

Howard University

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**COOK, George**

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GEORGE WILLIAM COOK PAPERS  
Collection 21-1

Prepared & Revised by:  
Greta S. Wilson  
June 1980

## Scope Note

The George W. Cook Papers were presented to the Howard University Library in April, 1958 by Mrs. Helen Jackson, a relative.

This one box collection of papers measuring « linear foot and spanning the years 1855-1.931, contains addresses, biographical sketches, clippings correspondence, manuscripts, memorials, poetry, a scrapbook, and a song. The song is the New John Brown Song composed by William Weston Patton, late President of Howard University. The correspondence includes letters from Theodore Roosevelt, Joel E. Spingarn, W.E.B. Dubois and others. Many of the letters are congratulatory, received upon celebration of Cook's 50 years at Howard University. Others are letters of condolence to his wife, Coralie Franklin Cook, from correspondents such as Lulu V. Childers, F.D. Wilkinson, W.V. Tunnell and Walter White.

## Biographical Data

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 1855 January | Born in slavery in Winchester Virginia.   |
| 1877         | Graduated from Howard University Preparatory School   |
| 1881         | Began teaching career at Howard University  |
| 1886         | Received A.B. degree from Howard University   |
| 1886         | Appointed Assistant in the typographical division of the Geological survey (summers)  |
| 1898         | Received LL.B. from Howard University   |
| 1903         | Dean of School of Commerce and finance at Howard University   |
| 1911         | Secretary of Howard University  |
| 1912-19      | Secretary and Business Manager of Howard University   |
| 1914         | Elected member of the Board of Directors of N.A.A.C.P.<br><br>Established Cottage System for dependent colored children at Blue Plains, D.C.<br><br>Appointed to Board of Charities of D.C. by three presidents |
| 1924         | Honored by President, faculty for 50 years of service at Howard University.   |
| 1928         | Alumni Secretary  |
| 1931         | Alumni Trustee  |
| 1931 Aug. 20 | Died at Mercy Hospital, Philadelphia, PA  |

## Series Description

- Series A**  
Box 21-1  
**Addresses**  
Manuscripts delivered in early 1920's
- Series B**  
Box 21-1  
**Biographical Data**  
Biographical sketches of his life as a young boy and as student and Dean of Howard University. Included is a typewritten letter to W.E.B. Dubois with a biographic sketch attached.
- Series C**  
Box 21-1  
**Clippings**  
Clippings on Howard University activities, (and on the controversy over retirement of George W. Cook.
- Series D**  
Box 21-1  
**Correspondence**  
Congratulatory letters, condolences and general correspondence to Cook and his wife Coralie Franklin Cook. Correspondents include W.E.B. Dubois, Theodore Roosevelt and J.E. Spingarn.
- Series E**  
Box 21-1  
**Manuscripts**  
Includes memorials, resolutions, funeral accounts and other Personal Papers of George W. Cooke. An account of Booker T. Washington's funeral is included and a copy of the Eulogy of Frederick Douglass.
- Series F**  
Box 21-1  
**Printed Material**  
Papers pertaining, to Howard University, including an outline of organizational structure, exam schedules and circulars. Also a Poem and a song are included.



## Container List

| <b>Series F</b> | <b>Printed Materials</b>  |
|-----------------|---|
| Box             | Folder  |
| 21-1            | 18 Miller, Kelly - A Howard University Graduate in the Orient                                     |
|                 | 19 Money, Our Need  |
|                 | 20 Comparative Religion - Master's oration, Howard University                                     |
|                 | 21 Is there a Problem   |
|                 | 22 The Community and the Colored Child  |
|                 | 23 Plan of Internal Government of Howard University   |
|                 | 24 Howard University - Circular, 1868; Exam schedules, 1869, 1893                                 |
|                 | 25 Poem - Stanton, Elizabeth Cady to Susan B. Anthony on her eightieth birthday February 15, 1900 |
|                 | 26 Song - The "New John Brown Song" by William Weston Patton                                      |