

Collection #  
SC 1117  
OM 0491

**OLIVER P. MORTON  
PAPERS, 1861–1876**

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## COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 3 manuscript folders ; 1 oversize manuscript folder

COLLECTION DATES: 1861–1876

PROVENANCE: Artificially created collection by several accessions, 1926–1991; 1926.0401: Gift of John B. Kitchen; 1928.0903p0013: Gift of the Estate of George T. Carleton; 1984.0529: Gift of Montgomery County Historical Society; 1991.0185X: Gift of Children’s Museum of Indianapolis; All other accessions purchased.

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: BV 1895; F 0259–0263; SC 2820

ACCESSION NUMBER: 0000.1310; 0000.1307; 1926.0401; 1928.0903p0013; 1942.0111; 1951.0215; 1955.1106; 1958.1114; 1958.1115; 1961.0510; 1962.1013; 1965.1023; 1966.0107; 1966.0326; 1966.0524; 1967.1112; 1972.1213; 1984.0529; 1991.0185X

NOTES:

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Oliver Hazard Perry Morton was born August 4, 1823 in Centerville, Indiana of Wayne County. Before Morton became Indiana's fourteenth governor, he spent two years at Miami University (Ohio) and one term at Cincinnati College Law School. Politically, Morton was originally a Democrat, but in 1854 he left the party and helped launch the new Republican Party in Indiana. Two years later, Morton was the party's first nominee for governor, though unsuccessful. Four years later however, Morton was elected as lieutenant governor, and a year later became governor when then Governor Henry Lane resigned to enter the U.S. Senate in 1861.

Morton's time as governor was focused towards supporting Union, specifically Indiana, troops during the Civil War. Shortly after the start of the war, Morton offered 10,000 troops to the government, and worked there after to ensure other mandated quotas were filled. Along with supporting the Union troops, Morton was also a strong advocate for the rights of blacks. Morton served a second term as governor before being elected to the U.S. Senate. There he was a strong support of radical Reconstruction. In 1876, Morton lost out for the Republican presidential nomination to Rutherford B. Hayes. Morton died a year later on November 1, 1877 at the age of 54.

**Simon T. Powell** (1821–1901) was an intimate friend of who supported Morton through the Civil War, was a delegate to the Republican National Conventions in 1868 and 1872. Powell was named Supervisor of Internal Revenue in Indianapolis in 1871 and support Morton's presidential candidacy in the 1876 national convention in Cincinnati.

### Sources:

Bodenhamer and Barrows. *Encyclopedia of Indianapolis*. Indiana University Press. 1994. p. 1023. [rr F 534 .I55 E4 1994].

Original collection guide.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The collection consists of 35 items including letters, commissions and printed notices relating to Oliver P. Morton from 1861–1876.

Items from Morton's terms as governor (1861-1867) include letters that deal with his attempts to obtain artillery to protect the Indiana towns along the Ohio River and several recommendations for positions and promotions. There also is a letter to President Lincoln dated 9 August 1861 asking to set up a separate corps of Indiana troops. Two letters (stored together) relate to Rev. Fauntleroy Senour of Louisville, KY as he is being recommended first to Morton (1 July 1862) and then to Lincoln (17 July 1862) for appointment as a chaplain by citizens of that city.

The collection also contains a series of letters from Morton to his friend and political supporter, Simon T. Powell, 1866–1876. Most of these letters deal with state and national politics. Morton describes the Liberal Republican opposition to Grant, especially in 1872, and also his distrust of Indianapolis newspaper editor, George W. Julian.

## CONTENTS

### CONTENTS

Letters as governor, 1861–1865

Appointment of Charles Nettleton, Commissioner of Deeds, 8 May 1865

Letters, 1867–1876

Letters to Simon T. Powell, 1866–1876

### CONTAINER

Folder 1

OM 0491, Folder 1

Folder 2

Folder 3

### ITEM LEVEL DESCRIPTION (CALENDAR)

| ITEM   | LOCATION |
|--|----------|
| 25 January 1861: Hon. D. Kilgore to Hon. O. P. Morton<br>[0000.1310]   | Folder 1 |
| 3 May 1861: Simon Cameron, Secretary of War to Gov. O. P. Morton<br>[1967.1112]                              | Folder 1 |
| 8 May 1861: O. P. Morton to Dr. John Bobbs care of Simon Cameron, Secretary of War<br>[1955.1106]            | Folder 1 |
| 8 May 1861: O. P. Morton to Major General McClellan<br>[1962.1013]   | Folder 1 |
| 10 May 1861: O. P. Morton to Mrs. R. R. McMeens, Sandusky, Ohio (photocopy—Ohio Youth Center)<br>[1972.1213] | Folder 1 |
| 9 August 1861: O. P. Morton to His Excellency the President of the United States<br>[1955.1106]              | Folder 1 |
| 4 October 1861: O. P. Morton to Brigadier General L. Thomas<br>[1955.1106]                                   | Folder 1 |

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|--|----------|
| 4 November 1861: O. P. Morton to Brigadier General Jeff C. Davis<br>[1951.0215]  | Folder 1 |
| 14 May 1862: H. S. Lane to Governor O. P. Morton<br>[1984.0529]  | Folder 1 |
| 1 July 1862: J. T. Boyle, Louisville, Kentucky, et. al. to O. P. Morton<br>[0000.1307]                                       | Folder 1 |
| 17 July 1862 [with 1 July 1862]: 'Undersigned Citizens of Indianapolis' to the President of the United States<br>[0000.1307] | Folder 1 |
| 17 September 1862: O. P. Morton, et. al., to Hon. E. M. Stanton<br>[1955.1106]   | Folder 1 |
| 4 October 1862: Appointment of John W. Pence, Esquire as Notary Public by O. P. Morton<br>[1958.1115]                        | Folder 1 |
| 25 November 1862: O. P. Morton to His Excellency, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States<br>[1955.1106]             | Folder 1 |
| 6 January 1863: Permit to pass from O. P. Morton for A. Woodard<br>[1958.1115]   | Folder 1 |
| 15 July 1863: Oliver P. Morton 'To the Officers and Soldiers "Legion" and "Minute Men" of Indiana'<br>[0000.1310]            | Folder 1 |
| 18 November 1863: O. P. Morton to Conductor, Pittsburgh & Chicago Railway (photocopy)<br>[1961.0510]                         | Folder 1 |
| 9 December 1864: O. P. Morton to Colonel K. G. Shryock<br>[1942.0111]  | Folder 1 |

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|---|----------|
| 1 February 1865: O. P. Morton to His Excellency, Abraham Lincoln, President of the U.S.<br>[1955.1106]  | Folder 1 |
| 5 April 1865: O. P. Morton to Hon. Anson H. Risley<br>[1966.0107]                                       | Folder 1 |
| 15 April 1865: O. P. Morton 'To the Citizens of Indianapolis' (2 copies)<br>[1926.0401; 1928.0903p0013] | Folder 1 |
| 6 April 1867: O. P. Morton to Hon. Charles Francis Adams<br>[1966.0326]                                 | Folder 2 |
| 18 March 1868: O. P. Morton to His Excellency the President of the United States<br>[1966.0524]         | Folder 2 |
| 22 October 1868: O. P. Morton to [Dr. C. S. Taft – Lincoln's surgeon]<br>[0000.1310]                    | Folder 2 |
| 23 Oct. 1873: O. P. Morton to the President<br>[0000.1310]  | Folder 2 |
| 29 October 1874: O. P. Morton to 'Dear Friend'<br>[1991.0185X]  | Folder 2 |
| 5 August 1875: O. P. Morton to Hon. Charles A. Dana<br>[1965.1023]                                      | Folder 2 |
| 29 October 1866: O. P. Morton to Simon T. Powell<br>[1958.1114]   | Folder 3 |
| 7 July 1870: O. P. Morton to Simon T. Powell<br>[1958.1114]   | Folder 3 |
| 19 December 1871: O. P. Morton to Simon T. Powell<br>[1958.1114]  | Folder 3 |
| 14 January 1872: O. P. Morton to Simon T. Powell<br>[1958.1114]   | Folder 3 |
| 27 January 1872: O. P. Morton to Simon T. Powell<br>[1958.1114]   | Folder 3 |

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|--|----------|
| 26 February 1872: O. P. Morton to Simon T. Powell<br>[1958.1114] | Folder 3 |
| 15 March 1872: O. P. Morton to Simon T. Powell<br>[1958.1114]    | Folder 3 |
| 22 April 1872: O. P. Morton to Simon T. Powell<br>[1958.1114]    | Folder 3 |
| 15 May 1872: O. P. Morton to Simon T. Powell<br>[1958.1114]      | Folder 3 |
| 25 June 1876: O. P. Morton to Simon T. Powell<br>[1958.1114]     | Folder 3 |