

State of Tennessee



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**SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE
ELECTIONS DIVISION**

**ELECTIONS DIVISION RECORDS,
1866-1910**

RECORD GROUP 221

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SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Record Group 221 contains volumes of data connected with the Elections Division of the Tennessee Secretary of State's Office for the years 1866 to 1910. Most of these records are commissions for county Commissioners of Elections, appointed by the Governor of the State, whose duty it was to oversee the elections process in each county. These volumes date from 1889 to 1908. Also in these records are certifications for various elections held in Tennessee from 1867 to 1900 and four volumes of Governor's Proclamations, calling for elections in certain parts of Tennessee from 1865 to 1892. These proclamations are noteworthy in that they contain proclamations issued by Gov. William G. ("Parson") Brownlow and Gov. DeWitt Clinton Senter during the Reconstruction Period in Tennessee History.

Other records include a commission book for Commissioners appointed to conduct the Voter Enumeration of 1881 in Tennessee; a register of Election Commissioners, listed by counties dated 1897; and a docket book of the State Board of Elections, 1909-1910.

Also interesting to note in this group are records contained in a volume titled "Addresses - Tellers Report to the Joint Convention of the Two Houses of the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee and Pleadings in the Case for Governor, 1895." This volume deals with the investigation of the disputed election for Tennessee Governor in 1894 between the Republican candidate, H. Clay Evans and the Democratic incumbent, Peter Turney. Apparently, depositions were taken in various counties of the State over this matter, and are contained in this volume.

Another volume of interest is a Register of Voters for Sumner County, Tenn. in the year 1866. These voters were apparently loyalists to the Union, and the record includes the regiment they were honorably discharged from (if any), election voted in, and the individual who received the commission "as an Unconditional Union man at all times." This volume also contains a list of warrants issued by the County Commissioners, endorsed by the County Judge & Attorney for services, and a list of outstanding claims for Sumner County in 1866.

Another volume contains miscellaneous records from the Secretary of State's Office. These records include Franchise Law Reports, 1866; an official certification of election returns for Tennessee from 1867 to 1872; and accounts of Thompson & Steger's Code Books distributed in Tennessee in 1873.

For more research material relating to the Secretary of State's Office and Tennessee Election Returns, please refer to Record Group 30, Secretary of State Records, 1796-1865; Record Group 87, Tennessee Election Returns, 1796-present; and Record Group 125, Military Absentee Ballots records, 1944-1962 - all of which are available on microfilm.

Record Group Number: 221

Series Title: Elections Division Records,
Secretary of State's Office, 1866-1910

SERIES NUMBERS

- 1 Commission Books - Commissioner of Elections, 1889-1908
- 2 Commission Books - Election Proclamations, 1865-1892
- 3 Commission Books - Election Certifications, 1886-1900
- 4 Commission Books - Commissioner of Enumeration, 1881
- 5 Docket of the State Board of Elections, 1909-1910
- 6 Addresses--Tellers Report to the Joint Convention of the
Two Houses of the General Assembly of the State of
Tennessee and Pleadings in the Case for Governor
(H. Clay Evans vs. Peter Turney), 1895
- 7 Miscellaneous Records Book, Secretary of State's Office,
1867-1873
- 8 Register--Election Commissioners, List by Counties, 1897
- 9 Voter Registration Book for Sumner County, Tenn., 1866

Record Group Number: 221

Series Title: Elections Division Records,
Secretary of State's Office, 1866-1910

Series Number: 1

| <u>Volume Number</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Dates</u> |
|----------------------|--|--------------|
| 1 | Commission Book - Commissioner of Registration | 1889 |
| 2 | Commission Book - Commissioner of Registration | 1890-1893 |
| 3 | Commission Book - Commissioner of Registration | 1893-1899 |
| 4 | Commission Book - Commissioner of Elections | 1897-1898 |
| 5 | Commission Book - Commissioner of Elections | 1898-1899 |
| 6 | Commission Book - Commissioner of Elections | 1899-1901 |
| 7 | Commission Book - Commissioner of Elections | 1901-1903 |
| 8 | Commission Book - Commissioner of Elections | 1903-1905 |
| 9 | Commission Book - Commissioner of Elections | 1905-1906 |
| 10 | Commission Book - Commissioner of Elections | 1907-1908 |
| 11 | Commission Book - Commissioner of Elections | 1909 |

Record Group Number: 221

Series Title: Elections Division Records,
Secretary of State's Office, 1866-1910

Series Number: 2

| <u>Volume Number</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Dates</u> |
|----------------------|--|--------------|
| 12 | Commission Book - Election Proclamations | 1865-1868 |
| 13 | Commission Book - Election Proclamations | 1869-1872 |
| 14 | Commission Book - Election Proclamations | 1872-1888 |
| 15 | Commission Book - Election Proclamations | 1874-1892 |

Record Group Number: 221

Series Title: Elections Division Records,
Secretary of State's Office, 1866-1910

Series Number: 3

| <u>Volume Number</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Dates</u> |
|----------------------|--|--------------|
| 16 | Commission Book - Election Certifications (Nov.) | 1886 |
| 17 | Commission Book - Election Certifications | 1888-1891 |
| 18 | Commission Book - Election Certifications | 1893 |
| 19 | Commission Book - Election Certifications (Aug.) | 1894 |
| 20 | Commission Book - Election Certifications | 1894-1896 |
| 21 | Commission Book - Election Certifications | 1900 |

Record Group Number: 221

Series Title: Elections Division Records,
Secretary of State's Office, 1866-1910

Series Number: 4

Volume Number

Description

Dates

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Commission Book - Commissioner of Enumeration

1881

Record Group Number: 221

Series Title: Elections Division Records,
Secretary of State's Office, 1866-1910

Series Number: 5

Volume Number

Description

Dates

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Docket of the State Board of Elections

1909-1910

Record Group Number: 221

Series Title: Elections Division Records,
Secretary of State's Office, 1866-1910

Series Number: 6

Volume Number

Description

Dates

24

Addresses--Tellers Report to the Joint Convention of the
Two Houses of the General Assembly of the State of
Tennessee and Pleadings in the Case for Governor
(H. Clay Evans vs. Peter Turney)

1885

Record Group Number: 221

Series Title: Elections Division Records,
Secretary of State's Office, 1866-1910

Series Number: 7

| <u>Volume Number</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Dates</u> |
|----------------------|--|--------------|
| 25 | Miscellaneous Records Book, Secretary of State's Office 1. Franchise Law Reports, 1866 2. Election Returns--Official Results, 1867-1872 3. Accounts of Thompson & Steger's Code Books Distributed in Tennessee, 1873 | 1867-1872 |

Record Group Number: 221

Series Title: Elections Division Records,
Secretary of State's Office, 1866-1910

Series Number: 8

| <u>Volume Number</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Dates</u> |
|----------------------|--|--------------|
| 26 | Register--Election Commissioners, List by Counties | 1897 |

Record Group Number: 221

Series Title: Elections Division Records,
Secretary of State's Office, 1866-1910

Series Number: 3

| <u>Volume Number</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Dates</u> |
|----------------------|---|--------------|
| 28 | Commission Book - Election Certifications | 1892 |

*late addition; records shipment of May, 1994.