

Howard University

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### Recommended Citation

Staff, MSRC, "COOK, George" (2015). *Manuscript Division Finding Aids*. 42.  
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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.  Established Cottage System for dependent colored children at Blue Plains, D.C.  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

### **Series A**      **Addresses**

Box              Folder

- 21-1            1      Address - The Charter, a Challenge March 2, 1920.  
                  2      Address - Emancipation Proclamation at Zion Baptist, D.C. April 16,  
1923.            3      Address - Emancipation Day Address

### **Series B**      **Biographical Data**

- 4      Biographical Sketches

### **Series C**      **Clippings**

- 5      Clippings  
6      Newspaper Clippings - Retirement

### **Series D**      **Correspondence**

- 7      Family Correspondence, A-Z  
8      General Correspondence, A-D  
9      General Correspondence, E-R  
10     General. Correspondence, S-Z

### **Series E**      **Manuscripts**

- 11     Washington, Booker T.  
12     Resolutions - Howard Law School upon the death of George William Cook  
         August 22, 1931  
13     Invitation to Memorial Service  
14     In Memoriam - Cook, George William - by Howard Club of Denver,  
         Delaware.  
15     In Memoriam - George William Cook Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel  
         June 9, 1932  
16     Funeral Account of George William Cook (incomplete)  
17     Eulogy on the Life and Services of Hon. Frederick Douglass 4-28-1895

## 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