Guide to the United States President, Cabinet, and House of Representatives, 34th Congress, autograph book MSS.0356

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February 08, 2013
Describing Archives: A Content Standard
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Summary Information

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<tr>
<th>Repository</th>
<th>W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library, The University of Alabama</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>United States President, Cabinet, and House of Representatives, 34th Congress, autograph book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>1855-1903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent</td>
<td>0.1 Linear feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abstract</td>
<td>Book containing the autographs of President Franklin Pierce (1853-1857) and his Cabinet, as well as those of virtually all members of the United States House of Representatives during the 34th Congress (3 December 1855 - 4 March 1857). The book also has the autograph of Confederate General Edmund W. Pettus, written in 1903 while he was a U.S. Senator.</td>
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Preferred Citation note

United States President, Cabinet, and House of Representatives, 34th Congress, autograph book, W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library, The University of Alabama.
Biographical/Historical note

There is no information as to who the book actually belonged to, but James L. Pugh's (representative from Eufaula, Alabama, from 1859-1861) signature is on the page immediately following the title page before that of the President and his cabinet. Even though his signature is dated 9 November 1886, considerably later than the rest, it was obviously placed there for a reason, presumably because the book was his.

James Lawrence Pugh was born on 12 December 1820, in Burke County, Georgia, and moved to Alabama in 1824. He received a collegiate education, studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1841. He opened his practice in Eufaula, Alabama. He was a presidential elector in 1848 and 1856, and represented Alabama's second district as a Democrat in the United States House of Representatives from 5 December 1859 until 21 January 1861, when he resigned upon Alabama's secession from the Union at the time of the Civil War.

He served as an officer in the Confederate States Army, and was then elected to the First and Second Confederate Congresses. After the war, he returned to his law practice and when his U.S. citizenship was restored, he served as president of the Democratic state convention in 1874, a delegate to the 1875 state constitutional convention, and a presidential elector again in 1876. He was elected to the U.S. Senate for Alabama, to fill the term left vacant at the death of George S. Houston. He was reelected twice, serving in the Senate from 24 November 1880 to 4 March 1897. Pugh died on 9 March 1907.

Scope and Contents note

The title of the single bound volume, *Floral Album*, is somewhat misleading as the book contains the autographs of President Franklin Pierce (1853-1857) and his Cabinet, as well as those of virtually all members of the United States House of Representatives during the 34th Congress (3 December 1855 - 4 March 1857). The book also has the autograph of Confederate General Edmund W. Pettus, written in 1903 while he was a U.S. Senator.

Administrative Information

Publication Information
Revision Description

February 2013

Conditions Governing Access note

None

Conditions Governing Use note

None

Provenance

unknown

Processed by

Martha Bace, 2013

Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)

• Autograph albums

Personal Name(s)

• Campbell, James, 1812-1893
• Cushing, Caleb, 1800-0879
• Davis, Jefferson, 1808-1889
• Dobbin, James C., (James Cochran), 1814-1857
• Guthrie, James, 1792-1869
• King, William R. (William Rufus), 1786-1853
• Marcy, William L., (William Learned), 1786-1857
• McClelland, Robert, 1807-1880
• Pettus, Edmund Winston, 1821-1907
• Pierce, Franklin, 1804-1869
• Pugh, James L., (James Lawrence), 1820-1907

Subject(s)

• Government, Law and Politics
## Collection Inventory

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<th>Description</th>
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<td>Autograph book</td>
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