

# **John Robert Procter Papers**

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



**LIBRARY OF  
CONGRESS**

**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress  
Washington, D.C.  
2013**

Contact information:

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

Additional search options available at:

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms013117>

LC Online Catalog record:

<http://lcn.loc.gov/mm82036954>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

## Collection Summary

**Title:** John Robert Procter Papers

**Span Dates:** 1867-1903

**ID No.:** MSS36954

**Creator:** Procter, John Robert, 1844-1903

**Extent:** 2,800 items ; 15 containers ; 4 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

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

**Summary:** Geologist and civil service reformer. Kentucky state geologist from 1880 to 1893 and chairman of the United States Civil Service Commission from 1893 to 1903. Chiefly correspondence relating to Procter's service as chairman of the United States Civil Service Commission and efforts to reform the civil service.

## 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

Cleveland, Grover, 1837-1908--Correspondence.

Gilder, Richard Watson, 1844-1909--Correspondence.

Page, Walter Hines, 1855-1918--Correspondence.

Procter, John Robert, 1844-1903.

Roosevelt, Theodore, 1858-1919--Correspondence.

Roosevelt, Theodore, 1858-1919.

### Organizations

United States Civil Service Commission.

### Subjects

Civil service reform--United States.

Civil service--United States.

### Occupations

Geologists.

Public officials--United States.

Reformers.

## Administrative Information

### Provenance

The papers of John Robert Procter, geologist and civil service reformer, Kentucky state geologist from 1880 to 1893, and chairman of the United States Civil Service Commission from 1893 to 1903, were given to the library of Congress by Mrs. John Robert Procter in 1927.

### Processing History

The Procter Papers were processed circa 1930. The finding aid was revised in 2013.

### Transfers

Lantern slides have been transferred to the Library's Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as part of the John Robert Procter Papers.

## Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of John Robert Procter is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

## Access and Restrictions

The papers of John Robert Procter 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.

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, John Robert Procter Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1844, Mar. 16	Born, Mason County, Ky.
1863	Enlisted in the Confederate army
1875	Studied geology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.
1880-1893	Kentucky state geologist
1893	Member of Jury of Awards, Chicago World's Fair
1893-1903	President, United States Civil Service Commission
1903, Dec. 12	Died, Washington, D.C.

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of John Robert Procter (1844-1903) span the years 1867-1903. The collection consists chiefly of correspondence relating to his service as chairman of the United States Civil Service Commission and efforts to reform the civil service. Included are writings and personal financial and family material. Correspondence with Theodore Roosevelt prior to and during Roosevelt's presidency reflects their friendship as well as documenting official matters. Other correspondents include Grover Cleveland, Richard Watson Gilder, and Walter Hines Page.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is organized by type of material.

## Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
<b>BOX 1</b>	Bound chronological file
<b>BOX 1</b>	1867, July 30-1893, Mar. 24
<b>BOX 2</b>	1893, Apr. 5-1894, May 12
<b>BOX 3</b>	1894, May 14-Nov. 6
<b>BOX 4</b>	1894, Nov. 7-1895, May 25
<b>BOX 5</b>	1895, May 27-Dec. 30
<b>BOX 6</b>	1896, Jan. 2-Sept. 8
<b>BOX 7</b>	1896, Sept. 9-Dec. 21
<b>BOX 8</b>	1896, Dec. 28-1897, Apr. 10
<b>BOX 9</b>	1897, Apr. 12-July 20
<b>BOX 10</b>	1897, July 22-1898, Jan. 5
<b>BOX 11</b>	1898, Jan. 6-1901, Feb. 2
<b>BOX 12</b>	1901, Feb. 18-1903, Dec. 8, undated
<b>BOX 13</b>	Unbound file
<b>BOX 13</b>	Miscellaneous family and general correspondence, writings, financial records, and other personal material, including printed matter and presidential signing pen used by William McKinley (6 folders)
<b>BOX 14</b>	(10 folders)
<b>BOX 15</b>	U. S. Naval Academy examination papers of André Morton Procter, 1889-1890
<b>BOX 15</b>	Journal, 1879-1880