, 1871-1873	Box 206
No. 2B (folder)	Box 206
No. 3, 1866-1875	Box 207
No. 5, 1878-1881	Box 207
No. 6, 1879	Box 207
No. 7, 1877	Box 208
No. 7, (folder)	Box 208
No. 8, 1877	Box 208
No. 8 (folder)	Box 208
No. 9, 1879	Box 208
No. 9 (folder)	Box 208

No. 10, 1879	Box 209
No. 10 (folder)	Box 209
No. 11, 1880 "Senatorial Scraps"	Box 209
No. 12, 1880 "Funder Record"	Box 209
No. 13, 1880	Box 210
No. 13 (folder)	Box 210
No. 14, 1880	Box 210
No. 14 (folder)	Box 210
No. 15, 1880-1881 " Public Debt, Vote of 1880"	Box 211
No. 15 (folder)	Box 211
No. 16, 1880	Box 211
No. 17, 1880-1881	Box 211
No. 18, 1880-1881	Box 212
No. 19, 1881	Box 212
No. 19 (folder)	Box 212
No. 20, 1881	Box 212
No. 20 (folder)	Box 212
No. 21, 1881	Box 213
No. 21 (folder)	Box 213
No. 22, "Campaign Documents 1881"	Box 213
No. 22 (folder)	Box 213
No. 23 "The Whig on Daniel 1881" [John W. Daniel member of the Funders]	Box 213
No. 24, 1881	Box 214

No. 25, 1881 "Brown, Ga." [Joseph E. Brown Senator and Governor of Georgia]	Box 214
No. 26, 1881	Box 214
No. 27, "Massey, 1882" [John E. Massey]	Box 214
No. 28, "Liberal Movement, 1882"	Box 215
No. 28 (folder)	Box 215
No. 29, 1882	Box 215
No. 30, 1882	Box 215
No. 30 (folder)	Box 215
No. 31, 1883 "Danville Riot and Newspaper Comments"	Box 216
No. 31 (folder)	Box 216
No. 32, "Campaign 1884"	Box 216
No. 32 (folder)	Box 216
No. 33, 1884-1885	Box 217
No. 33 (folder)	Box 217
No. 35, 1886	Box 217
No. 35 (folder)	Box 217
No. 36, 1887-1888	Box 217
No. 36	Box 217
Physical Description: 2 folders	
No. 37 "1888 State Convention, Chicago Convention, Wise, Houston, Brady, etc."	Box 218
No. 37 (folder)	Box 218
No. 38, "Campaign 1888"	Box 218

No. 38 Physical Description: 2 folders	Box 218
No. 40, 1889	Box 219
No. 40 (folder)	Box 219
No. 1a, 1868-1870	Box 220
No. 1a (folder)	Box 220
No. 34, "Campaign Circulars of 1885 "	Box 221
No. 34 (folder)	Box 221
No. 39, 1889, "Clippings relating to Cabinet Resolutions and c. from Counties and Cities"	Box 221
No. 41 (folder)	Box 221
Nos. 41, 42-43, undated Three oversize scrapbooks, nos. 41, 42-43 are shelved at the end of the boxed scrapbooks	Box 221
Profile of Report of a Survey made by Maj. Walter Gwynn from Norfolk to Edenton, NC	Box 222

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Oversize Materials

Chiefly maps, including those of railroad routes Physical Description: 2 folders	Oversize-folder OC:IV:1
Financial records of the Atlantic, Mississippi and Ohio Railroad and miscellaneous railroad and political papers Physical Description: 4 folders	Box 223
Miscellaneous political and railroad papers Physical Description: 2 folders	Box Oversz. Box 7

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