

# Guide to the John Hays Hammond, Sr. Papers

MS 259



compiled by Staff of Manuscripts and Archives

July 1982

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## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	3
Requesting Instructions .....	3
Administrative Information .....	4
Immediate Source of Acquisition .....	4
Conditions Governing Access .....	4
Conditions Governing Use .....	4
Preferred Citation .....	4
Biographical / Historical .....	4
Scope and Contents .....	5
Arrangement .....	6
Collection Contents .....	7
Original accession .....	7
Accession 1983-M-016: Additional material .....	10
Selected Search Terms .....	11

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 259

**CREATOR:** Hammond, John Hays, 1855-1936

**TITLE:** John Hays Hammond Sr. papers

**DATES:** 1893-1936

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 10 linear feet (16 boxes, 1 folio)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Correspondence and printed material concerning the business affairs of the Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa, the economic development of South Africa, and the Jameson Raid; together with articles and speeches (1893-1934) relating to Hammond's activities as a speechmaker in behalf of the Republican Party, organizer of the National League of Republican Clubs, special ambassador and representative of President William Howard Taft to the coronation of George V, king of Great Britain, and vice-president of the Boys' Clubs of America. Includes photostatic copies from the papers of Richard Olney, concerning Hammond's part in the Jameson Raid. Also included is a two volume set, *The Autobiography of John Hays Hammond*. Photographs of Hammond and his home are included in the papers.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0259>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0259>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.        box  
f.        folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of John Hays Hammond, Jr., 1941, and Paul F. Cranefield, 1983.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

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### Preferred Citation

John Hays Hammond, Sr. Papers (MS 259). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Born March 31, 1855, in San Francisco, California.

Died June 8, 1936, in Gloucester, Massachusetts.

Father, Richard Pindell Hammond (U. S. Military Academy 1841), Major U.S. Army; chairman of police commissioners of San Francisco; collector of Port of San Francisco; president San Francisco Board of Education; son of Dr. William Hammond and Mary (Tilghman) Hammond, of Hagerstown, Maryland. Mother, Sarah Elizabeth (Hays) Hammond; daughter of Harmon and Elizabeth (Cage) Hays, of Tennessee.

Hopkins Grammar School. Select course; on Class Supper Committee Freshman year; secretary Yale Athletic Club Senior year; member The Cloister and Book Snake.

Attended Royal School of Mines, Freiberg, Germany, 1876-1879; special expert U. S. Geological Survey 1879-1880; mining expert with office in San Francisco 1881-1882; superintendent Minas Neuvas, near Sonora, Mexico, 1882-1883; consulting engineer, mining department Union Iron Works, San Francisco, 1884-1893; and Central Pacific Railway and Southern Pacific Railway; consulting engineer for Barnato Brothers in Transvaal, South Africa, April-October, 1893, for Cecil Rhodes 1894-1899, for Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa 1894-1899, British South Africa Company 1894-1899; had independent office as consulting engineer in London, England, 1896-1900; consulting engineer El Oro gold mines in Mexico 1900; general manager and consulting engineer Guggenheim Exploration Company 1903-1907; engaged in mining engineering and other purchase and promotion of mines, hydroelectric, and irrigation projects since 1907; chairman Engineers Exploration and Mining Corporation since 1933; professor of mining engineering at Yale 1902-1909; chairman United States Coal Commission 1922-1923; chairman New England Governors' Emergency Fuel Committee 1925; honorary M. A. Yale 1898 and LL. D.. 1925; D. E. Stevens Institute of Technology 1906; LL. D. St. John's College (Maryland) 1907; E. M. Colorado School of Mines 1909; Sc. D. University of Pittsburgh 1915; Eng. D. University of Pennsylvania 1928; LL. D. Colby 1936 (conferred posthumously); author: *The Truth About the Jameson Raid* (1918), *Great American Issues* (1921), *The Engineer* (1921), and *Autobiography* (1935); special representative of the President of the United States at

coronation of George V of England 1911; chairman International Congress of Mines and Metallurgy at St. Louis Exposition 1904, World Court Commission 1914-1915, and department on political education, National Civic Federation, since 1908; president American Institute of Mining Engineers 1907-1908; National League of Republican Clubs 1908-1912; and California Society of New York; headed special commission of Panama-Pacific Exposition to Europe 1912; vice president Boy's Clubs of America, Inc.; since 1919; gave money for land, building, and original equipment for Hammond Metallurgical Laboratory, Yale University, 1903; established a loan fund for deserving students of the Sheffield Scientific School 1904; established Hammond Scholarship for student from Mexico 1923; member American Committee of International Chamber of Commerce; honorary member of American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers (received William Lawrence Saunders Medal 1929), and American Society of Mechanical Engineers; fellow of American Academy of Arts and Sciences and American Academy for the Advancement of Science.

Married January 1, 1881, in Hancock, Maryland., Natalie, daughter of James W. M. and Mary C. (Lum) Harris, of Mississippi. Children Harris, ex-'06 S.; John Hays, '10 S.; Richard Pindell, '20S.; Nathaniel Harris (died 1906); and Natalie. Mrs. Hammond died June 18, 1931.

Death due to coronary occlusion. Buried in Green-Wood Cemetery, Brooklyn, New York. Survived by three sons, daughter, and a sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Hammond, of Gloucester, Mass.

(Taken from the *Yale Obituary Record*)

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## Scope and Contents

The papers of mining engineer John Hays Hammond (1855-1936) include correspondence, letter books, and printed material (1893-1936) concerning the economic development of South Africa and the Jameson Raid, and articles and speeches (1893-1934).

Hammond's experiences, related in vivid detail in his two-volume autobiography published in 1935, were dramatic and adventurous enough to inspire the writing of Richard Harding Davis' *Soldiers of Fortune*, which was published in 1897. Before the age of forty, Hammond had amassed a sizable fortune. His almost uncanny talent for discovering and developing a good prospect was internationally recognized, and in 1893 Barney Barnato persuaded him to manage his mining interests in South Africa. Soon after, Hammond was employed by Cecil Rhodes, whom he came to admire greatly. An early advocate of deep-level mining, Hammond was given complete charge of Rhodes' gold and diamond mines and made each undertaking a financial success. After the dismal failure of the Jameson Raid, the leaders of the Johannesburg Reform Committee, including Hammond, were arrested and subsequently sentenced to death. In the collection are many letters, and photostatic copies of the papers of Richard Olney, petitioning for his release. The bulk of the correspondence, however, pertains to business affairs of the Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa.

In 1903, Hammond became consulting engineer for the Guggenheim Exploration Company, sharing in the profits of their North American mines. After his retirement in 1907, he engaged actively in public and philanthropic affairs. Hammond (Yale, 1876) had known Taft since his student days, and although he did not accept any of the political posts offered him by the president, he delivered numerous speeches for the Republican Party. In 1911, he was appointed Special Ambassador and Representative of the President to the Coronation of George V. The peace movement attracted him; Hammond served as president of the American Society for the Judicial Settlement of International Disputes in 1911 and organized the World Court League in 1915. Above all, he was interested in the education and training of young people. Largely out of his own funds, he reorganized the National League of Republican Clubs. Hammond was a professor of mechanical engineering at Yale from 1902 to 1909 and donated funds for the Hammond Metallurgical Laboratory. As vice-president of the Boys' Clubs of America, he worked to promote the founding of new clubs. His generous efforts in these and other areas are fully described in the Articles and Speeches section.

Additional Hammond material is located in the Papers of Edward M. House and Henry L. Stimson, and in the Howell Wright Collection.

## **Arrangement**

The collection is arranged by type of material.

## Collection Contents

### Original accession

Correspondence		
b. 1, f. 1-14	1893 -1896 February	1893 -1896 February
b. 2, f. 1-19	1896 March-1910 December	1896 March-1910 December
b. 3, f. 1-7	1911-1936, undated A copy of this material may be available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	1911-1936, undated
Private letter books		
b. 3, f. 8-9	1893-1895	1893-1895
b. 4, f. 1-2	1896-1897 October 29	1896-1897 October 29
b. 5, f. 1	1899 English	1899
b. 5, f. 2	Letter book of Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa, Ltd.	1896-1897
Articles and speeches Loose papers and bound volumes.		
b. 6, f. 1-9	1893-1914	1893-1914
b. 7, f. 1-8	1915-1916	1915-1916
b. 8, f. 1-9	1917-1925	1917-1925
b. 9, f. 1-10	1926-1934, undated	1926-1934, undated
b. 10, f. 1-11	1905-1916	1905-1916
b. 11, f. 1-2	1911-1921	1911-1921
b. 11A, f. 1-2	1925-1929	1925-1929
b. 12, f. 1-4	1930-1932, undated	1930-1932, undated
b. 12, f. 5	Autobiographical material	1912, undated
b. 12, f. 6	Biographical material	1848, undated
Includes <i>Jack Hays: The Intrepid Texas Ranger</i>		

b. 12, f. 7-9	Biographical material	1905, 1908, 1918, undated
b. 12, f. 10	Articles about John Hays Hammond	1910-1931
b. 12A, f. 1	Anecdotes and jokes by unidentified author	Undated
b. 12A, f. 2	Memorabilia	1931, undated
b. 12A, f. 3-4	Photographs Includes portrait size images of Hammond, as well as stereoscopic photographs presumably of Hammond's home.	1942, undated
Printed material		
b. 13, f. 1	Boer people and General Cronje A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	Undated
b. 13, f. 2-3	Jameson Raid	1897
b. 13, f. 4	Johannesburg travel book A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	1926
b. 13, f. 5	<i>Returns of an Informal Census</i> , Southern Rhodesia A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	1901
b. 13, f. 6	<i>Rhodesia</i> , by P. S. Inskipp	1901
b. 13, f. 7	Select Committee on British South Africa	1897
b. 13, f. 8	<i>Statements of Charles Leonard on the Position of the Uitlanders in the Transvaal</i> , and appendices	Undated
b. 13, f. 9	Supplement, <i>African Critic</i> , re Charles Leonard's statements, 1897	1897
b. 13, f. 10	<i>Status of the Uitlander: A Lecture</i> , by Advocate Wessels	1894
b. 13, f. 11	<i>The Work of Cecil Rhodes, A Sonnet Sequel</i> , by Theodore Watts-Dunton A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	Undated
b. 13, f. 12	News clippings re South Africa	1895-1899
Newspapers from Johannesburg		
f. 14, f. 1	<i>South African Republic</i>	1896
f. 14, f. 1	<i>Standard &amp; Diggers News</i>	1896
Publications by John Hays Hammond		



## Publications by John Hays Hammond (continued)

b. 13, f. 13	Bound volume of magazine/journal articles A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	1921-1926
b. 13, f. 13	<i>The Engineer</i> , Vocational Series Charles Scribner's Sons	1924

## **Accession 1983-M-016: Additional material**

b.1

*The Autobiography of John Hays Hammond*; 2 vols., annotated by George C. Webb 1935

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## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Engineering  
Gold mines and mining -- South Africa  
Jameson's Raid, 1895-1896  
Mines and mineral resources

### **Geographic Names**

Africa  
South Africa -- Economic conditions  
South Africa -- History -- 1836-1909  
United States -- Foreign relations  
United States -- Politics and government

### **Genres / Formats**

Autobiographies (documents)

### **Occupations**

Mining engineers

### **Names**

Davis, Richard Harding, 1864-1916  
Díaz, Porfirio, 1830-1915  
Edison, Thomas A. (Thomas Alva), 1847-1931  
Eliot, Charles William, 1834-1926  
Hammond, John Hays, 1855-1936  
Hilles, Charles Dewey, 1867-1949  
Olney, Richard, 1835-1917  
Sullivan, Mark, 1874-1952  
Taft, William H. (William Howard), 1857-1930

### **Corporate Bodies**

Consolidated Gold Fields Limited  
Republican Party (U.S. : 1854- )  
Yale University. Sheffield Scientific School  
Yale University -- Faculty