

Collection #
M 0145,
BV 1478–1495,
BV 1865–1871,
F 0227–0229

W. R. (WILLIAM ROBESON) HOLLOWAY PAPERS, 1795–1903

[Collection Information](#)

[Biographical Sketch](#)

[Scope and Content Note](#)

[Series Contents](#)

[Cataloging Information](#)

Processed by
Sister Rachel West

Paul Brockman, Supervisor
13 September 2002
Updated 2 April 2, 2004

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

-

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	11 manuscript boxes, 23 bound volumes, 3 reels of microfilm, 4 folders of photographs
COLLECTION DATES:	1795–1903

PROVENANCE: Irwin Library, Butler University, 4600 Sunset Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46208, 1 December 1970, 1 November 1977, 1 June 1980, 29 January 1981

RESTRICTIONS: None

COPYRIGHT:

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.

ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1970.1203; 1977.1107; 1980.0607; 1981.0207

NOTES: Collection originally processed by Charles Latham.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

William Robeson Holloway (1836–1911) was born in Richmond, Wayne County, Indiana. His father, David P. Holloway, was editor of the Richmond *Palladium*, U.S. Congressman (1855–57), and Commissioner of Patents (1860s). William Holloway began working for newspapers in Cincinnati and Richmond at the age of fourteen. In 1858 he married Eliza Burbank of Centerville, Indiana, whose sister was married to Oliver P. Morton. Holloway read law in Morton's office from 1858–60, and was admitted to the bar in 1860.

In 1861 Holloway served as Governor Morton's private secretary. He held that position for two years before leaving for private business ventures in New York. In 1864 he purchased a share of the Indianapolis *Journal* and in 1865 he was appointed state printer. In 1867 he sold his share in the newspaper and returned to his position as Morton's private secretary. One year later he again purchased the *Journal* and controlled it until 1872. In 1870 he published a *History of Indianapolis*.

In 1869 Holloway was appointed postmaster in Indianapolis. He retained this position through the presidencies of Grant and Hayes, but was not re-appointed by Garfield. From 1880–86 Holloway ran the Indianapolis *Times*. It was not a success, and it was merged with the *Journal* in 1886. From 1887–89 he was involved with the Indianapolis Cable Street Railway Company, working closely with W. W. Dudley. The company was purchased by a competitor led by Tom Johnson of Cleveland, Ohio. In the early 1890s Holloway was on the board of the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis Railway Co.

In the campaign year of 1896, Holloway worked hard before the convention to secure McKinley's nomination against Harrison. He mounted another campaign to be rewarded with a diplomatic position. After a frustrating wait, he was appointed consul in St. Petersburg, Russia, where he served until he suffered a stroke in 1904. From 1904–07 he held the less demanding post of consul in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He died in 1911.

Sources:

Indiana Biographical Series, Indiana State Library, Vol. 1, pp. 56–57 and p. 68.

Indiana Biographical Series, Indiana State Library, Vol. 19, pp.22–23.

Who Was Who in America, vol. 4, p. 454 (E 176 .w64 v. 4).

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection contains Holloway's general and political correspondence, business dealings, and his records while postmaster in Indianapolis. Also included are papers relating to Oliver P. Morton and his family and Holloway's attempts to secure political appointments.

Topics included in Holloway's correspondence are national and state politics, Republican Party affairs, newspapers, the postal service, and family. Among the chief correspondents is First Assistant Postmaster General J. N. Tyner regarding the political ramifications of the postal service, 1876–81; John C. New concerning the inner workings of the Republican Party in Indiana, 1881 and 1884; and William McKinley and Marcus Hanna on the subject of the presidential election of 1896.

Holloway's business dealings relate to his investments in whiskey and farm products in New York City, 1863–64; his newspaper connections with the *Indiana Journal*, 1864–72 and the *Indianapolis Times*, 1880–86; and records of the Indianapolis Cable Street Railway Company, 1887–88.

The largest portion of Holloway's papers deal with his position as Indianapolis postmaster, 1869–80. Among the items are correspondence, account books, and financial information such as cashier's statements, postage due, and mail bags and sacks.

The collection also contains papers of Oliver P. Morton and his family, 1857–1903. The Morton papers include personal and political correspondence; speech notes; a scrapbook containing official proclamations issued while he was governor; letters of condolence sent to his widow upon his death, 1877; letters regarding William Dudley Foulke's biography of Morton, 1899; the papers of his son, Oliver T., regarding his legal practice, 1889; and a recipe book.

Also included is a letter by Nils Nystrom about extinguishing fires, 1795; and papers relating to the estate of Thomas Brumfeld in Wayne and Delaware counties, Indiana, 1847.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Correspondence and Business Papers, 1795–1899

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Nils Nystrom Letter, 1795	Box 1, Folder 1
Thomas Brumfeld Estate, 1847	Box 1, Folder 2
Correspondence, 1860–75	Box 1, Folder 3
Correspondence, 1876–79	Box 1, Folder 4
Sickness and Death of Oliver P. Morton, 1877	Box 1, Folder 5
Correspondence with James N. Tyner, 1876–81	Box 1, Folder 6
Correspondence, 1880–85	Box 1, Folder 7
Correspondence with John C. New, 1881, 1884	Box 1, Folder 8
Correspondence, 1887–88	Box 1, Folder 9
Correspondence, Jan.–Feb. 1889	Box 1, Folder 10

Correspondence, Mar.–Dec. 1889	Box 1, Folder 11
Correspondence, 1890–96	Box 1, Folder 12
Family and Political Photographs, ca. 1870s–90s (1 of 2)	Visual Collections: Photographs, Folder 1
Family and Political Photographs, ca. 1870s–90s (2 of 2)	Visual Collections: Photographs, Folder 2
Holloway Grave, ca. 1911	Visual Collections: OVA Photographs, Folder 1
John W. Showalter, n.d.	Visual Collections: OVA Photographs, Folder 2
Columbian Exposition, 1894	Box 2, Folder 1
Correspondence, McKinley Candidacy, 1896	Box 2, Folder 2
Correspondence, 1897–99	Box 2, Folder 3
List: Sons of Liberty	Box 2, Folder 4
Ledger, 1861–64	BV 1478
Business: David Dows and Co., NY, 1863–64	Box 2, Folder 5
Business: Winslow, Lanier Co., NY, 1864	Box 2, Folder 6
Business: Nathaniel Weed, Jr., 1864	Box 2, Folder 7
Indianapolis <i>Journal</i> Agreement, 1864	Box 2, Folder 8
Commission: State Printer, 1865	Box 2, Folder 9
Indianapolis <i>Journal</i> Agreement, 1867	Box 2, Folder 10
Indianapolis <i>Journal</i> Papers, 1867–72	Box 2, Folder 11
Indianapolis <i>Journal</i> Agreement, 1872	Box 2, Folder 12
Suit Against Joseph G. Pangborn, 1885–86	Box 2, Folder 13
Indianapolis Cable Railway, 1887–88	Box 2, Folder 14
Indianapolis Cable Railway, 1887	Box 2, Folder 15
Indianapolis Cable Railway: Telegrams, W. W. Dudley, 1887–88	Box 2, Folder 16
Indianapolis Cable Railway, 1888	Box 2, Folder 17
Indianapolis Cable Railway, 1889–91	Box 2, Folder 18
City Railway Co. Charter, 1893	Box 2, Folder 19

Holloway Letterbook, Indianapolis Cable Street Railway, Aug. 1887–Sept. 1888	BV 1480
Dudley to Holloway Letters, Indianapolis Cable Street Railway, May–Sept. 1887	BV 1481
Recommendations, Postmaster, Indianapolis, 1869	Box 3, Folder 1
Recommendations, Postmaster, Indianapolis, 1880–81	Box 3, Folder 2
Recommendations, Public Printer, 1888	Box 3, Folder 3
Recommendations, Public Printer, Jan. 1889	Box 3, Folder 4
Recommendations, Public Printer, Feb.–Aug. 1889	Box 3, Folder 5
Campaign, Clerk, State Republican Convention, 1896	Box 3, Folder 6
Campaign, Diplomatic Appointment, 1897	Box 3, Folder 7
Record Book: Treasurer Republican State Committee, 1879	Box 3, Folder 8
<i>The Times</i> , Cancelled Checks, 1882–83	Box 3, Folder 9
<i>The Times</i> , Cancelled Checks, 1883–85	Box 3, Folder 10
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Letterbook, 1885	BV 1482
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Minutes, 1882–86	BV 1483
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Account Book, 1882	BV 1484
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Ledger, 1883–84	BV 1485
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Payrolls, 1881–84	BV 1486
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Bills, 1883–84	BV 1487
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Unpaid Bills, 1885–86	BV 1488
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Newsstands and Hotels, 1884	BV 1489
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Miscellaneous Charges, 1884–85, Daybooks, 1883–84	BV 1490
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Subscriptions, 1881	BV 1491
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Subscriptions, 1882–83	BV 1492
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Subscriptions, 1884	BV 1493
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Subscriptions, 1886	BV 1494
Indianapolis <i>Times</i> , Miscellaneous Notebook, n.d.	BV 1495

City Election Sheet, 1878	BV 1479
Clippings: Grover Cleveland, John C. New, G. W. Julian	Box 4, Folder 1
Messages and Speeches, J. Caven, B. Harrison, W. McKinley, O. P. Morton	Box 4, Folder 2
Clippings: Thomas A. Hendricks	Box 4, Folder 3
Newspaper Clippings, 1872–96 (1 of 2)	Box 4, Folder 4
Newspaper Clippings, 1872–96 (2 of 2)	Box 4, Folder 5
Clippings and Cartoons, 1885–86	Box 4, Folder 6
Printed Materials, n.d.	Box 4, Folder 7
Miscellaneous Items, n.d.	Box 4, Folder 8

Series 2: Indianapolis Post Office Papers, 1869–80

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Post Office Papers, 1869	Box 5, Folder 1
Post Office Papers, 1870–71	Box 5, Folder 2
Post Office Papers, 1872	Box 5, Folder 3
Post Office Papers, Jan. 1873	Box 5, Folder 4
Post Office Papers, Feb.–Mar. 1873	Box 5, Folder 5
Post Office Papers, April–June 1873	Box 5, Folder 6
Post Office Papers, July 1873	Box 5, Folder 7
Post Office Papers, Aug.–Sept. 1873	Box 5, Folder 8
Post Office Papers, Oct.–Dec. 1873	Box 5, Folder 9
Post Office Papers, 31 Dec. 1873	Box,5 Folder 10
Post Office Papers, 31 Dec. 1873	Box 5, Folder 11
Post Office Papers, Jan.–May 1874	Box 5, Folder 12
Post Office Papers, June 1874	Box 5, Folder 13
Post Office Papers, July 1874	Box 5, Folder 14
Post Office Papers, July–Sept. 1874	Box 5, Folder 15
Post Office Papers, 31 Oct. 1874	Box 5, Folder 16

Post Office Papers, Oct.–Dec. 1874	Box 6, Folder 1
Post Office Papers, Jan.–Mar. 1875	Box 6, Folder 2
Post Office Papers, 31 Mar. 1875	Box 6, Folder 3
Post Office Papers, May–June 1875	Box 6, Folder 4
Post Office Papers, 30 June 1875	Box 6, Folder 5
Post Office Papers, July–Sept. 1875	Box 6, Folder 6
Post Office Papers, Oct.–Dec. 1875	Box 6, Folder 7
Post Office Papers, Jan.–June 1876	Box 6, Folder 8
Post Office Papers, July–Dec. 1876	Box 6, Folder 9
Post Office Papers, Jan.–May 1877	Box 6, Folder 10
Post Office Papers, June–Dec. 1877	Box 6, Folder 11
Post Office Papers, 1877	Box 6, Folder 12
Post Office Papers, Jan.–Feb. 1878	Box 7, Folder 1
Post Office Papers, Mar. 1878	Box 7, Folder 2
Post Office Papers, Apr.–May 1878	Box 7, Folder 3
Post Office Papers, June 1878	Box 7, Folder 4
Post Office Papers, July–29 Sept. 1878	Box 7, Folder 5
Post Office Papers, 30 Sept.–Dec. 1878	Box 7, Folder 6
Post Office Papers, 1879	Box 7, Folder 7
Post Office Papers, Jan.–Mar. 1880	Box 7, Folder 8
Post Office Papers, Apr.–June 1880	Box 7, Folder 9
Post Office, Account Book, 1872	Box 8, Folder 1
Post Office, Account Book, 1873	Box 8, Folder 2
Post Office, Account Book, 1873–75	Box 8, Folder 3
Post Office, Account Book, 1877–79	Box 8, Folder 4
Post Office, Cashiers Statements, 1875–76	Box 8, Folder 5
Post Office, Accounts, Mail Bags and Sacks, 1878–80	Box 8, Folder 6
Post Office, Postmasters' Letters, Postage Due, 1879–80 (1 of 4)	Box 8, Folder 7

Post Office, Postmasters' Letters, Postage Due, 1879–80 (2 of 4)	Box 9, Folder 1
Post Office, Postmasters' Letters, Postage Due, 1879–80 (3 of 4)	Box 9, Folder 2
Post Office, Postmasters' Letters, Postage Due, 1879–80 (4 of 4)	Box 9, Folder 3
Post Office, Postmasters' Letters, Postage Due, 1879–80	Box 9, Folder 4
Post Office, Letterbook, 1870–75	BV 1865
Post Office, Account Book—Compensation to Holloway, 1869–71	BV 1866
Post Office, Registered Letter Record, 1865–71	BV 1867
Post Office, Cash Book, 1869–71	BV 1868

Series 3: Oliver P. Morton and Family Papers, 1857–1903

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
O. P. Morton Papers, 1857–77	Box 10, Folder 1
O. P. Morton Bills, 1873–77	Box 10, Folder 2
O. P. Morton, Letters Received During Illness, 1877	Box 10, Folder 3
O. P. Morton, Scrapbook, 1861–65	BV 1869
O. P. Morton, Scrapbook and Notebook, 1870–77	BV 1870
Mrs. O. P. Morton, Letters of Condolence, 1877	Box 10, Folder 4
Mrs. O. P. Morton, Letters Received, 1874–89	Box 10, Folder 5
Mrs. O. P. Morton Recipe Book	Box 10, Folder 6
Mrs. O. P. Morton and Family, Letters Received, 1890–97	Box 10, Folder 7
Mrs. O. P. Morton and Family, Correspondence Regarding William D. Foulke's Biography, 1898–99	Box 10, Folder 8
Mrs. O. P. Morton and Family, Correspondence, 1898–1903 and n.d.	Box 10, Folder 9
Mrs. O. P. Morton, Bills and Cancelled Checks, 1877–99	Box 10, Folder 10
Mrs. O. P. Morton, Scrapbook of Calling Cards	BV 1871

Oliver T. Morton and John Shackleford, Attorneys,
Letters Received, Aug.–Sept. 1889

Box 11, Folder 1

Oliver T. Morton and John Shackleford, Attorneys,
Letters Received, Oct. 1889

Box 11, Folder 2

Oliver T. Morton and John Shackleford, Attorneys,
Letters Received, Nov. 1889

Box 11, Folder 3

Series 4: Microfilm

CONTENTS

Microfilm of Collection (3 reels)

CONTAINER

F 0227–0229

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: <http://157.91.92.2/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 0145).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.