BEARD, WILLIAM EWING, 1873-1950
PAPERS, 1477-1950

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INTRODUCTION
The W. E. Beard papers concern the career of W. E. Beard (1873-1950), soldier, journalist, war correspondent, naval historian, and long-time officer of the Tennessee Historical Commission and member of the Tennessee Historical Society. These papers were transferred from the Tennessee State Library. The collection occupies 15.54 linear feet of shelf space and number approximately 1500 items. Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the W.E. Beard Papers may be made for the purpose of scholarly research.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

1873- Born - July 12 at Estill Springs, Tennessee, son of Captain Richard and Maria L. Dromgoole Beard of Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Grandson of the late Dr. Richard Beard, head of the theological department of Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tennessee, and great-grandson of Andrew Cartleman, member of one of the pioneer families of Davidson County, Tennessee. His mother’s father was the late John E. Dromgoole, a notable Rutherford County, Tennessee citizen. Mr. Beard was the uncle of Mrs. Douglas (Faircloth) MacArthur.

1892- Volunteer in Coal Creek War

1896- August, employed as a reporter on Nashville American, Nashville, Tennessee

1898- Enrolled, June 25, with the United States Volunteers (U.S.V) and served as Quartermaster Sergeant 4th Tennessee, U.S.V. to November 1, 1898

1898- Promoted, November 1 to 2nd Lieutenant, Company M

1899- Discharged, May 6

1899- Reporter Nashville American, Nashville, Tennessee

1900- Reporter Memphis Scimitar, Memphis, Tennessee

1901

1901- City Editor, Nashville American, Nashville, Tennessee

1909- Married, June 9 to Ada Scott Rice, daughter of Captain and Mrs. James L. Rice of Nashville, Tennessee
1910- State news Editor, Nashville Banner, Nashville, Tennessee. In 1918, while serving in this capacity had the honor of naming the Twelfth Division, United States Army, “Old Glory.”

1933- Promoted, Associated Editor, Nashville Banner

1943- Accredited navy War Correspondent

1944- Navy Day Chairman, Nashville, Tennessee

1946- Accompanied United States Joint Task Force One “Operation Crossroads”

1950- Died, December 21 in Nashville, Tennessee; burial in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Nashville, Tennessee

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The William Ewing Beard Papers, containing approximately 1500 items, span the years 1477-1950. The collection is comprised of accounts, advertisements, announcements, church records, clippings, correspondence, financial documents, genealogical data, invitations, journals, land records, legal documents, lists, maps, memorials, menus, military records, music, newspapers, notebooks, notes, obituaries, passes, photographs, poetry, printed materials, programs, reports, scrapbooks, sketches, speeches, tributes, and writings.

The Beard Papers contain information on the War of 1812, Mexican War, Civil War, Spanish-American War and World War I and II. There are clippings, notes, sketches, speeches and writings on many prominent political and military figures connected with these events in American history. These include Andrew Jackson, Matthew Fontaine Maury, James K. Polk, Robert E. Lee, Nathan Bedford Forrest, Cordell Hull, Woodrow Wilson, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Douglas MacArthur, Harry S. Truman and many others.

Beard was a devoted student and writer of Tennessee and Confederate history. His Tennessee writings include newspaper columns published in the Nashville Banner such as: "Tennessee Calendar," 1939-1940; "The U. S. Navy Passes in Review," 1936-1941; "Tennesseans on the March," 1938-1939; and "Today in State History" (1796-1865), 1949.

The Beard Papers include data on "Operation-Crossroads" concerning the Atomic Bomb tests at Bikini Atoll in the Pacific in 1946. This data is presented in news announcements, clippings, notes, and photographs. There is extensive data about army, navy and air force operations during World War II. The collection also includes articles clipped from the Nashville Banner and other newspapers on a wide range of subjects, including items of historical interest about the U.S.S. Nashville and the U.S.S. Tennessee. There are a number of clippings about Will Allen Dromgoole, aunt of W. E. Beard who was widely known as a poet, novelist and Literary Editor of the Nashville Banner. Her poems and
literary works are cited in the news clippings and in a biographical sketch of her life. There are many clippings pertaining to the Civil War, the Confederacy, Tennessee battles, and a listing of Tennessee's Brigadier Generals who served in the Civil War.

Correspondence includes letters between Beard and Mrs. Douglas MacArthur, his niece, during World War II. In his official capacity with the Tennessee Historical Commission, Beard corresponded with artists and sculptors about busts of Cordell Hull, Admiral David Glasgow Farragut, Matthew Fontaine Maury and a portrait of James K. Polk. He also corresponded with James V. Forrestal about a portrait of Admiral William B. Caperton. There are letters between Beard and Mr. and Mrs. Cordell Hull and other national figures and organizations such as Frank Knox, Henry L. Stimson, House of Representatives, Navy Department, and numerous historical societies and state organizations. A letter by Henry George is a personal account of his encampment as a soldier with General Forrest at Spring Hill, Tennessee. A reprint of a letter from General Robert E. Lee in 1861 to a little girl who had written to him is included.

The Beard Papers contain genealogical data about the William E. Beard family, Will Allen Dromgoole, William Ewing, David Beard family, Thomas and Mary Amis, Robert and Joseph McMinn, James and John Rogers families, and Colonel John Donelson and descendants. A notarized statement by Felix W. Motlow concerning "Terms of Sale, Description, etc. of the Monroe Clock..." contains genealogical data on the Johnson Monroe family (1761-1834).

Legal documents include a copy of a will by James J. Andrews, 1962, of "Andrew's Raiders" fame.

There are two pieces of music composed by General Douglas MacArthur during his stay in the Philippines during World War II.

Beard's notebooks include information on Benedict Arnold, Andrew Jackson's will and other Jackson data, McNairy-Coffee duel, James K. Polk, the Dred Scott decision, Zachary Taylor, James Walker, Battle of Vera Cruz, Spanish-American War, Civil War, Tennessee Congressmen (1794-1941), Cordell Hull, TVA, Tennessee history city of Nashville, [Tennessee], naval history, navy ships, and World Wars I and II and more.

Obituaries of prominent Tennesseans and nationally known persons are included in the Beard Papers.

The Beard Papers contain an extensive collection of photographs of W. E. Beard, Beard family, W. E. Beard with United States naval personnel and numerous military photographs taken during World War II. There are several photographs of Navy ships and submarines. Photographs of historical interest include Captain William Driver who named the American Flag "Old Glory," Admiral David Glasgow Farragut, Robert Hatton-Confederate General, Hull family, Andrew Jackson, Matthew Fontaine Maury, James Miller, Steamboat Captain, and James K. Polk.

Printed materials include a copy of the Confederate States Almanac for 1862. There are materials which relate to the city of Nashville during the 1800's and various aspects of Tennessee history. There are a number of naval publications including material on the U. S. S. Iowa and data on submarines.
There are several scrapbooks containing clippings, notes and writings on the Civil War, United States naval history, Cordell Hull, U.S. Volunteers, U-boats, World Wars I and II and many other topics.

Biographical sketches will be found on a number of prominent Tennesseans as well as national political and military figures. These include John Donelson, Justices of the Tennessee Supreme Court who served from 1790 to 1940, Navy Admirals and others.

Speeches have been catalogued which were made by W. E. Beard, Omar Bradley, Frank Knox, Douglas MacArthur, Woodrow Wilson and other prominent persons. A speech by Lt. Arthur A. de la Houssaye, U.S.N.R., on the War of 1812 entitled "The Real Significance of the Battle of New Orleans" draws some conclusions which may be of interest to students of this conflict. Documentation of United States Marine Corps history prior to World War II is contained in a speech by John M. Houston cited in the Congressional Record, 1935.

There are extensive writings on all the wars of the United States through World War II. The collection includes a manuscript by German Admiral Doenitz dated 1945 entitled "The Conduct of the War at Sea" and an incomplete manuscript by an unknown author concerning Italian naval operations during World War II.

The William E. Beard Papers Addition (THS 587), consisting of approximately 1500 items, is located on THS IV-D-2.
## CONTAINER LIST

**Microfilm Reel #1**

**Box 1**
1. Account Books--Miscellaneous--1898
4. " " " --J. E. Williams, 1891-1900
5. Advertisements--General, ca. 1902-1949
7. " " " --Miscellaneous, 1914-1950
11. States Census, 1850-1880
12. Certificates--W. E. Beard--Tennessee Historical Society, 1913

**Box 2**

**Clippings**
1. Aeronautics--"Epic of America in the Air"--W. E. Beard--Nashville Banner, 1942
2. " --Miscellaneous, 1835-1938
6. Civil War--Confederate Navy, 1861-1865
7. Civil War --"Forrest, the Matchless Rider,"--W. E. Beard--Nashville Banner, 1935
8. Civil War --"Our Confederate Column"--The Weekly Times Dispatch, Richmond, Virginia,1910-1911
11. Civil War --"UCV Marches in Review"--W. E. Beard--Nashville Banner, 1941
12. Civil War --Tennessee Battles (1862-1864)--W. E. Beard--Nashville Banner, 1942
13. Civil War --Miscellaneous, 1861-1865
14. Donelson Family--Nashville Banner, 1930
15. Will Allen Dromgoole--Nashville Banner, 1924-1934
16. Cornelia Fort--"At the Twilight Last Gleaming," Nashville Banner, ca. 1942
17. Cordell Hull--"Highlights in Hull's Life"--Nashville Banner, 1937-1948
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Clippings
2. James K. Polk--Nashville Banner, 1929-1942
3. Franklin D. Roosevelt--1937-1945
4. State of Tennessee--Historical Events--Nashville Banner, 1919-1945
5. "Tennessee Calendar" (1790-1940)--W. E. Beard--Nashville Banner, 1939-1940

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7. "The South"--Miscellaneous, 1932-1939

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Clippings
1. Harry S. Truman, 1947-1949
2. United States Navy-History--W. E. Board--Nashville Banner, 1941-1945
4. United States Navy--Tennesseans Cited--Nashville Banner, 1943-1945
5. William Walker--"Finis For His Career"--Harper's Magazine, 1858-1860
6. War of 1812--Nashville Banner, 1942
7. World War I--Miscellaneous, 1914-1918
8. World War II--E.T.O., 1943-1946
9. World War II--P.T.O., 1941-1945
10. World War II--Tennesseans Cited, 1943-1944
11. World War II--United States Navy--General, 1942-1945

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1. Clippings--General, 1904-1907

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1. Clippings--General, 1904-1910

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1. Clippings--Civil War--Miscellaneous, 1800-1900
2. Clippings--World War I--Miscellaneous, 1914-1915
3. Clippings--Miscellaneous, 1907-1920

Box 8
1. Clippings--Civil War, World War I--1800-1917
Box 9
1. Clippings--Literary News--General, 1917-1936
2. Clippings--Literary articles--Miscellaneous, 1917-1937

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1. Clippings--Agriculture--Cordell Hull--Hardy Murfree--TVA--World War II, 1934-1944

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2. Clippings--Miscellaneous, 1860-1947

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Correspondence
1. The Abraham Lincoln Association- Beard, Richard
2. Beard, W.E. - Beard, W.E.
5. Calhoun, J.C.-Crouch, Jordan
7. F. E. Foster and Company - Grant, Sadie
8. Green, Sam - Hull, Frances
9. Jefferson Davis Shrine - Lake, Simon
10. Lee, Robert E. - McCord, Jim

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Correspondence
1. Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company - Nashville Banner
2. National-Life and Accident Insurance Company - Patton, E. E.
3. Pride, Fermine - Pride, Fermine
4. Reynolds, Dunbar - Sweetbriar College
5. Tennessee Historical Commission - Tennessee State Library and Archives
6. Trabue, Hume and Armistead Law Offices - United States Atlantic Fleet
7. United States Civil Service Commission - United States Naval Representative
8. United States Navy, U.S.S. Intrepid (CV-11) - Yardley, Mrs. Ira
9. Miscellaneous

Box 15
1. Diaries, memoirs, etc.-- W. E. Beard, n.d., 1903-1907
3. Genealogical Data-- W. E. Beard and allied families, 1898-1947
4. Invitations--General-- Miss Ada Rice, 1908 -- W. E. Beard, 1936-1950
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5. Journals--Confederate Veteran, March, 1928; March 1929
7. Journals--Life in the Peacetime navy, 1948
8. Journals--Shipmate: The Eyes and Ears of the Navy, 1944
10. Journals--Miscellaneous, 1939-48
11. Land Records--Deed-- Old "Brick Church" (Pike), Davidson County Court, 1828
13. Legal Documents --Letters of Testamentary and copyright--W. E. Beard, 1931-1942
14. Legal Documents --Notice of intent by British Government to requisition Dutch ships, 1918
15. Legal Documents --Sales Agreement--Felix W. Motlow, 1948
16. Legal Documents --Will--J. J. Andrews, 1862
17. Legal Documents --Miscellaneous, 1893-1937
18. Legal Documents Lists--Mexican War Battles, 1846-1847
19. Legal Documents --Miscellaneous

Box 16
2. Military Records--Summary--Lewis-Clarke Expedition, 1807
5. Newspapers--Evening Capitol, Annapolis, Maryland, October 10, 1945
6. Newspapers--Nashville Banner, Nashville, Tennessee, July 8, 1940, September 28, 1944, April 28, 1945
7. Newspapers--Our Heritage, Jackson, Mississippi, 1945, 1950
8. Newspapers--Pearl Harbor Banner, Pearl Harbor, Territory of Hawaii, February 11, 1946 December 8, 1784
9. Newspapers--Pennsylvania Journal and The Weekly Advertiser,
10. Newspapers--Philippines Free Press, August 9, 1941
11. Newspapers--The American Banner, June 7, 1856
14. Newspapers--The Park Region Echo, Alexandria, Minnesota, June 21, 1934
15. Newspapers--The Submarine News, Bridgeport, Connecticut, June 6, 1918

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17. Newspapers--Miscellaneous, 1945-1949
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1. Notebooks--Civil War--Miscellaneous notes and dates, 1757-1880

Box 18
1. Notebooks--Benedict Arnold; Andrew Jackson's Will; McNairy - Coffee duel; James K. Polk; Dred Scott decision; Zachary Taylor; James Walker, et al, Index, 1607-1857
3. Notebooks--Civil War--List of soldiers in 14th Regiment, h.s. Infantry, 1847--Miscellaneous, 1849-1883

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4. Notebooks--Miscellaneous notes, and dates, 1477-1898
5. Notebooks--Miscellaneous notes, and dates, 1800-1898

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1. Notebooks--Miscellaneous notes and dates, 1794-1917

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3. Notebooks--Miscellaneous notes and dates, n.d.

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1. Notebooks--Miscellaneous notes and dates, 1824-1937
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1. Notebooks--Civil War; Tennessee History; TVA; World War II--Miscellaneous

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2. Notebooks--Civil War; Tennessee History; TVA; World War II--1808-1944
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1. Notebooks--Historical notes and dates, 1775-1945

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2. Notebooks--Historical notes and dates--Cordell Hull; World War
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2. Notes--Church History-Tennessee--W. E. Beard, 1828-1942
6. Notes--Cordell Hull--W. E. Beard, 1945
   (1941-1945)--W. E. Beard. n.d.
16. Notes--United States Navy-U.S.S Wasp, 1814
19. Notes--World War II, 1940-1945
20. Notes--Miscellaneous, 1776-1936
22. Obituaries--Prominent Tennesseans and national figures (1844-1948)
24. Photographs, drawings, etc.--W. E. Beard, n.d.
25. Photographs, drawings, etc.--W. E. Beard family, n.d.
27. Photographs, drawings, etc.--W. E. Beard-United State Naval Personnel, 1946
28. Photographs, drawings, etc.--Captain William Driver, n.d.
   -Farragut bust, n.d.
30. Photographs, drawings, etc.-- Robert Hatton, Confederate States of America, n.d.
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3. Andrew Jackson, n.d.
5. Major General H. Knox--Naval and Military History of the United States--John Frost, 1842
7. James Miller, Steamboat captain, 1854
8. John H. Morgan, General, C.S.A., 1900
9. Nashville, [Tennessee] residences; Nashville City Cemetery, 1900
11. Gabriel J. Raines, General, Confederate States of America, 1861; Confederate torpedoes, ca. 1863
13. The University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, 1938
15. United States Naval History--”Destruction of the Dorothea by a Fulton Torpedo,” 1805
17. World War II--Atomic Bomb Factory--Oak Ridge, Tennessee, 1945
19. World War II--Corregidor, 1945
20. World War II--Japan--City of Kure, Japanese battleship Nyaga, 1945
21. World War II--Japanese Midget Submarine, Guadal Canal, ca. 1942
22. World War II--Philippines Islands, 1945
23. World War II--Ulithi, 1945
25. World War II--United States Marine Corps--Tarawa, Saipan, Tinian, 1944
27. World War II--United States Naval Personnel--Officers-Miscellaneous, 1946
29. World War II--United States Navy--Japanese ship losses--Yamakasi, 1942-Negasa, 1944
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1. Poetry--Elegy and other Poems--Thomas Gray, 1901
2. Poetry--”The Hunters of Kentucky”--Western Songster, 1832--rep. Nashville Banner, 1890
3. Poetry--Miscellaneous, 1848-ca. 1933

Printed Materials
5. Civil War--The Confederate States Almanacs for 1862--H. C. Clarke, 1861
6. Civil War--The Kearsarge-Alabama Battle--Francis B. C. Bradlee, 1921
7. Congressional Directory--Sixty-Seventh Congress, First Session, 1921
8. Forward in Tennessee--Protestant Episcopal Church, 1947
9. General James Winchester, 1752-1826--John H. DeWitt, 1912
12. Nashville Banner: A Souvenir, 1876-1976
15. Tennessee Historical Magazine--volume 6--The Tennessee Historical Society, 1920
16. The Old First Forum--First Presbyterian Church, Nashville, Tennessee, 1950
17. United States Army Air Forces--”The Strategic Bombing Myth”--General H.H. Arnold, A.A.F., 1945

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4. Printed Materials--Miscellaneous, 1847-1950
5. Programs--State of Tennessee--Miscellaneous, 1945-1949
6. Programs--Tennessee churches, 1924-1949
7. Programs--United States Navy, 1935-1940
8. Programs--Miscellaneous, 1936-1946
11. Reports--”Suffrage Ratification Facts”--National Woman's Party, ca. 1920
12. Reports--”The Plight of Tuscaloosa” (A Report of the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching), 1933

Box 29
1. Scrapbooks--Miscellaneous notes, clippings, and writings--W. E. Beard, 1860-1889
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Box 30
1. Scrapbooks--Census, 1920--Miscellaneous, 1858-1920; United States Naval History, etc., 1832-1928; Miscellaneous notes, clippings, and writings--W. E. Beard, 1915-1928
2. Scrapbooks--"Nashville, [Tennessee] an Ideal Convention City"--W. E. Beard, 1933
3. Scrapbooks--"Names of United States War Vessels," 1820; "First Ballot Taken in a Democratic National Convention," 1832; Eminent Tennesseans--W. E. Beard, 1814-1937

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1. Scrapbooks--Miscellaneous notes, clippings, and writings--W. E. Beard, 1855-1941
2. Scrapbooks--Civil War--Miscellaneous notes, clippings, and writings--W. E. Beard, 1813-1944

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3. Scrapbooks--World War II--Miscellaneous notes, clippings, and writings--W. E. Beard, 1938-1944

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1. Scrapbooks--Civil War; United States Naval History; Miscellaneous--W. E. Beard, 1809-1945

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1. Scrapbooks--Civil War; German U-Boats; United States Naval History; Airship Development; Confederate General Denton Smith; Capt. Cordell Hull, U.S.V.--Miscellaneous--W. E. Beard, 1818-1946
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1. Scrapbooks--World War II-Miscellaneous notes, clippings, and writings--W. E. Beard, 1940-46

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2. Sketches--Charles St. John Butler, Rear Admiral, United States Navy (1875-1944), 1944
3. Sketches--Samuel P. Carter, Rear Admiral, United States navy (1819-1891), n.d.
5. Sketches--Will Allen Dromgoole (____-1934)--Nashville Banner, 1934
7. Sketches--John L. Harris, United States Navy, 1938
14. Sketches--Miscellaneous, 1823-1868
16. Speeches--W. E. Beard--”Navy Day, 1944”--Two Wartime Christmases, 1944
17. Speeches--General Omar N. Bradley--”National Military Establishment,” 1944
18. Speeches--Robert B. Carney, Vice Admiral, United States Navy--”Unification of Armed Forces,” 1948
21. Speeches--Arthur A. de la Houssage, Lieutenant, United States Naval Reserve
22. Speeches--Hon. John M. Houston--”History and Accomplishments of United States Marine Corps”--Congressional Records, 1935
26. Speeches--Hugh Gordon Miller--”President Zachary Taylor,” 1933
27. Speeches--Sir Gilbert Parker, M.P.--”The United States and This War: A Word in Season,” 1915
28. Speeches--William S. Parsons, Rear Admiral, U.S.N.--”Atomic Age,” 1947
30. Speeches--Leslie C. Stevens, Rear Admiral, U.S.N.--”Naval Aviation,” 1947
31. Speeches--Hon. William F. Stevenson--”Birthplace of Andrew Jackson”--Congressional Record, 1922
32. Speeches--John L. Sullivan, Secretary of the Navy--”Sea Power,” 1947
33. Speeches--John S. Thach, Captain, U.S.N.--”Aerial Warfare,” 1948
34. Speeches--Woodrow Wilson--The President's Flag Day Address--”With Evidence of Germany's Plans,” 1917
35. Speeches--Miscellaneous, 1897-1944
36. Stamps--The Hermitage"--Steven Watts Kearny Expedition: Entry into Santa Fe, 1846-1946
37. Tributes--Andrew Jackson, 1914-1945
38. Tributes--Elbert Luther Kinser, U.S.M.C.-Medal of Honor, 1946
40. Tributes--State of Tennessee-Bruce Barton, n.d.
41. Tributes--Samuel Cole Williams- State of Tennessee, 1946

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2. American Flag--History, 1776-1777--"Old Glory's First Visit to England," 1842
3. Civic Organizations--"Hermitage Club Opening" [Nashville, Tennessee], 1882
4. Civil War--"Confederate Generals Killed in Action," 1861-1865
5. Civil War--Confederate Navy, 1861-1865
7. Civil War--"John Bell Hood, Confederate States of America." 1864
9. Civil War--Abraham Linclon--"Lincoln's Apology to Grant," et al, 1863-1865
12. Civil War--The Confederacy--Miscellaneous Articles, 1861-1865
13. Civil War--"The Selma Arsenal,1862-1865--Agnes Bishop--United Daughters of the Confederacy, 1931
15. Civil War--Miscellaneous, 1861-1865
16. Andrew Jackson--Miscellaneous Articles, 1813-1943
18. City of Nashville [Tennessee], 1834-1869
19."Pioneer Submarines"--Robert Fulton--H. L. Hunley, 1812-1864

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6. United States Naval History--"Famous American Ships"--Ranger-Intrepid-
   Miscellaneous Articles--W.E. Beard
7. United States Navy--"U.S.S. Nashville" (with attachments)--W. E. Beard, 1945
8. United States Navy--U.S.S. Tennessee, ca. 1945
9. War of 1812--Presidential Proclamation--"La Fitte, The Pirate," 1815--"The British at
   New Orleans"--W. E. Beard, n.d.
10. World War I--Miscellaneous Articles, 1917-1918
11. World War II--Italian Naval Operations, 1940-1943
12. World War II--"The Conduct of the War at Sea"--Admiral Doenitz--Germany, ca.
    1945
13. World War II--"Corregidor"--W. E. Beard, ca. 1945
14. World War II--United States Navy--Miscellaneous Articles--W. E. Beard, 1943-1944
15. World War II--Miscellaneous, 1811-1947