

# **Christian A. Fleetwood Papers**

## **A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**LIBRARY OF  
CONGRESS**

**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress  
Washington, D.C.**

**2004**

**Revised 2013 May**

Contact information:

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Additional search options available at:

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009252>

LC Online Catalog record:

<http://lcn.loc.gov/mm75020784>

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Revised by Patrick Kerwin

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Christian A. Fleetwood Papers

**Span Dates:** 1797-1945

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1860-1907)

**ID No.:** MSS20784

**Creator:** Fleetwood, Christian A. (Christian Abraham), 1840-1914

**Extent:** 400 items ; 2 containers plus 2 oversize ; 1 linear foot ; 1 microfilm reel

**Language:** Collection material in English

**Location:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**Summary:** Soldier and civic leader. Correspondence, diaries, legal documents, scrapbook, printed material, memorabilia, and photographs pertaining to Fleetwood's military and civilian career during and after the Civil War, education, nursing, and slavery, and other civic and social concerns of the African-American community. Material relates chiefly to the District of Columbia where Fleetwood held various government and business positions. Includes papers of his wife Sara Iredell Fleetwood, a nurse, and correspondence of other family members.

## 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.

### People

Fleetwood family--Correspondence.

Fleetwood, Christian A. (Christian Abraham), 1840-1914.

Fleetwood, Sara Iredell Sara Iredell Fleetwood papers.

### Organizations

United States. Army. Colored Infantry Regiment, 4th (1863-1866)

### Subjects

African Americans--Education.

African Americans--Social conditions.

African Americans--Washington (D.C.)

Medal of Honor.

Nursing.

Slavery--United States.

### Places

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--African Americans.

### Occupations

Civic leaders.

Soldiers.

## Administrative Information

### Provenance

The papers of Christian A. Fleetwood, soldier and civic leader, were given to the Library of Congress by his daughter, Edith Fleetwood, in 1947-1948.

### Processing History

The papers of Christian A. Fleetwood were processed in 1974. The finding aid was revised in 2003.

## Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Christian A. Fleetwood is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

## Access and Restrictions

The papers of Christian A. Fleetwood are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

## Microfilm

A microfilm edition of these papers is available on one reel. Consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition.

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, Christian A. Fleetwood Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1840, July 21	Born, Baltimore, Md., to free Negroes in the household of John C. Brune
circa 1854	Clerk, Maryland Colonization Society, Baltimore, Md.
1856	Visited Liberia
1857-1860	Student at Ashman Institute (now Lincoln University), Lincoln University, Pa.
1860	Founded, with others, the <i>Lyceum Observer</i>
1863-1866	Sergeant-major, 4th Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Infantry
1865	Awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for services at Chapin's Farm, Va.
1869	Married Sara Iredell
1881-1914	Clerk, War Department, Washington, D.C.
1887	Commissioned major, Washington Cadet Corps of the National Guard
1914, Sept. 28	Died, Washington, D.C.

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Christian Abraham Fleetwood (1840-1914) span the years 1797-1945, with the bulk of the material dating from 1860 to 1907. The papers chiefly relate to Fleetwood's activities as a soldier and a leading African-American citizen of Washington, D.C. Included are papers relating to the activities of his wife, Sara Iredell Fleetwood, correspondence of other family members, and miscellaneous material.

The collection contains diaries, correspondence, and official papers concerning Fleetwood's service as a Union soldier during the Civil War, a copy of his Medal of Honor award in 1865, his commission as major in the National Guard in 1887, biographical material, and numerous photographs, including photographs of African-American recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor. There is also a copy of the *Lyceum Observer*, dated 5 June 1863, edited by Fleetwood and others.

Sara Fleetwood's papers include her diploma as a registered nurse, confirmation of her appointment to the Nurses' Examining Board of the District of Columbia, and a scrapbook of newspaper clippings.

## **Arrangement of the Papers**

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material.

# Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 16,185

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1 REEL 1	Diaries, 1862-1864
	(3 vols.)
BOX 1 REEL 1	Family correspondence
BOX 1 REEL 1	Fleetwood, Ann Maria, 1863-1865
BOX 1 REEL 1	Fleetwood, Charles, 1837-1867
BOX 1 REEL 1	Fleetwood, Edith, 1904-1945
BOX 1 REEL 1	Fleetwood, Sara, 1868-1907
BOX 1 REEL 1	General correspondence, 1860-1907
BOX 1 REEL 1	Subject file
BOX 1 REEL 1	Biographical material
BOX 1 REEL 1	Fleetwood, Charles, book of first aid instructions, 1829
BOX 1 REEL 1	Fleetwood, Sara, speech and memorabilia, 1877, 1907-1908
BOX 1 REEL 1	Lincoln University, Lincoln University, Pa., 1903-1911
BOX 1 REEL 1	Military affairs, Union Army, Medal of Honor and miscellany, 1863-1908
BOX 1 REEL 1	Testimonial concert, 1889
BOX 1 REEL 1	War Department clerk, 1881-1913
BOX 1 REEL 1	Washington Cadet Corps, 1882-1888
BOX 1 REEL 1	Miscellany
BOX 1 REEL 1	Speech, 1894, Aug. 2
BOX 1 REEL 1	Biography of Fleetwood, 1939
BOX 1 REEL 1	Brune, John C., dispatches, 1857
BOX 1 REEL 1	Brune, William Henry, passport, 1853
BOX 1	Burr, Aaron, biographical sketch

## Container List

### *Container*

### *Contents*

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REEL 1	
BOX 1	Commissions <i>See Oversize</i>
REEL 1	
BOX 1	General
REEL 1	
BOX 1	<i>Lyceum Observer</i> , 1863, June 5 <i>See Oversize</i>
REEL 1	
BOX 1	Manumission, letters of, 1797-1806
REEL 1	
BOX 1	Newspaper clippings
REEL 1	
BOX 1	Printed matter
REEL 1	
BOX 2	Photographs <i>See also Oversize</i>
REEL 1	
	(8 folders)
BOX 2	Scrapbook of newspaper clippings
REEL 1	
BOX OV 1	Oversize
REEL 1	
BOX 2	Photographs, African-American Medal of Honor recipients (Container 2)
BOX 2	Subject file
BOX 2	<i>Lyceum Observer</i> , 5 June 1863 (Container 1)
BOX 2	Miscellany
BOX 2	Commissions (Container 1)