

William H. Moody papers 1890-1980, bulk 1890-1917

Collection Summary

Reference Code:	MRQ, US. (31479006368590)
Repository:	Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill, Massachusetts.
Call Number:	MSS 43
Creator:	Moody, William H. (William Henry), 1853-1917
Title:	William H. Moody papers
Dates:	1890-1980, bulk 1890-1917
Size:	2 linear feet (6 boxes)
Language(s):	Collection materials are in English.
Abstract:	William H. Moody was a lawyer and politician who served as a United States Representative, Secretary for the Navy, Attorney General, and Supreme Court Justice. The materials in the collection document Justice Moody's life and political career through correspondences, newspaper clippings, photographs, invitations, financial records, speeches, an inventory, and a fabric wallet.

Biographical Sketch

William H. Moody was a prominent Republican lawyer and politician, who served as a United States Representative, Secretary for the Navy, Attorney General, and Supreme Court Justice. He was born on 23 December 1853, in Newbury, Massachusetts. He attended Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts, graduating in 1872. He completed his secondary education at Harvard College from 1872-1876. He later attended Harvard Law, but dropped out after four months. He practiced reading the law under Richard Henry Dana Jr. and passed the Massachusetts bar. In 1888, he was elected as City Solicitor for Haverhill, Massachusetts. He was later appointed as U.S. Attorney for Eastern Massachusetts in 1890. In 1893, he was chosen to be a junior prosecutor in the Lizzie Borden murder trial. Afterwards, in 1895, he was elected as a federal Representative of Massachusetts in a special election to fill the seat of William Cogswell, who had died in office. In 1902, President Roosevelt appointed him as Secretary of the Navy. He was later appointed to U.S. Attorney General, serving from 1904-1906. Afterwards he was nominated, then confirmed, as an Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, serving from 1906-1910. Justice Moody retired from the bench in 1910, due to severe rheumatism. He was granted full retirement benefits by result of President William Taft successfully lobbying

Congress for a Special Act. In his retirement, he resided in Haverhill, actively involving himself in both politics and town affairs. Justice Moody died in Haverhill on 2 July 1917.

Scope and Content Note

This collection documents the life and political career of William H. Moody through various correspondence, newspaper clippings, and other assorted material. A majority of the newspaper clippings are from the *Haverhill Gazette*, but also include various local and national newspapers. The clippings document Moody's political and social life, offering biographical information and the impact after his death. Also included is correspondence between Moody and various government officials. Among the more prominent letters are those from the Roosevelt family, of both a political and friendly natures. Correspondence that occurs after his death are mainly to and from the Haverhill Historical Society in their attempts to acquire and preserve Moody's possessions. The collection contains a majority of the Lizzie Borden Trial Transcripts. Other formats in the collection include: photographs, invitations, financial records, speeches, an inventory, and a fabric wallet.

Arrangement

- Series 1. Eastern Massachusetts District Attorney, 1890-1895
- Series 2. United States Representative, 1895-1902
- Series 3. Secretary of the Navy, 1902-1904
- Series 4. United States Attorney General, 1904-1906
- Series 5. United States Supreme Court Justice, 1906-1910
- Series 6. Retirement, 1910-1917
- Series 7. Death and Legacy, 1917-1980
- Series 8. Undated Material

Administrative Information

- Preferred Citation:** [Item Identification], William H. Moody papers, MSS 43, Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill, Massachusetts.
- Custodial History:** After Moody's death, the Haverhill Historical Society made an effort to gather his materials together in an effort to preserve his legacy. The materials were then given to the Haverhill Public Library on permanent loan. The documents will be housed in the Haverhill Public Library, but ownership is still maintained by the Haverhill Historical Society.
- Most of the records in this series were created during Moody's lifetime, especially during his political career. However, series 7 contains material relating to his death and legacy, including

Acquisition Information:	obituaries, biographies, and letters documenting the Haverhill Historical Societies effort to collect and preserve Moody's papers. The bulk of the collection is on permanent loan from the Haverhill Historical Society, Haverhill, MA. Loan year unknown, c. 1976. Material in Box 5 is owned by the Haverhill Public Library.
Processing Information:	Processed by Andrew Simeone, 2014. Updated by Tamara Gaydos, 2021. MSS 42 merged with MSS 43 by Elizabeth Smith, 2024.
Access Rights:	Collection is open for research.
Phys. Access Restrictions:	None.
Tech. Access Restrictions:	None.
Copyright:	Copyright has not been assigned to the Haverhill Public Library. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Board of Trustees. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the Haverhill Public Library as the holders of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained by the researcher.
Related Material:	Former MSS 42, William H. Moody clippings, was merged into this collection in 2024.
Separated Material:	None.
Conservation Notes:	Newspaper clippings have been photocopied on archival quality paper to preserve their recorded information.
Subjects:	Moody, William H. (William Henry), 1853-1917 Civil service—Correspondence—20 th century Roosevelt, Theodore, 1858-1919 Civil service —Newspapers—20 th Century Roosevelt, Edith Kermit Carow, 1861-1948 United States—Politics and Government—20 th century Taft, William H. (William Howard), 1857-1930 Haverhill (Mass.) Borden, Lizzie, 1860-1927 Clippings (information artifacts) Correspondence Invitations Speeches (documents) Transcripts

Collection Inventory

Series 1: Eastern Massachusetts District Attorney, 1890 – 1895

This series contains various newspaper clippings regarding Moody's personal and political life as a district attorney and a majority of the Lizzie Borden trial transcripts.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Newspaper Clippings, 1890 – 1895	1	1
Lizzie Borden Trial Transcript Volume 1 of 11, June 5, 1893	1	2
Lizzie Borden Trial Transcript Volume 2 of 11, June 6, 1893	1	3
Lizzie Borden Trial Transcript Volume 3 of 11, June 7, 1893	1	4
Lizzie Borden Trial Transcript Volume 4 of 11, June 8, 1893	1	5
Lizzie Borden Trial Transcript Volume 6 of 11, June 10, 1893	1	6
Lizzie Borden Trial Transcript Volume 7 of 11, June 12, 1893	1	7
Lizzie Borden Trial Transcript Volume 8 of 11, June 13, 1893	1	8
Lizzie Borden Trial Transcript Volume 9 of 11, June 14, 1893	2	9
Lizzie Borden Trial Transcript Volume 10 of 11, June 15, 1893	2	10
Lizzie Borden Trial Transcript Volume 11 of 11, June 16, 1893	2	11

Series 2: United States Representative, 1893 – 1904

This series contains the final two transcripts from the Lizzie Borden trial and correspondences, newspaper clippings, scrapbooks of newspaper clippings, social invitations, and speeches regarding Moody's social and political life during his tenure as a U.S. Representative.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Correspondence between Richard M. Devens and Moody, January 26-28, 1898	3	12
Correspondence between Sidney B. Everett and Moody, October 19 – December 4, 1899	3	13
Correspondence from Moody, 1895 – 1902	3	14
Letter to Claude M. Johnson, 1897	5	1
Correspondence to Moody, 1895 – 1902	3	15
Newspaper Clippings, 1895 – 1902	3	16
Newspaper Clippings, undated (1895 – 1902 period)	3	17
Scrapbook #1, March 1902	3	18
Scrapbook #1 (preservation copy), March 1902	3	19
Scrapbook #2, March 15, 18 – 20, 1902	3	20
Scrapbook #2 (preservation copy), March 15, 18 – 20, 1902	3	21

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Social Invitations, 1902	3	22
Menu for "Complimentary dinner by the Pentucket Club," 1902	5	2
Speeches/Writings, 1898	3	23
Testimonial presented to Moody in recognition of his appointment as Secretary of the Navy, undated [1902]	5	3
Speeches of Hon. W. H. Moody, 1893-1904		

Series 3: Secretary of the Navy, 1902-1904

This series contains material corresponding to Moody's term as Secretary of the Navy, including correspondence, newspaper clippings, invitations and schedules for a Presidential Dinner, Congressional documents, General Board documents, and the Secretary of the Navy Annual Report for 1902.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Congress, 1902 – 1904	3	24
Correspondence between Secretary to the President and Moody, May 21 – 23, 1902	3	25
Correspondence between Secretary to the President and Moody, June 9 – 11, 1902	3	26
Correspondence between G.F. Elliott and Moody, May 1 – 9, 1904	3	27
Correspondence between George M. Young and Leslie M Shaw, December 17 – 27, 1904	3	28
Correspondence from Moody, 1902 – 1904	3	29
Correspondence from Theodore Roosevelt, 1903 – 1904	3	30
Correspondence from Roosevelt Family, undated	3	31
Correspondence to Moody, 1902 – 1904	3	32
General Board, undated	3	33
Newspaper Clippings, Roosevelt visit, August 26, 1902	3	34
Newspaper Clippings, undated	3	35
Roosevelt Dinner, 1902 – 1903	3	36
Secretary of the Navy Annual Report, 1902	3	37
"Souvenir of the Annual Cruise of the New York Yacht Club," 1902	5	4

Series 4: United States Attorney General, 1904-1906

This series contains material relating to Moody's tenure as the United States Attorney General, including Congressional Bills, correspondence, finance records, newspaper clippings, social invitations, speeches, and a copy of the Spanish Treaty Claims Commission.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Congress, 1904 – 1906	3	38
Correspondence from Moody, 1904 – 1906	3	39
Correspondence from Moody, undated (1904 – 1906 period)	3	40
Correspondence from Roosevelt Family, 1904 – 1906	3	41
Correspondence from Roosevelt Family, undated (1904 – 1906 period)	3	42
Correspondence, Moody cc'd, 1904 – 1906	3	43
Correspondence to Moody, 1904 – 1906	3	44
Correspondence to Moody with Government Papers November 21, 1905	4	45
Correspondence to Moody with Tariff Plank, September 21, 1906	4	46
Finances, November 29, 1904	4	47
Newspaper Clippings, 1904 – 1906	4	48
Newspaper Clippings, undated	4	49
Social Invitations, December 1, 1906	4	50
Spanish Treaty Claims Commission, 1906	4	51
Speeches/Writings, October 7, 1904	4	52

Series 5: United States Supreme Court Justice, 1906-1910

This series contains correspondence, finances, and newspaper clippings that encompass Moody's political and social life during his tenure as an Associate Supreme Court Justice. Also included is a bill brought before Congress to allow Moody to retire with benefits.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Congress, June 15, 1910	4	53
Correspondence from Moody, 1909 – 1910	4	54
Correspondence from Roosevelt Family, undated	4	55
Correspondence to Moody, 1906 – 1910	4	56
Finances, 1906 – 1910	4	57
Newspaper Clippings, 1906	4	58
Social Invitations, February 9, 1907	4	59
Essex Bar Association program, February 9, 1907 [2 copies]	5	5

Series 6: Retirement, 1910-1917

This series contains correspondence finances, and newspaper clippings regarding Moody's retirement from federal politics and his personal and political activities afterwards.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Correspondence from Moody, 1916	4	60
Correspondence from Roosevelt Family, 1910 – 1917	4	61
Correspondence to Moody, 1911 – 1916	4	62
Letter from H. C. Lodge, 1916	5	6
Finances, 1911 – 1915	4	63
Newspaper Clippings, 1916	4	64
Newspaper Clippings, undated	4	65

Series 7: Death and Legacy, 1917-1980

This series contains biographies, memorials, correspondence and newspaper clippings memorializing Moody after his death. The series also contains correspondence regarding the Haverhill Historical Society attempting to collect and preserve Moody's personal items for their collection.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Biographies/Memorials, April 26, 1919	4	66
Biographies/Memorials, undated	4	67
Correspondence, 1917 – 1978	4	68
"The Phillips Bulletin," October, 1917	5	7
"William Henry Moody of the Essex Bar," 1919	5	8
Correspondence between Albert G. Harding and George C. Coit, November 28, 1928 – July 31, 1930	4	69
Correspondence between Albert G. Harding and A. Piatt Andrew, February 19 – December 7, 1929	4	70
"Dedication of the William H. Moody Memorial by the Haverhill Historical Society", undated [1930s]	5	9
Haverhill Historical Society Moody Collection Inventory, 1937	4	71
Inventory of Haverhill Historical Society Memorial Room, undated	5	10
Newspaper Clippings, 1917 – 2002	4	72
Newspaper Clippings, undated	4	73

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
"Profile of a Public Man" in the Supreme Court Historical Society Yearbook, 1980	5	11
Excerpt from <i>Contempt of Court</i> by Mark Curriden and Leroy Phillips, Jr. published in 1999, undated	5	12
Sister, Mary E. Moody	5	13
Lineage of Justice Moody	5	14
Biographical Sketch	5	15

Series 8: Undated Material

This series contains correspondences, documents, and materials that could not be dated and placed within the collection's series. The last folder contains material that was brought with the collection, but could not be verified as belonging to Moody.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Correspondence from Moody, undated	4	74
Correspondence from Roosevelt Family, undated	4	75
Correspondence to Moody, undated	4	76
French Claim Papers, undated	4	77
Incomplete Paper on Divorce, undated	4	78
John Adams letter, November 28, 1814 [copy], undated	4	79
Photograph, undated	4	80
Roman Laws, undated	4	81
Speech, undated	4	82
William E. Blunt Wallet, undated	4	83
Unidentified material	4	84