The George A. Myers Papers, 1890-1929

An Inventory to the Microfilm Edition by Thomas J. Rieder

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Note to Researchers

Provenance: The George A. Myers papers were donated to the Ohio Historical Society by his daughter, Dorothy Myers Grantham, in 1955. The papers, contained in 18 document boxes, were originally arranged and described by Joyce E. Harman in March 1968. The papers were further arranged by Thomas J. Rieder in May-June 1974 and were filmed at that time by the Ohio Historical Society. The camera operator was Barbara Hammond; the microfilm production supervisor was Robert B. Jones. The reduction ratio of the microfilm is 14:1.

Access: The entire George A. Myers collection is open to all researchers. The microfilm edition is available for use in the microfilm reading room of the Ohio Historical Society and may also be purchased from the Order Department of the Society.

<u>Finding Aids</u>: In addition to this published inventory, the entire box/folder inventory is reproduced at the beginning of each roll of microfilm.

<u>Citation</u>: Footnotes and bibliographical references should refer to the original collection at the Ohio Historical Society and to the researcher's use of the microfilm edition. A suggested form for at least the first citation is:

John P. Green to George A. Myer's, September 11, 1900, George A. Myers Papers, Ohio Historical Society (microfilm edition, roll 4, frame 849).

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Order Information: This inventory is volume 7 in a series begun in 1970, the Archives-Library Inventory Series. The aim of this set of paperback volumes is to provide finding aids to many of the Ohio Historical Society's major collections of manuscripts, institutional records, state archives series, local government records, newspapers, and audiovisual material.

Current price and order information for the inventory and the microfilm edition may be obtained from the Order Department, Ohio Historical Society, Columbus, Ohio 43211.

Acknowledgments: Several staff members were responsible for converting the author's draft into a printed inventory. Andrea Lentz edited the inventory for content; Marilyn Bosen typed the camera ready copy; Bruce Baby designed and illustrated the cover; Nancy Essex edited the inventory for form and proofread the copy; and David Larson supervised production.

Thomas J. Rieder Cataloger Ohio Historical Society Columbus, Ohio

Biographical Sketch

The careers of Mark Hanna, William McKinley and James Ford Rhodes are well known to many people, while the career of George Myers, their correspondent and ally, is not. Myers's life, while less distinguished, has been neglected aside from a few sketches in black publications. This is understandable, for in terms of accomplishments his career was significant but not particularly outstanding. However, in terms of illuminating aspects of black middle class life style and the politics of that group, his story is noteworthy. The fact that Myers was nothing more than a barber is more a commentary on racial discrimination in America than on his ability.

George Myers was born in Baltimore, Maryland on March 5, 1859. His father, Isaac Myers, was an important figure in the free black community, and was among the first to attempt to organize black laborers into unions. He was elected president of the National Labor Union in 1870. George spent his first ten years in Baltimore. Upon the death of his mother and because of a planned tour of the south by his father to organize black workers, he then was sent to Providence, Rhode Island, to the home of Reverend J. A. W. Burley. He attended the Providence public schools and later transferred to preparatory school at Lincoln University in Chester, Pennsylvania. When his father remarried, he returned to Baltimore to finish high school.

Myers was unable to enroll at Baltimore's city college because he was black. As a result, he decided to quit school, and moved to Washington, D.C. in 1875 where he became an apprentice house painter. He returned to Baltimore shortly thereafter, however, and became an apprentice barber. This caused his father much displeasure, as the older Myers had wanted his son to enroll at Cornell to study medicine. In 1879 Myers moved to Cleveland and worked at the Weddel House barber shop, becoming its foreman. It was at the Weddel House that he first met Mark Hanna. In 1888, with Liberty E. Holden and other prominent Clevelanders providing the financing, Myers purchased the Hollenden House barbershop.

This was the turning point in his life, for it not only assured him a financially secure future but also brought him into contact with the politically and socially prominent figures of his time. The Hollenden House was Cleveland's finest hotel, with excellent dining facilities and the "longest bar in town." It soon became a "watering hole" for precinct workers and a headquarters for important politicos.

Under Myers's management the barbershop came to rival the bar as a center for political gossip and activity. It became a mark of distinction to have a personal shaving mug in Myers's rack. He also made his shop into one of the most modern in the nation, with porcelain fixtures, individual wash basins, sterilizers, humidors and other equipment. He installed telephones at each

chair for customer convenience. Myers even claimed that he pioneered the use of manicurists in barber shops and that it was at his suggestion that the Koken Barber Supply Company developed the modern barber chair. He adopted Elbert Hubbard's description of his shop, "the best barber shop in America," not only for advertising but out of the pride he took in his work. He was eventually to boast of shaving or barbering eight presidents, dozens of congressmen and other luminaries such as Mark Twain, Lloyd George and Marshall Foch.

Myers's involvement in the "game," as he referred to politics, began at the Republican National Convention of 1892. Serving as a convention delegate, Myers cast his vote for the Hanna-McKinley faction of the Ohio delegation, giving them control. In 1896 Myers was again appointed as a delegate, and was placed in charge of the entertainment committee for the black delegates as well as acting as one of Hanna's chief aides in securing southern black votes for McKinley.

Myers soon became a member of the State Central Committee, where he first labored to keep the black vote Republican and second to win it over to the Hanna faction. In 1897, in the wake of the Urbana lynching, Myers's diligence in organizing speakers and the publication of literature proved effective in stemming the tide of black reaction against the Republicans, thus aiding in saving the statewide ticket from defeat. In the state legislative session in January 1898, Myers worked to have Mark Hanna renominated for the senate. His efforts were successful, although he was forced to resort to vote buying of a delegate to ensure victory by the scant majority of one vote.

Myers also served as a delegate to the 1900 Republican National Convention, and was appointed twice more to the State Central Committee. However, after the deaths of McKinlev and Hanna, Myers soon lost interest in the "game." For the remainder of his life he contented himself with observing the new crop of politicians and offering his shrewd comments on events to friends like Ralph Tyler, John Green and Daniel Murray. Although his observations on politicians had become more jaundiced, his loyalty to the Republican party never faltered. No matter who the candidate, the party was assured the vote of George A. Myers. From progressive to conservative, they all gained his support because Myers believed the Republican party to be in the best interest of blacks.

In part, this reflected his conservatism. He believed in the gold standard, the protective tariff, respected businessmen and deeply distrusted organized labor. Only in one area, black political and civil rights, was he not conservative. Myers was a reformer and a believer in integration. Separation to him was segregation and nothing more.

George Myers finally retired from the barber business in January 1930 because of a serious heart condition. He sold the shop to the hotel and planned a vacation. It never took place. He died in the ticket office on January 17. Myers was a member of the Elks, Masons and the Caterers Association, a black organization. He was also a member of the City Club of Cleveland. Married in 1896 to Maude Stewart, he was the father of two children, Herbert D. Myers and Dorothy Myers Grantham.

Sources Relating to Myers

1. MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

- Charles W. Chesnutt papers, Fisk University. The Myers correspondence covers areas of health, family and finances.
- James M. Cox papers, Ohio Historical Society. The Myers material covers his opposition to a barber licensing and examination bill.
- John P. Green papers, Western Reserve Historical Society (microfilm copy on file at the Ohio Historical Society). The Myers correspondence covers national and state elections, Republican party politics, Republican nominating conventions, Republican party patronage, and life in Cleveland.
- William McKinley papers, Library of Congress (microfilm copy on file at the Ohio Historical Society). The Myers material covers Republican party patronage.
- George K. Nash papers, Ohio Historical Society. The Myers material deals with Republican party patronage.
- James Ford Rhodes papers, Massachusetts Historical Society. The Myers correspondence deals with his evaluation of Rhodes's books on the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the presidencies of William McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt. Personal and family concerns are also covered.

2. ARTICLES AND BOOKS

- Garraty, John A., ed. The Barber and the Historian: The Correspondence of George A. Myers and James Ford Rhodes, 1910-1923. Columbus, Ohio: The Ohio Historical Society, 1956. The book is a collection of correspondence from the Myers and Rhodes manuscript collections including letters of political, personal and historiographical content between the two men.
- James, Felix. "The Civic and Political Career of George A. Myers," <u>Journal of Negro History</u>, v. 58, no. 2, April 1973, pp. 166-178. This article focuses on Myers's work prior to and during the Republican National Convention of 1896.

3. NEWSPAPERS

- Cleveland Gazette (microfilm copy on file at the Ohio Historical Society). A black newspaper run by Myers's political rival Harry C. Smith.
- Cleveland Leader (microfilm copy on file at the Ohio Historical Society).

Cleveland News.

Cleveland Plain Dealer (microfilm copy on file at the Ohio Historical Society).

Scope and Content

The George A. Myers papers, 1890-1929, consist of approximately 4,000 items of correspondence, newspaper clippings and biographical material. The papers are arranged chronologically and are contained in 18 document boxes. The microfilm edition consists of eight rolls. Two small folders of newspaper clippings and biographical material have not been filmed.

The major portion of the correspondence is incoming. There are also pencil and typewritten copies of a portion of Myers's outgoing personal correspondence. The papers span the period 1890-1929 with the bulk of the correspondence falling between 1896 and 1916.

While the collection is arranged chronologically, it is most easily described topically because the political, business and personal correspondence overlaps.

The political correspondence portrays Myers's activity at the national, state and local levels. It shows his influence and the extent of his contacts with various politicians ranging from Senator Marcus A. Hanna, chairman of the Republican National Committee, to J. Madison Vance, spokesman and delegate for Louisiana's first congressional district Republicans. The correspondence also shows Myers to be concerned with promoting a strong black Republican vote, a fair share of party patronage and representation in policy matters affecting the black vote.

George Myers's influence in national politics spans only eight years, 1896-1904. However, the correspondence contains valuable information on the activities of blacks in the southern Republican party and their relations with southern white Republicans. Most of the correspondence is centered around his activity in the formation of black delegate support for William McKinley at the Republican National Convention of 1896. The letters of Samuel Thompson to Myers provide information on black Republican activities at the party's national headquarters as well. There is also correspondence from J. E. Hawkins pertaining to black Republicans in Washington, D.C. and from C. W. Ferguson and John Lynch covering Mississippi politics and black Republicans in Texas. The correspondence between Mark Hanna, Charles Dick and Myers relates primarily to party patronage.

On the state level the political correspondence covers the period 1893 through 1914 with the greatest emphasis on the 1897-1903 period, Myers's tenure on the Ohio Republican Central Executive Committee. The correspondence covers all facets of political activity, state conventions, gubernatorial and legislative campaigns, turning out a strong black Republican vote and securing patronage positions for blacks, and lobbying at legislative sessions for the reelection of Mark Hanna to the U.S. Senate and in opposition to discriminatory

legislation. After 1904 the correspondence consists of exchanges of opinion between Myers, Jere A. Brown, Ralph W. Tyler, Charles Cottrill, John P. Green and William H. Parham about political candidates and the degree of support of black politicians for the Republican party.

The correspondence with Senator Charles Dick, Governor George Nash and John Malloy centers primarily around patronage. However, there are exchanges relating to political conditions and campaigns which suggest Myers's influential role in state politics.

The Ohio campaign of 1897 was crucial to the Republican Party in the state. It also marked Myers's first term on the Central Executive Committee. There is a great deal of correspondence discussing campaign strategy concerning the black vote in the wake of the Urbana lynching. The correspondence includes exchanges between Myers and Governor Asa Bushnell, party chairman George Nash, and reports from black politicians on local conditions and the strength of the Republican Party in their precincts or towns. The letters point out the significance that the Republicans attached to the black vote.

Myers's involvement in Cleveland politics as reflected in the correspondence takes much the same line as his activity on the national and state levels: campaign organizer, consultant on patronage and sage concerning local conditions. There is also material relating to his involvement in improving and opening city educational, medical and social services for blacks. Also included is a review by Myers, presented to the Chamber of Commerce, on conditions in the black community and steps needed to make improvements. The local material also includes information on segregation and discrimination in Cleveland's trade schools, parks and hospitals.

Myers's business correspondence is primarily routine, concerned with ordering equipment and supplies for his barber shop. However, the correspondence with James Bradford contains some of his reflections on how to operate a business and the George Rogers letters contain his ideas on improving a barber's equipment.

The personal correspondence is notable because it contains the opinions and viewpoints of many black middle-class men as they confronted life in the United States in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The observations of James Bradford, John P. Green, F. J. Loudin, Ralph W. Tyler and Judge Robert Terrell contain insights into the attitudes of the developing black middle class and are extremely informative. The personal correspondence with Jere A. Brown, C. P. Lancaster and William H. Parham provides additional information on black Elk and Masonic organizations. The pencil and typewritten copies of Myers's letters to James Ford Rhodes contain the best evidence of his personal attitudes and ideas about politics and American society. The correspondence from Reverend William T. Anderson, an army chaplain, provides excellent descriptions of black troops in Cuba during and after the Spanish-American War and equally fine descriptions of social conditions confronting blacks traveling through or living in the South.

The Myers collection provides an excellent opportunity for the researcher to examine the activities and opportunities available to black middle-class politicians in Ohio and the south, and the opportunity to study the response of these men to the rising tide of racism in the United States. At present only two studies have been undertaken on the life of George A. Myers. One is by Professor John A. Garraty, The Barber and the Historian, comprising the edited correspondence between Myers and James Ford Rhodes and published by the Ohio Historical Society nineteen years ago. The second is by Professor Felix James, "The Civic and Political Activities of George Myers," published in the Journal of Negro History in April 1973.

There is no in-depth study of George Myers's patronage power in the national or state Republican party, or of his tenure on the State Central Executive Committee, or his activity in statewide elections in 1897, or his activity in Cleveland on the political and community service levels. Therefore, this collection should continue to be an invaluable primary research tool in documenting the contributions made by blacks to American society and politics during the 1890-1929 period.

Microfilm Rolls List

- ROLL 1 Box 1, Folder 2 through Box 3, Folder 5 Correspondence 1890-July 1897
 - Box 3, Folder 6 through Box 6, Folder 1 Correspondence August 1897-February 1898
 - Box 6, Folder 2 through Box 8, Folder 3 Correspondence March 1898-May 1900
 - Box 8, Folder 4 through Box 10, Folder 8
 Correspondence June 1900-December 1901
 - 5 Box 11, Folder 1 through Box 13, Folder 4 Correspondence January 1902-December 1905
 - 6 Box 13, Folder 5 through Box 15, Folder 5 Correspondence January 1905-December 1910
 - 7 Box 15, Folder 6 through Box 17, Folder 6 Correspondence January 1911-December 1923
 - 8 Box 18, Folder 1 through Box 18, Folder 7 Correspondence 1924-1929

Box and Folder Description

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BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
1 .	1	Biographical material not filmed.
	2	Correspondence 1890-1892.
		The letters to George Myers contain two routine Foraker telegrams, and two letters from W. M. Hahn: one about Myers's activity at the 1892 GOP National Convention and one about getting out a strong black vote in November 1892.
	3	Correspondence January-October 1893.
		The letters deal with the political problems of patronage, support from legislators, party caucuses and black Masonry. Significant correspondents are James Bradford, Jere A. Brown, Samuel Clark, Charles Cottrill and Ralph Tyler.
	4	Correspondence November-December 1893.
		The material covers the same ground as mentioned above

focused mainly on state political problems and housing for blacks in Baltimore. The correspondence suggests a great deal of political infighting. The correspondents are James Bradford, Jere Brown and Ralph Tyler.

5 Correspondence January-December 1894 and partially dated, 1894.

The correspondence covers much the same areas as mentioned previously: politics, patronage, blacks in the Masonry and real estate operations in Baltimore. The principal correspondents are James Bradford, Jere Brown, William H. Parham and Ralph Tyler.

6 Correspondence January-October, December 1895.

The correspondence is again similar to the above pertaining chiefly to political and Masonic concerns. Correspondence from J. Madison Vance to Myers suggests a possible alliance between the Hanna-McKinley forces and southern black delegates. The correspondents are Jere Brown, William H. Parham, Ralph Tyler and J. Madison Vance.

BOX **FOLDER** DESCRIPTION 2 1 Correspondence January-May 1896. The correspondence deals primarily with the organization of delegates in Ohio and black Republican delegates in the south. The principal correspondents are James Bradford, Jere Brown, Asa Bushnell, Charles Cottrill, Mark Hanna and J. Madison Vance. 2 Correspondence June-July 1896. The correspondence pertains to the GOP Convention in St. Louis. The major correspondents are James Bradford, Jere Brown, Walter Cohen, Charles Cottrill, James Servis and J. Madison Vance. 3 Correspondence August-September 1896. The correspondence deals with the Presidential Election It covers staffing of campaign offices with blacks, providing speeches and literature for black voters and the representation of blacks within the Republican party and related clubs, both in the north and south. The major correspondents are F. L. Barnett, James Bradford, Theodore Burton, Henry Demas, Charles Fillmore, R. T. Greener, Carlos Stone, Samuel Thompson and Ralph Tyler. 4 Correspondence October 1896. The correspondence pertains to the 1896 election and the efforts made by Myers and other black politicians to get out the black vote for McKinley. The principal correspondents are Henry Y. Arnett, Jere Brown, Rev. Reverdy Ransom, Samuel Thompson and Ralph Tyler.

5 Correspondence November 1896.

The letters are concerned primarily with the patronage due blacks for their support of McKinley. The major correspondents are Charles Anderson, Jere Brown, William H. Parham, Samuel Thompson and Ralph Tyler.

6 Correspondence December 1896.

The correspondence is primarily concerned with politics and patronage following the Republican victory. There are also letters from Henry Demas and Walter Cohen discussing southern Republicans. The principal correspondents are Bishop Benjamin Arnett, Jere Brown, Walter Cohen, Henry Demas, Rev. Reverdy Ransom, Samuel Thompson and Ralph Tyler.

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
3	1	Correspondence January 1897.
	·	The letters pertain to routine political matters such as patronage, factional infighting between black factions and Far West Republicans. The major correspondents are J. E. Hawkins, Rev. Reverdy Ransom and Ralph Tyler.
	2	Correspondence February 1897.
		The material covers the same areas as mentioned above. The major correspondents are Jere Brown, E. E. Cooper, Charles Cottrill, J. E. Hawkins, Rev. Reverdy Ransom and Ralph Tyler.
	3	Correspondence March 1897.
		The correspondence covers primarily routine political areas of appointments and factional infighting. The principal correspondents are Jere Brown, Charles Cottrill, James Servis, Samuel Thompson and Ralph Tyler.
	4	Correspondence April-June 1897.
		The correspondence covers the Ohio Republican convention for the state election, appointments, factional disputes and Far West Republicans. The major correspondents are C. F. Adams, Jere Brown, Charles Cottrill, J. E. Hawkins and Ralph Tyler.
	5	Correspondence July 1897.
		The correspondence is related to the 1897 state election campaign and Myers's appointment to the Central Committee of the Republican party. The major correspondents are C. F. Adams, Walter Cohen, E. E. Cooper, Charles Cottrill, Charles Fillmore, Ralph Tyler and J. Madison Vance.
	6	Correspondence August 1-16, 1897.
		The correspondence covers political patronage, the ensuing state campaigns, the political significance of the Urbana lynching. The major correspondents are Bishop Benjamin Arnett, Henry Arnett, John P. Green and Ralph Tyler.

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
4	1	Correspondence September 1-14, 1897.
		The correspondence is the same as above. The major correspondents are John P. Green and Ralph Tyler.
	2	Correspondence September 15-17, 1897.
		The correspondence concerns the attempt made by the Republican party to hold the black vote because of the Urbana lynching. The correspondents are John P. Green and Ralph Tyler.
	3	Correspondence September 18-20, 1897.
		The material covers the same topics and correspondents as mentioned in the previous folder.
	4	Correspondence September 21-23, 1897.
		The material covers the areas and correspondents as mentioned above.
	5	Correspondence September 24-27, 1897.
•		The correspondence covers the same areas as mentioned above with the emphasis of the letters on the turnout of black voters in November. The correspondents are John P. Green and Ralph Tyler.
	6	Correspondence September 28-30, 1897.
		The correspondence covers the same areas and correspondents as mentioned above again emphasizing a black voter turnout for the G.O.P.
5	1	Correspondence October 1-7, 1897.
		The correspondence again centers around the attempt to secure black votes for the Republican party in November. The principal correspondents are Henry Arnett, Walter Cohen and Ralph Tyler.
	2	Correspondence October 8-19, 1897.
		The correspondence deals with the 1897 statewide elections and the attempt by Myers and others to hold the black vote for the G.O.P.

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
5	3	Correspondence October 20-31, 1897.
		The correspondence is much the same as mentioned above, related to the 1897 campaign and black voters.
	4	Correspondence November 1897.
		The correspondence pertains to the aftermath of the successful Republican campaign, the congratulations and appeals for patronage positions.
	5	Correspondence December 1897.
		The letters cover such topics as patronage, the legislative caucus in December, and attempts to secure more appointments for blacks and recognition for services by the Republican party.
6	1	Correspondence January-February 1898.
		The correspondence covers patronage, southern politics, the Ohio Lincoln banquet and personal material. The correspondents are Jere Brown, John P. Green, Ralph Tyler and J. Madison Vance.
	2	Correspondence March 1898.
		The letters are primarily routine letters of entreaty for patronage. Material that is not related to patronage is a speech by Myers about black contributions to the Ohio Republican campaign in 1897 and a John Lynch letter about Mississippi politics.
	3	Correspondence April-May 1898.
		The correspondence covers patronage, W. T. Anderson's observations of the West and the political conflicts in the Ohio militia.
	4	Correspondence June-July 1898.
		The correspondence covers patronage applications for political or military appointments, comments on Ohio politics and W. T. Anderson's observations on the South and Cuba.

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
6	5	Correspondence August-September 1898.
		The correspondence covers Anderson's descriptions of Cuba, Ohio politics, the Ohio National Guard, southern Republican politics and patronage. The correspondents are William T. Anderson, Jere Brown, Charles Fillmore, John P. Green, Ralph Tyler and J. Madison Vance.
	6	Correspondence October-November 18, 1898.
		The letters cover the topics of politics in Ohio and the South, patronage and Anderson's descriptions of Alabama. The correspondents are William T. Anderson, Jere Brown and Ralph Tyler.
	7	Correspondence December 1898.
		The correspondence covers such topics as to reaction to the North Carolina racial strife, Hanna-Foraker dispute, black Republican votes, patronage and W. T. Anderson's descriptions of the South.
7	1	Correspondence January-April 1899.
		The correspondence is primarily about routine patronage. There are letters from W. T. Anderson describing the Army, and letters from Ralph Tyler about the success of the Foraker faction in Columbus.
	2	Correspondence May-June 1899.
		The correspondence covers patronage, black representation on the Republican Executive Committee, W. T. Anderson writing about Cuba and Charles Cottrill, William H. Parham and Ralph Tyler writing about Ohio politics.
	3	Correspondence July-August 1899.
		The correspondence covers the topics of patronage, black representation in the Republican party and the selection of a black Executive Committeeman. The correspondents are Jere Brown, John P. Green, William H. Parham and Ralph Tyler.

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
7	4	Correspondence September-October 1899.
		The correspondence relates primarily to the state campaign of 1899 and the role that blacks should play. The principal correspondents are Jere Brown, Charles Cottrill, Charles Dick, John P. Green, John Malloy and Ralph Tyler.
	5	Correspondence November-December 1899.
		The correspondence relates to patronage after the Republican victory and black representation within the G.O.P. The major correspondents are William T. Anderson, Jere Brown, Charles Dick, Charles Fillmore, John P. Green, John Malloy and Ralph Tyler.
8	1	Correspondence January-March 1900.
		The letters are primarily political relating to patronage, the state convention for selecting delegates to the national convention. The correspondents are Jere Brown, John P. Green, and Ralph Tyler. Of note, a letter from Fanny Shook describes Tallahassee, education and the lifestyle of blacks.
	. 2	Correspondence April 1900.
		The correspondence relates to Myers's appointment as an alternate at-large delegate to the G.O.P. National Convention and Ohio politics. The correspondents are Jere Brown, John P. Green, William H. Parham and Ralph Tyler.
	3	Correspondence May 1900.
		The letters cover attempts to get Myers on the State Executive Committee, other appointments, John R. Lynch's reflections on Cuba, Jere Brown, Sterling N. Brown and Daniel Murray on life for blacks in Washington, D.C. and national politics.
	4	Correspondence June 1900.
		The letters cover patronage, attempts to place Myers on the Executive Committee, protests against a separate black Republican campaign and opposition by Jere Brown and Ralph Tyler to the amount of patronage and delegates given to southern blacks. The principal correspondents are Jere Brown, John P. Green, John R. Lynch, Daniel Murray and Ralph Tyler.

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
8	5	Correspondence July 1-12, 1900.
		The letters cover congratulations to Myers over his appointment to the State Executive Committee, the establishment of a black campaign bureau in the National Committee and complaints about southern black representation in the party. The correspondents are Jere Brown, T. Thomas Fortune, John P. Green, Daniel Murray and Ralph Tyler.
	6	Correspondence July 13-31, 1900.
•		The correspondence covers letters requesting Myers's aid in receiving appointments. The principal correspondents are C. F. Adams, Jere Brown and Daniel Murray.
9	1	Correspondence August 20, 1900.
		The correspondence covers attempts by Democrats to get black votes away from Republicans. The principal correspondents are Henry Y. Arnett, Jere Brown, John P. Green, Barney McKay and Ralph Tyler.
	2	Correspondence August 21-31, 1900.
		The correspondence relates to the topics mentioned above and strategy to counteract attacks on Theodore Roosevelt. The principal correspondents are F. L. Barnett, Jere Brown, H. P. Cheatham, Charles Cottrill, Perry Heath, Barney McKay and H. New.
	3	Correspondence September 1900.
		The correspondence relates to the campaign of 1900 and the attempts made to hold black Republican votes. Correspondents are Henry Arnett, Jere Brown, Charles Cottrill, John R. Lynch and Barney McKay.
	4	Correspondence October 1-November 14, 1900.
		The correspondence is devoted to the campaign of 1900 and the attempt to secure and increase the black vote. Correspondents are C. F. Adams, Jere Brown, Charles Cottrill, Charles Fillmore and F. A. Stewart.
	5	Correspondence November 15-30, 1900.
		The correspondence relates primarily to post election patronage. Correspondents are C. F. Adams, Jere Brown and George Myers.

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9	6	Correspondence December 1900.
		The correspondence primarily covers patronage except for F. J. Loudin's description of Europe and its advantages versus life in the United States. The principal correspondents are Jere Brown, John P. Green, F. J. Loudin and Daniel Murray.
10	• 1	Correspondence January 1901.
		The correspondence consists primarily of routine patronage requests. Of note is Charles Doll's attempt to succeed Myers on the State Committee. Correspondents are Jere Brown, Charles Doll, John P. Green, William Parham and Ralph Tyler.
	2	Correspondence February 1901.
		The correspondence relates primarily to Charles Doll's appointment to the State Committee, and the health of Mrs. Myers. There is some mention of William Thomas's book, the American Negro.
	3	Correspondence March 1901.
		The material relates to patronage. The correspondents are C. F. Adams, W. T. Anderson, Jere Brown, Charles Doll, John P. Green, John R. Lynch, William H. Parham and Ralph Tyler.
	4	Correspondence April-June 1901.
		The letters consist of routine patronage requests and comments about Tom Johnson's victory in the mayor's race in Cleveland. Correspondents are C. F. Adams, W. T. Anderson, Jere Brown, John P. Green and Daniel Murray.
	5	Correspondence July-August 1901.
		The correspondence touches on Ohio politics, the inroads of Democratic progressives on the black vote, the Rutven case, references made to segregated meetings of the

case, references made to segregated meetings of the G.A.R., and a descriptive letter about life in the South by R. G. Witherspoon. The correspondents are Jere Brown,

W. C. Chase, John P. Green, Ralph Tyler and R. G.

Witherspoon.

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
10	6	Correspondence September 1901.
		The correspondence covers Ohio politics and the assassination of President McKinley. The correspondents are Charles Anderson, Jere Brown, John P. Green and Daniel Murray.
	7	Correspondence October 1901.
		The correspondence pertains to the state elections and the repeated difficulty of retaining black votes. The correspondents are Jere Brown, W. C. Chase, Charles Cottrill, Charles Dick, John P. Green, George Myers and Ralph Tyler.
	8	Correspondence November-December 1901.
		The correspondence covers the campaign in Ohio, the legislative session slated for January, patronage and the mentioning of a possible Roosevelt and Hanna clash for the nomination. The correspondents are Jere Brown, Charles Cottrill, John P. Green, Daniel Murray, George Myers and Ralph Tyler.
11	1	Correspondence January-February 1902.
		The correspondence deals primarily with Myers's attempt to have a discriminatory barber bill defeated in committee, and the remainder deals with personal correspondence and patronage. The correspondents are Jere Brown, W. H. Clifford, Charles Dick, Joseph B. Foraker, John P. Green, Mark Hanna, George Hayes and George Myers.
	2	Correspondence March-April 1902.
		The correspondence covers the defeat of the discriminatory barber bill, Ohio politics and patronage. The correspondents are Jere Brown, W. H. Clifford, Charles Dick, John P. Green, Mark Hanna and Ralph Tyler.
	3	Correspondence May-June 1902.
		The correspondence pertains to Ohio politics, patronage, legislation inquiring about the disenfranchisement of southern blacks and congratulatory letters concerning Myers's article about achievements made by blacks in Cleveland in the <u>Plain Dealer</u> . The correspondents are Jere Brown, Charles Dick, John P. Green, Mark Hanna, George Hayes, Daniel Murray, George Myers and Ralph Tyler.

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
11	4	Correspondence July-August 1902.
		The correspondence deals with Jere Brown's acceptance of the State Executive Committee post and conflict it causes between black factions and personal matters. The correspondents are Jere Brown, W. H. Clifford, John P. Green, Daniel Murray and Ralph Tyler.
	5	Correspondence September-December 1902.
ÿ		The correspondence covers such topics as the formation of a black oil drilling operation in Morgan County, Ohio, Ohio politics, Myers and Cohen discussing Roosevelt's and Hanna's plans for the presidential election of 1904, and personal correspondence. The correspondents are Jere Brown, W. H. Clifford, Walter Cohen, John P. Green, Daniel Murray, George Myers and Ralph Tyler.
	6	Correspondence January 1903.
		The correspondence covers such areas as Tyler's Wilgera Oil and Gas Company, James Bradford's bank collapse, and Myers's home for aged blacks. The correspondents are John P. Green, Daniel Murray and Ralph Tyler.
	7	Correspondence February 1903.
		The correspondence covers the Wilgera Gas and Oil Company, the home for aged blacks, the barber business and personal correspondence. The correspondents are Charles Dick, John P. Green and Ralph Tyler.
12	1	Correspondence March-June 1903.
		The correspondence pertains to business, Ohio politics, Cleveland politics and a Myers letter relating to U.S. House bills dealing with black disenfranchisement in the South, and the Wilgera Oil and Gas Company. The correspondents are Charles Dick, John P. Green, George Myers and Ralph Tyler.
	2	Correspondence July-September 1903.
		The correspondence covers Ohio politics, Ohio Republican Executive Committee meetings, patronage and business and personal correspondence. The correspondents are James Bradford, Reverend George Bundy, Charles Dick and John Malloy.

Malloy.

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
12	3	Correspondence Uctober-November 1903.
		The correspondence is routine patronage and business correspondence. The correspondents are Charles Dick, Charles Doll, John P. Green and Ralph Tyler.
	4	Correspondence December 1903.
		The correspondence covers Ohio politics, patronage, business and personal letters. The correspondents are Charles Dick, John P. Green, Daniel Murray and Ralph Tyler.
	5	Correspondence January-February 1904.
	·	The correspondence deals with patronage, Myers's opposition to a barber bill in the Ohio House, the death of Senator Hanna and personal correspondence. The correspondents are Charles Fillmore and John P. Green.
	6	Correspondence March-April 1904.
		The correspondence deals with patronage, soldiers' claims, a black political caucus in Ohio and personal correspondence. The correspondents are Charles Cottrill, Charles Dick and Ralph Tyler.
13	1	Correspondence May-August 1904.
	·	The correspondence covers the Republican National Convention and the appointment of delegates, patronage and personal matters. Correspondents are H. B. Alexander, Walter Cohen, John P. Green and Ralph Tyler.
	2	Correspondence September-December 1904.
		The correspondence covers patronage and personal correspondence. The correspondents are H. B. Alexander, John P. Green and Ralph Tyler.
	3	Correspondence March-June 1905.
	·	The letters concern applications for appointment, John Green's possible dismissal from the Post Office Department, a black world's fair, business and personal correspondence. The correspondents are John P. Green, Daniel Murray, George Myers and Ralph Tyler.

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
13	4	Correspondence July-December 1905.
		The correspondence covers Tyler's reactions to the statewide election of November 1905; a barber bill, business and personal correspondence. The correspondents are John P. Green, Daniel Murray and Ralph Tyler.
	5	Correspondence January-June 1906.
		The correspondence covers the erection of a new railroad terminal for Cleveland; George Hays's desire to hold a black industrial exposition in Ohio, appointments, business and personal correspondence. The correspondents are John P. Green, George Hays, George Myers and Ralph Tyler.
	6	Correspondence July-December 1906.
		The correspondence covers patronage, Tyler's comments on the Dick-Burton contest for the Senate nomination, business and personal correspondence. The correspondents are James Bradford, W. H. Clifford and Ralph Tyler.
	7	Correspondence January-April 1907.
		The correspondence covers streetcar strike negotiations in Cleveland, Tyler's appointment to the War Department, Jere Brown's personal problems, the Foraker-Roosevelt conflict over the Brownsville incident and a possible Taft-Foraker battle for the Republican presidential nomination and business and personal correspondence. The correspondents are Jere Brown, W. H. Clifford, Charles Dick, Joseph B. Foraker, George Myers and Ralph Tyler.
14	1	Correspondence May-August 1907.
		The correspondence is primarily personal with some mention of Cleveland, Ohio and national politics. The correspondents are James Bradford, Daniel Murray and Ralph Tyler.
	2	Correspondence September-December 1907.
		The correspondence is primarily personal with the exception of Tyler's comments on Cleveland politics and the Foraker-Taft nomination fight and Myers's and Alexander's comments about black involvement in the convention battle. The correspondents

Tyler.

black involvement in the convention battle. The correspondents are H. B. Alexander, James Bradford, George Myers and Ralph

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
14	3	Correspondence January-March 1908.
		The letters cover personal correspondence and the Tyler-Myers exchange dealing with the G.O.P. convention of 1908. The correspondents are George Myers and Ralph Tyler.
	4	Correspondence April-July 1908.
		The correspondence is primarily from Tyler covering plans for attending the convention in Chicago, and correspondence covering Sunday closing. The correspondents are H. V. Johnson, George Myers, Judge Robert Terrell and Ralph Tyler.
	5	Correspondence August-September 1908.
		The correspondence covers business and personal topics. Also included are Myers's attack on the Niagara movement, Judge Terrell's attack on the Springfield lynching and Tyler's comments on a black bureau within the G.O.P. campaign. The correspondents are W. H. Clifford, George Myers, Judge Robert Terrell and Ralph Tyler.
	6	Correspondence October-December 1908.
		The material covers the election of 1908, reports on black defections from the G.O.P., the establishment of a black bureau in the Republican party, personal and business correspondence. The correspondents are W. H. Clifford, E. P. Lancaster, George Myers, and Ralph Tyler.
15	1	Correspondence January-March 1909.
		The material pertains to upcoming federal patronage, Cleveland and Ohio politics, Senator Dick's problem of succession, business and personal correspondence. The correspondents are Charles Dick and Ralph Tyler.
	2	Correspondence April-July 1909.
		The correspondence is primarily personal and business with the exception of a Myers letter to James Bradford con- cerning black businessmen and Tyler's mentioning of bureau- cratic politics. The correspondents are W. T. Anderson, James Bradford, George Myers, Judge Robert Terrell and Ralph Tyler.

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
15	3	Correspondence August-December 1909.
		The correspondence is primarily personal and business in content with some mention of Washington patronage politics. The correspondents are Judge Robert Terrell, Ralph Tyler and Booker T. Washington.
	4	Correspondence January-June 1910.
		The correspondence covers such topics as an Ohio barber bill, Republican politics, Washington patronage, Cleveland school board appointments, Myers's opinion on Kelly Miller's book, Race Adjustment. The correspondents are Charles Dick, George Myers, Ralph Tyler and Booker T. Washington.
	. 5	Correspondence July-December 1910.
		The letters cover Republican politics, Washington, D.C. patronage and personal correspondence. The correspondents are William T. Anderson, James Bradford, Charles Cottrill, George Myers, Ralph Tyler and Booker T. Washington.
	6	Correspondence January-February 1911.
	·	The correspondence concerns Charles Cottrill's appointment to a post in Hawaii and to the Republican party's outlook for 1912. The correspondents are Charles Cottrill, George Myers, Ralph Tyler and Booker T. Washington.
	7	Correspondence March-December 1911.
		The correspondence covers patronage, Ohio election politics, national election politics, Cottrill's observations on Hawaii and personal comments. The correspondents are William T. Anderson, James Bradford, W. H. Clifford, Charles Cottrill, George Myers, Judge Robert Terrell, Ralph Tyler and Booker T. Washington.
16	1	Correspondence January-December 1912.
		The correspondence concerns the Roosevelt and Progressive insurgents, the Ohio primary, the Ohio constitutional convention, the vote on the amendments, the fall campaign, the Democratic victory, Myers's review of Croly's biography of Mark Hanna and personal and business topics. The correspondents are E. W. Doty, George Myers, Ralph Tyler and Judge

Robert Terrell.

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
16	2	Correspondence January-April 1913.
	·	The correspondence covers business and personal items, George Myers's reflections on Mark Hanna, the dismissal of black Republican office holders, the Ohio barber bill and an anti-interracial marriage bill and racism in Washington, D.C. The correspondents are Newton D. Baker, Charles Cottrill, George Myers, George F. Rogers, Judge Robert Terrell and Ralph Tyler.
	3	Correspondence May-September, November-December 1913.
		The correspondence covers such topics as segregation in Washington, D.C., discrimination on the civil service, the tariff bill, James F. Rhodes's book on the Civil War and general business and personal topics. The correspondents are Rev. W. T. Anderson, W. H. Clifford, George Myers, George F. Rogers, Judge Robert Terrell and Ralph Tyler.
	4	Correspondence January-March 1914.
		The correspondence is primarily routine business and personal material with some mention of racial prejudice by Clifford and Tyler. The correspondents are W. H. Clifford, Charles Cottrill, Judge Robert Terrell and Ralph Tyler.
	5	Correspondence April-December 1914.
		The correspondence is primarily routine business and personal correspondence with other topics sketchily covered such as discrimination in the Cleveland Y.M.C.A., Cleveland politics, the National Negro Business League, and living conditions for blacks in the South and Washington, D.C. There is no mention of campaigning or of election results. The correspondents are W. H. Clifford, George Myers, Judge Robert Terrell, Ralph Tyler and Booker T. Washington.
-	6	Correspondence January-June 1915.
er er	. ·.	The correspondence is chiefly concerned with the defect of a discriminatory chiropractic practice bill, and business and personal topics. The correspondents are Charles Cottrill and Ralph Tyler.

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
16	7	Correspondence July-December 1915.
		The correspondence is primarily personal with the principal correspondents being Charles Cottrill and Ralph Tyler.
17	1	Correspondence January-April 1916.
	·	The correspondence covers Ralph Tyler's campaign to be elected as a Republican delegate to the Republican National Convention, Myers's impression of preparedness and Republican presidential hopefuls, the Booker T. Washington Foundation, segregation in Cleveland and business and personal letters. The correspondents are George Myers, Judge Robert Terrell and Ralph Tyler.
	2	Correspondence May-November 1916.
		The correspondence covers the lineup of candidates for the Ohio Senate campaign, comments on Charles Evans Hughes, increasing the enrollment of blacks in the Ohio National Guard and personal and business correspondence. The correspondents are Newton D. Baker, George Myers and Ralph Tyler.
	3	Correspondence January-December 1917.
		The correspondence is primarily personal with the exception of the correspondence of Myers pertaining to the role of blacks in World War I. The correspondents are Newton D. Baker, George Myers and Ralph Tyler.
	4	Correspondence January, February, May, June, September-December 1918; January-April, July-December 1919.
		The correspondence covers a variety of topics, Tyler's impressions of France, Myers's views of the History of Reconstruction, possible I.W.W. activity among blacks in Akron and personal letters. The correspondents are George Myers, Ralph Tyler and Walter White.
	5	Correspondence January-April, June, September, October, December 1920; February, March, July, August 1921.
		The correspondence is primarily personal and routine with the exception of Daniel Murray's two articles on black Jewry and Myers's letter to James F. Rhodes on the Hanna-Foraker struggle in the Ohio Republican party. The correspondents are Daniel Murray and George Myers.

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
17	.	Correspondence February, May, July, September, October, December 1922; January, February, June-August, October, December 1923.
		The correspondence covers a variety of areas such as congregational disputes in St. John's A.M.E. Church, James Weldon Johnson's complaint over the United States invasion of Haiti, Myers's assessment of James F. Rhodes's latest work on the McKinley-Roosevelt administrations, discrimination in Cleveland's public parks and swimming pools, maintenance of the color line in Washington, D.C. and personal correspondence. The correspondents are James Weldon Johnson, George Myers, Harry Smith and Judge Robert Terrell.
18	1	Correspondence January-March, May, June, August, September, December 1924; February, March, May, June, October-December 1925.
		The correspondence consists of routine personal letters about St. John's A.M.E. Church, the Cleveland Civic Federation and the Lincoln League of America. The correspondents are Charles Cottrill, Rev. J. R. Jackson and Harry Smith.
	2	Correspondence January, March-June, August-December 1926.
		The letters are primarily personal correspondence except Myers's response to a Chamber of Commerce questionnaire on black migration and conditions in the black community. The correspondents are Rev. J. R. Jackson and George Myers.
	3	Correspondence January-June 1927.
	· .: :	The correspondence covers Myers's reflections on James Ford Rhodes, possible segregation in Cleveland Mercy Hospital and city schools, complaints over <u>Cleveland News</u> reporting racial incidents, and personal letters. The correspondents are R. G. Jones, George Myers and Harry Smith.
	4	Correspondence August-December 1927.
		The correspondence covers Myers's protests to the city government over racial incidents at Woodlawn swimming pool, segregated municipal hospitals, the possible establishment of a black school of medicine and Newton D. Baker's analysis of the municipal election in Chicago and the effect of the black vote. The correspondents are George Myers and Harry Smith.

BOX	FOLDER	DESCRIPTION
18	5	Correspondence January-August, October-December 1928.
	·	The correspondence is primarily concerned with Myers's opposition to a black hospital, discrimination in the City Hospital and possible outbreaks of violence at the Woodlawn swimming pool. The correspondents are Dudley Blossom, William R. Hopkins, George Myers and Harry Smith.
	6	Correspondence January-February, May-July 1929.
		The correspondence is primarily routine correspondence dealing with Myers's stock and trust. Also included are Myers's appeals to Charles Bolton and H. M. Hanna asking for funds to aid Myers's church in helping southern blacks. The letters contain Myers's impression of southern blacks. The correspondent is George Myers.
	7 .	Correspondence August-December 1929.
		The correspondence is primarily concerned with stocks and trust accounts and stockholders meetings. One

letter from H. C. Smith mentions again the possible construction of an all black hospital. The correspon-

dents are George Myers and Harry C. Smith.

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About the Author

Thomas J. Rieder, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, joined the staff of the Ohio Historical Society as a manuscripts processor in 1970 and is currently working as a public records cataloger. He has processed eight major manuscript collections of twentieth century Ohio political leaders and industrialist Frank A. Seiberling. Mr. Rieder holds a B.A. in American History from Ohio University and is doing graduate work in the same field at the Ohio State University. He is a member of the Society of Ohio Archivists.