

C Lanman, Charles (1819-1895), Collection, 1826-1869  
3725 .2 linear feet

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#### INTRODUCTION

Autobiographical and biographical correspondence and documents relating to Missouri congressmen, collected by Charles Lanman for publication in his *Dictionary of the United States Congress*. Lanman's biographical dictionary was first printed in 1859 and periodically revised through 1869.

#### DONOR INFORMATION

The Lanman Collection was purchased by the State Historical Society of Missouri from Maury A. Bromsen Associates, Inc. on 10 May 1977 (SHS Accession No. 2075)

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Charles Lanman was an author, government official, artist, librarian, and explorer. He was born at Monroe, Michigan, on 14 June 1819 and died at Georgetown, D.C., on 4 March 1895. Lanman's early life included newspaper work as editor of the *Monroe* (Michigan) *Gazette*, associate editor of the *Cincinnati* (Ohio) *Chronicle*, and as a member of the editorial staff of the *New York Express*. Lanman studied art under Asher B. Durand and became an elected associate of the National Academy of Design in 1846.

Lanman's career included service as librarian for the U.S. War Department, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Washington City library; head of the returns office in the U.S. Interior Department; private secretary to Senator Daniel Webster; American secretary to the Japanese legation; and assistant assessor for the District of Columbia. In addition to the *Dictionary of the United States Congress*, Lanman's published writings include several collections of essays, biographies of Daniel Webster and William Woodbridge, and accounts of his own travels and explorations in the United States.

#### SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists principally of autobiographical correspondence from Missourians who served in the U.S. Senate or the U.S. House of Representatives prior to 1870. Also included are biographical sketches written by second parties, photographs, and questionnaires. The collection is arranged alphabetically by the name of the author or the name of the subject of each sketch.

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