

Missouri State Archives

Finding Aid 3.24

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

THOMAS THEODORE CRITTENDEN, 1881-1885

Abstract: Records (1881-1885) of Governor Thomas Theodore Crittenden (1832-1909) include appointments, petitions, and resignations.

Extent: 0.1 cubic ft. (partial Hollinger)

Physical Description: Paper

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Access Restrictions: No special restrictions.

Publication Restrictions: Copyright is in the public domain. Items reproduced for publication should carry the credit line: Courtesy of the Missouri State Archives.

Preferred Citation: [Item description], [date]; Thomas Theodore Crittenden, 1881-1885; Office of Governor, Record Group 3.24; Missouri State Archives, Jefferson City.

Processing Information: Processing completed by Becky Carlson, Local Records Field Archivist, on February 5, 1999. Finding aid updated by Sharon E. Brock on July 29, 2009.

HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Thomas Theodore Crittenden was born on January 1, 1832 in Shelbyville, Shelby County, Kentucky to Henry Crittenden, a member of the prominent Virginia and Kentucky political family, and his wife Anna Maria. He attended school in Breckinridge County, Kentucky, prior to graduating in 1855 from Centre College in Danville. He studied law with his uncle, future U.S. Senator and Kentucky governor, John Jordan Crittenden and was admitted to the Kentucky bar in 1856. He married Caroline Wheeler Jackson on November 13, 1856 and shortly

thereafter, the couple moved to Lexington, Lafayette County, Missouri where Crittenden opened his law practice.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Crittenden and John Finis Philips organized the 7th Cavalry of the Missouri State Militia. Lt. Colonel Crittenden served with that unit from May 1862 and saw action at the Battle of Murfreesboro, Tennessee. In 1864, Governor Willard Preble Hall appointed Crittenden attorney general after the death of Aikeman Welch.

Crittenden relocated his law practice to Warrensburg, Johnson County at the end of his term, forming a partnership with U.S. Senator Francis M. Cockrell. His law firm was also affiliated with the Sedalia firm of Philips and (George Graham)Vest. Cockrell, Crittenden, Phillips, and Vest became known as the "Big Four." In 1872, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from the 7th Congressional District. John Finis Philips defeated Crittenden for reelection in 1874 but voters returned him to Congress in 1876.

He returned to Missouri, running for governor as a Democrat in 1880. Thomas Theodore Crittenden was sworn in as Missouri's 24th governor on January 10, 1881. Governor Crittenden named three goals for his administration: elevating the financial standing of the state, strengthening the education system, and suppressing outlawry. Governor Crittenden successfully fought to collect payment on loans the state had made to the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad. The state debt was reduced; the Missouri State Board of Health and the Missouri State Bureau of Mines and Mine Inspection were established; appropriations to the education system were increased; and a training school for nurses was started in St. Louis.

Missouri state law limited the amount of rewards offered for the capture of criminals to \$300. After seeking and receiving pledges from the railroads for larger amounts, Crittenden offered \$5,000 each for the capture of Frank and Jesse James. He also offered \$5,000 each for the capture, arrest, and conviction of the remainder of the James Brothers Gang. On April 3, 1882, Robert Ford shot and killed Jesse James, turned himself in to authorities, and claimed the reward. He was subsequently tried and convicted of the murder of Jesse James and sentenced to hang. Immediately pardoned by Governor Crittenden, Ford collected little of the reward money. Frank James surrendered personally to Crittenden on October 5, 1882. Acquitted of the murder of a railroad employee, James was employed in various jobs before retiring to farm life. He died on February 18, 1915 and a son of Governor Crittenden served as pallbearer. The governor paid out \$20,000 in reward money for the capture and conviction of members of the James Gang but refused to divulge to whom.

Governor Crittenden moved to Kansas City at the end of his term and opened the law office of Crittenden, McDougal, and Stiles. He was a pioneering member of the Missouri Bar Association and maintained his membership from 1880 until his death. He was appointed by President Grover Cleveland as the U.S. Consul General to Mexico in 1893,

a post he held for four years. Thomas Theodore Crittenden died on May 29, 1909 in Kansas City and is interred Forest Hill Cemetery, Kansas City, Jackson County.

Timeline

January 1, 1832	Born at Shelbyville, Shelby County, Kentucky to Henry and Anna Maria Crittenden
1855	Graduated from Centre College, Danville, Kentucky
November 13, 1856	Married to Caroline Wheeler Jackson of Estill County Kentucky in Frankfort, Franklin County, Kentucky
1857	Moved to Lexington, Lafayette County, Missouri
1872	Elected to US Congress from 7 th District, Warrensburg, Johnson County
1880	Elected as twenty-fourth governor of state of Missouri
December 20, 1882	Caroline Allen Crittenden dies of diphtheria in the Executive Mansion
1885	Moved to Kansas City, Jackson County, as partner in law firm of Crittenden, McDougal and Stiles
1893	Appointed US Consul General to Mexico
May 29, 1909	Died in Kansas City

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Bibliography

Carnahan, Jean, *If Walls Could Talk* (Jefferson City, Mo: Missouri Mansion Preservation, Incorporated, 1998), pp. 49-57.

Guitar, Sarah, "Thomas Theodore Crittenden," in *The Messages and Proclamations of the Governors of the State of Missouri*, Vol. VI (Columbia, Mo: The State Historical Society of Missouri, 1922), pp. 269-271.

National Governor's Association, Thomas Theodore Crittenden, on-line <http://www.nga.org>

Official Manual of the State of Missouri (Jefferson City, Mo: Office of Secretary of State, legislative years 1963-64), pp. 16, 20.

Scott, Henry Wilson, and Ingalls, John James, *Distinguished American Lawyers: With Their Struggles and Triumphs in the Forum* (New York: Charles L. Webster and Company, 1891), pp. 241-249. Google on-line, <http://books.google.com/books>

Shoemaker, Floyd Calvin, *Missouri and Missourians* Vol. II (Chicago: Lewis Publishing Company, 1943), pp. 31, 54, 69, 72-79, 89.

Weil, Lisa Heffernan, "Crittenden, Thomas Theodore (1832-1909)," in *Dictionary of Missouri Biography* (Columbia, MO: University of Missouri Press, 1999), pp. 217-218.

Related Material

Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri Valley Special Collections, holds *Kansas City, Missouri, Its History and Its People, 1808-1908*, Vol. 1, by Carrie Westlake Whitney (Chicago: S. J. Clark Publishing Company, 1908), on-line, <http://www.kchistory.org>

Missouri History Museum, St. Louis, holds collection A 1043, Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, Commandery of the State of Missouri, 1885-1931, (box one, folder two) on-line, http://www.mohistory.org/files/archives_guides/MilitaryOrder.pdf

State Historical Society of Missouri, Columbia holds:

Crittenden, T. T. *Autobiography of Governor T. T. Crittenden*, 1909

Washburne, Elihu Benjamin, "Address of Elihu B. Washburne; Response of Governor Thos. T. Crittenden on the occasion of the presentation of the portrait of the Hon. Edward Hempstead to the state of Missouri, Jefferson City, February 3, 1881" (Jefferson City: Tribune Printing Company, 1881)

University of Kentucky, Lexington, Margaret I. King Library, holds the Thomas Theodore Crittenden Papers, on-line, http://kdl.kyvl.org/static/findaids/kyead/kyead_KUK-kukm1vf87m20.html

University of Missouri, Columbia, Elmer Ellis Library, holds the *Crittenden Memoirs*, compiled by Harry Huston Crittenden (New York: G. P. Putnam and Sons, 1936).

RECORDS OF GOVERNOR THOMAS THEODORE CRITTENDEN, 1881-1885

Scope and Content

Resignations and request for appointments comprise the Records of Governor Thomas Theodore Crittenden. The files also include supporting petitions. The records are arranged in chronological order and thereunder alphabetically.

All references to places are within the state of Missouri unless indicated, and county is specified when known. The spelling of proper names varies greatly. When correct spelling could not be determined the original spelling was retained. Officeholders are Missouri officials unless noted (U.S. Senator, U.S. Secretary of State, U.S. Attorney General, U.S. Supreme Court, etc). State Representatives are referred to as Representative. U.S. Representatives are noted with the title Congressman.

When the collection was microfilmed, it was determined that some of the collection required rehousing. As a result, some folder numbers have changed. Original folder numbers are noted within parentheses. For example, 1 (13) indicates that the item originally in folder 13 is now located in folder 1.

Container List

Location	Box	Folder	Date	Contents
1B/1/3	1	1 (13)	No Date	Petition, Springfield, Greene County citizens; recommends Mitchell M. Lampton as coal oil inspector
1B/1/3	1	1 (13)	No Date	Petition, Springfield, Greene County citizens; recommends Samuel Moore as coal oil inspector
1B/1/3	1	2 (13)	January 14, 1841	Richard O. Stoffregen, Bay, Gasconade County; resignation as county coroner
1B/1/3	1	2 (13)	January 22, 1881	J. A. Fitch, Richland, Pulaski County; resignation as notary public; recommends Charles H. Davis
1B/1/3	1	2 (13)	January 27, 1881	Petition, residents of Callaway County; recommend Nowland Wommack as tobacco inspector

1B/1/3	1	2 (13)	April 16, 1881	Nowland Womack, Fulton, Callaway County; transmittal of check; commission as coal oil inspector
1B/1/3	1	2 (13)	April 23, 1881	W. P. Henrick, Jefferson City, Cole County; resignation as public administrator
1B/1/3	1	2 (13)	April 28, 1881	C. C. Cowen, St. Louis; resignation as notary public, request for reappointment
1B/1/3	1	2 (13)	May 2, 1881	William G. Moseley, Harlem, Clay County; resignation as notary public; Missouri River flood
1B/1/3	1	2 (13)	May 18, 1881	W. L. Neal, Grant City, Worth County; resignation as public administrator
1B/1/3	1	2 (13)	May 24, 1881	Representative Joseph S. Hayhurst, Grubbsville, Franklin County; resignation from 2 nd District
1B/1/3	1	2 (13)	May 27, 1881	Peter Bleistin, Maysville, Dekalb County; resignation as county coroner
1B/1/3	1	2 (13)	July 8, 1881	John Walker, Jefferson City, Cole County; resignation as member of the board of curators, University of Missouri
1B/1/3	1	2 (13)	July 25, 1881	Judge George Gallaher, Warsaw, Benton County; resignation from county court
1B/1/3	1	2 (13)	July 25, 1881	C. E. Vrooman, Lancaster, Schuyler County; resignation as public administrator; recommends Ed L. French
1B/1/3	1	2 (13)	July 30, 1881	Henry F. Davis, Ozark, Christian County; resignation as county coroner
1B/1/3	1	2 (13)	August 2, 1881	Smith Nichols, Seneca, Newton County; resignation as notary public
1B/1/3	1	2 (13)	August 11, 1881	James F. Brown, Forsyth, Taney County; resignation as public administrator
1B/1/3	1	2 (13)	October 26, 1881	William R. Neil, Lincoln, Benton County; resignation as public administrator

1B/1/3	1	2 (13)	October 27, 1881	Alex M. Dockery, Gallatin, Daviess County; resignation from the board of curators, University of Missouri (letter is written on Grand Lodge, Ancient, Free & Accepted Masons Stationery)
1B/1/3	1	2 (13)	December 16, 1881	Austin Crisman, Huntsville, Randolph County; resignation as public administrator
1B/1/3	1	2 (13)	December 17, 1881	Joseph S. Hart, Hannibal, Marion County; resignation as public administrator; Home Life Association of Burlington, Iowa
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	February 1, 1882	F. M. Dixon, Louisville, Lincoln County; resignation as notary public
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	February 3, 1882	John K. McDearmon, St. Charles, St. Charles County; resignation of Clement Boyse as St. Charles County presiding county court judge
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	February 18, 1882	Charles A. Chase, Tremont House, Kansas City, Jackson County; resignation as Jackson County collector; Kansas City Savings Association; Jackson County Collector
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	February 27, 1882	George D. Biggs, Ralls County clerk, New London, Ralls County; death of Representative Henry H. Priest
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	February 28, 1882	William B. Arnold, Liberty, Clay County; resignation as Clay County coroner
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	March 2, 1882	Richard O. Stoffregen, Bay, Gasconade County; resignation as county coroner
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	March 7, 1882	Ezra M. Hurst, Westboro, Atchison County; resignation as representative and relocation to New Mexico
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	March 11, 1882	Petition, citizens of Clay County; recommends Robertson C. Ewing as Clay County coroner
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	March 17, 1882	Representative William J. Workman, Knob Knoster, Johnson County; resignation from General Assembly

1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	May 1882	Petition; recommends Deiderick Bauman as commissioner from Missouri to the Denver Exposition
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	May 3, 1882	C. W. Moore, Emporia, Kansas; resignation from State Board of Agriculture; relocated to Kansas
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	May 5, 1882	John F. Clark, Maysville, Dekalb County; resignation of R.W. Nicholson, county collector
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	May 10, 1882	Silas Woodson, St. Joseph, Buchanan County; acceptance of the Governor's appointment as judge; resignation from the Board of Managers State Lunatic Asylum No. 2, Fish Commission, and State Hospital (Woodson was governor of Missouri from 1871 to 1873)
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	June 3, 1882	Riley Gale, Memphis, Scotland County; resignation as county court Judge
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	June 9, 1882	D. Bauman, Denver, Colorado; appreciation for appointment as commissioner to the Denver Exposition; recommends Mr. Humphreys to the commission as well (written on National Mining & Industrial Exposition Association, engraving of Exposition Hall)
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	August 4, 1882	William R. Neil, Lincoln, Benton County; resignation as public administrator
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	August 19, 1882	C. J. Berensmeyer, Richfountain, Osage County; resignation as notary public
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	October 10, 1882	J. J. Werninger, Bethany, Harrison County; resignation as county surveyor
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	November 10, 1882	James McPheeters, Scott County; death of the county assessor William Wylie
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	November 11, 1882	Jasper N. Burk, Laclede Hotel, St. Louis; recommends James M. Staples as tobacco inspector
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	November 11, 1882	N. A. Newman, St. Louis; recommends James M. Staples as tobacco inspector

1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	November 27, 1882	E. A. Noonan, St. Louis; resignation as assistant circuit court attorney, 8 th Judicial Circuit (written on State Democratic Central Committee Stationery)
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	November 27, 1882	Petition, citizens of Springfield, Greene County; recommends J. H. Lacy as coal oil inspector
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	November 27, 1882	James Lacy, Springfield, Greene County; request for appointment as coal oil inspector
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	December 9, 1882	F. E. Bybee, Harrisonville, Cass County; resignation as county surveyor
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	December 23, 1882	Judge Robert W. Fyan, Marshfield, Webster County; resignation from the 14 th Judicial District
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	December 28, 1882	J. Rhey McCord, Linn, Osage County; resignation as notary public
1B/1/3	1	3 (13)	December 29, 1882	John A. Hornesby, M.D., St. Louis; resignation as St. Louis county coroner
1B/1/3	1	4 (13)	January 3, 1883	Henry J. Spaunhorst, St. Louis; resignation as commissioner of labor statistics
1B/1/3	1	4 (13)	March 22, 1883	H. L. Gaines, Brunswick, Chariton County; recommends James M. Staples as tobacco inspector
1B/1/3	1	4 (13)	April 1, 1883	Casper W. Bell, Brunswick, Chariton County; recommends James M. Staples as tobacco inspector
1B/1/3	1	4 (13)	April 6, 1883	J. N. Crouch, St. Louis; recommends James M. Staples as tobacco inspector
1B/1/3	1	4 (13)	April 6, 1883	Rhodus T. Lindsay, St. Louis; recommends James M. Staples as tobacco inspector
1B/1/3	1	4 (13)	April 7, 1883	Edmund & Mense, St. Louis; recommends James M. Staples as tobacco inspector
1B/1/3	1	4 (13)	April 19, 1883	Samuel A. Gilbert, Denison, Texas; resignation as notary public for the City of St. Louis

1B/1/3	1	4 (13)	July 2, 1883	George Chappell, Cape Girardeau, Cape Girardeau County; resignation as coal oil inspector
1B/1/3	1	4 (13)	August 9, 1883	B. B. Dobyons, Shelbina, Shelby County; to Robert A. Campbell; inquiry to the delay of Governor Crittenden to appoint J.C. Hale of Shelbyville as commissioner to the Denver Exposition; lack of response
1B/1/3	1	4 (13)	September 11, 1883	Representative Jeremiah Poore, Barton County; personal resignation
1B/1/3	1	4 (13)	October 18, 1883	J. W. Lowe, Plattsburg, Clinton County; resignation as prosecuting attorney (written on circuit clerk's stationery; courthouse was destroyed by fire)
1B/1/3	1	4 (13)	October 30, 1883	W. S. Herndon, Stewartsville, Dekalb County; resignation as notary public of Platte County
1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	1884	James M. McGhee, Van Buren, Carter County; resignation of probate judge; election of Mr. Bumgardner
1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	May 16, 1884	William H. Wallace, Kansas City, Jackson County; resignation as Jackson County prosecuting attorney
1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	June 7, 1884	Hugh Lincoln, Fulton, Callaway County; resignation as presiding county court judge
1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	August 4, 1884	J. W. Bell, New London, Ralls County; resignation as presiding county court judge
1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	August 7, 1884	John J. Sitton, Garfield, Oregon County; resignation as presiding county court judge
1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	August 25, 1884	J. Zeisler, St. Charles County; resignation as St. Charles County court presiding judge
1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	September 1, 1884	Isaac N. Shambaugh, Elk Mills, McDonald County; resignation as McDonald County Court presiding judge

1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	September 26, 1884	James M. McGhee, Carter County Circuit Clerk; resignation of James J. Kintry, probate judge, Carter County
1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	October 11, 1884	Representative John O'Fallon, St. Louis; resignation from Jefferson County (written on Southern Hotel Stationery); fire insurance
1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	October 14, 1884	J. J. Russell, Charleston, Mississippi County; resignation as Mississippi County prosecuting attorney; appointed position as elector, Democratic Party, recommends Robert A. Hatcher as replacement
1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	October 18, 1884	A. W. Kelso, Grant City, Worth County; resignation as notary public, maintenance of position as elector
1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	October 27, 1884	Thomas H. Parrish, Oregon, Holt County; resignation as notary public
1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	November 4, 1884	Judge Erastus D. Brown, Edina, Knox County; resignation from probate court; recommends Cyrus R. Fowler
1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	November 7, 1884	William Brantren, Sullivan County; resignation as notary public
1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	November 12, 1884	J. W. Fristoe, Purfice, Randolph County; resignation as notary public
1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	November 22, 1884	Judge John L. Martin, Perryville, Perry County; resignation from Perry County court; election as county sheriff
1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	November 25, 1884	Henry T. Burns, Perry County clerk, Perryville, Perry County; notification it will not be necessary to appoint new member to the county court
1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	December 1884	Petition, citizens of St. Joseph, Buchanan County; recommends Capt. M. M. Claggett as coal oil inspector
1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	December 10, 1884	D. M. Wilson, Milan, Sullivan County; resignation as commissioner of public schools; elected prosecuting attorney

1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	December 17, 1884	Judge Frederick Wegener, Warren County; resignation from Warren County Court
1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	December 23, 1884	C. T. Collins, Kansas City, Jackson County; resignation as Henry County notary public
1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	December 23, 1884	R. T. Davis, R. T. Davis Mill Company, St. Joseph, Buchanan County; resignation as state senator
1B/1/3	1	5 (13)	December 29, 1884	Judge W. K. Newgent, Jefferson City, Cole County; resignation from Monroe County Court
1B/1/3	1	6 (13)	January 5, 1885	Judge Thomas Turner, Barry County; resignation from county court