Collection Summary
Title: Helen Keller Papers
Span Dates: 1842-1954
ID No.: MSS28357
Creator: Keller, Helen, 1880-1968
Extent: 2,000 items
Extent: 4 containers plus 1 oversize
Extent: 1.6 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm82028357
Summary: Author and lecturer. Correspondence and papers relating to the preparation of Keller's book My Religion, and newspaper clippings concerning her writings, lectures, and travels. Includes typescripts of several works by other blind writers.

Selected Search Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People
Keller, Helen, 1880-1968.
Sperry, Paul, 1879-1954.
Swedenborg, Emanuel, 1688-1772.
Watson, Evelyn M. (Evelyn Mabel), 1886-1956.

Subjects
Blind authors.
New Jerusalem Church.

Places
South America--Description and travel.

Provenance
The papers of Helen Keller, author and lecturer, were given to the Library of Congress by Elizabeth B. Bliss in 1932, and Josephine Sperry in 1954-1955. Additional material was transferred by the Department of State in 1955. Two items were purchased in 1992.

Processing History
The papers of Helen Keller were arranged and described in 1963. The finding aid was revised and two items added in 2003.

Copyright Status
The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Helen Keller is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).
Access and Restrictions

The papers of Helen Keller are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Helen Keller Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Helen Keller (1880-1968), author and lecturer, span the years 1842-1954 and include correspondence, speeches and writings, clippings, printed matter, and photographs.

The bulk of the correspondence consists of files of Swedenborgian minister Paul Sperry relating to the publication of Keller's book, My Religion. Also included are reviews of the book. A trip by Keller to South America in 1953 is documented by newspaper clippings, State Department dispatches, and Keller's speeches. The collection also contains drafts of writings by others, in particular the blind author Evelyn M. Watson.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material.
## Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td><em>Book of Psalms, 1842</em> See Oversize</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| BOX 1     | Clippings, 1913-1954, undated  
(2 folders) |
| BOX 1     | Correspondence |
| BOX 1     | 1908-1927  
(7 folders) |
| BOX 2     | 1928-1954, undated  
(6 folders) |
| BOX 2     | Photographs, undated |
| BOX 2     | Printed matter, 1927-1953, undated  
(2 folders) |
| BOX 3     | Trip to South America, 1953 |
| BOX 3     | Clippings |
| BOX 3     | Brazil |
| BOX 3     | Mexico  
(2 folders) |
| BOX 3     | Panama |
| BOX 3     | Peru |
| BOX 3     | Dispatches |
| BOX 3     | Speeches |
| BOX 3     | Writings |
| BOX 3     | By Keller |
| BOX 3     | Miscellaneous, 1952, undated |
| BOX 3     | *My Religion* |
| BOX 3     | Clippings, 1927-1928  
(2 folders) |
| BOX 4     | Drafts, undated  
(2 folders) |
| BOX 4     | By others, 1932-1939, 1948, undated  
(5 folders) |
| BOX OV 1  | Oversize |
| BOX OV 1  | *Book of Psalms, 1842*  
(container 1) |