

Collection #
SC 3180

**JAMES E. WATSON
LETTER, 1902**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
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COLLECTION
DATES: March 24, 1902

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NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

James E. Watson (1864–1948) was born in Winchester, Randolph County, Indiana. His father was a lawyer, a Republican State legislator, and owner-editor of a local newspaper, *Winchester Harold*. Watson graduated from DePauw University in 1886 and then was admitted to the bar in the same year. In 1893, Watson moved to Rushville, Rush County and established a legal practice. He was a member of the United States House of Representatives from Indiana's 4th district from 1895-1897 but failed in his attempt for reelection in 1896. He was then elected to the House from Indiana's 6th district and served from 1899-1909. After his last congressional term, Watson returned to Rushville and resumed his legal practice. In 1908 he lost a bid to become Governor of Indiana. Watson next served as a United States Senator from Indiana from 1916-1933. During his time in the Senate, he served as the majority leader from 1929–1933 and was majority leader 1929-1933; chairman, Committee on Woman Suffrage (Sixty-sixth Congress), Committee on Revision of the Laws (Sixty-sixth Congress), Committee on Enrolled Bills (Sixty-eighth Congress), Committee on Interstate Commerce (Sixty-ninth and Seventieth Congresses), Republican Conference (Seventy-first and Seventy-second Congresses); he then continued the practice of law in Washington, D.C., until his death.

Sources: bioguide.congress.gov

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This is a letter written by James E. Watson to J. D. Oliver of South Bend, St. Joseph County, to endorse his close, political friend, Thomas B. Millikan, for the position of State Bank Examiner, 24 March 1902.

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Letter, 24 March 1902

CONTAINER

Box 1 , Folder 1