

Mary French Sheldon Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2008

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm78039677>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009287>

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Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2010

Collection Summary

Title: Mary French Sheldon Papers

Span Dates: 1885-1938

ID No.: MSS39677

Creator: Sheldon, Mary French, 1847-1936

Extent: 1,350 items

Extent: 7 containers plus 1 oversize

Extent: 2.8 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm78039677>

Summary: Author, lecturer, and explorer. Correspondence, writings, lectures, notes, clippings, address book, drawings, awards, menus, books, photographs, passports, scrapbooks, and miscellaneous material relating primarily to Belgium, the Belgian Congo, and Africa.

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

Albert I, King of the Belgians, 1875-1934--Correspondence.

Flaubert, Gustave, 1821-1880. Salamambo.

Sheldon, Mary French, 1847-1936.

Stanley, Henry M. (Henry Morton), 1841-1904--Correspondence.

Places

Africa--Description and travel.

Congo (Democratic Republic)--Description and travel.

Occupations

Authors.

Explorers.

Lecturers.

Provenance

The papers of Mary French Sheldon, author, lecturer, and explorer, were given to the Library of Congress by Sheldon's estate in 1947.

Processing History

The papers of Mary French Sheldon were arranged and described in 1960. A container list was produced in 1986. The collection was rehoused and described in 2003, and the finding aid was revised in 2010.

Transfers

Two nitrate negative motion picture films have been transferred to the Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division where they are identified as part of the Mary French Sheldon Papers.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Mary French Sheldon Papers is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Mary French Sheldon 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, Mary French Sheldon Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Mary French Sheldon (1847-1936) span the years 1885-1938. The collection consists of correspondence, writings, lectures, notes, clippings, an address book, drawings, awards, menus, books, photographs, passports, scrapbooks, and miscellaneous material primarily concerning Sheldon's interest in Africa, particularly the Belgian Congo. Also included is correspondence relating to her travels and lectures; fictional writings; translations of various works, including *Salambo* by Gustave Flaubert; an unpublished work relating to the Congo; drawings by Shelton; and photographs of various subjects, especially Africa. Correspondents include Henry Morton Stanley, Albert I, King of the Belgians, and several of Albert's cabinet ministers.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Address book, undated
BOX 1	Award, 1893 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 1	Calling cards, undated
BOX 1	Clippings, 1915-1938
BOX 1	Correspondence
BOX 1	1885-1922 (9 folders)
BOX 2	1923-1935, undated (7 folders)
BOX 2	Drawings, 1915-1926, undated <i>See also Oversize</i>
BOX 2	Lectures, 1892-1924, undated
BOX 2	Menus, 1897-1905
BOX 2	Miscellany, 1885, 1909, 1926-1927, undated
BOX 2	Notes, undated
BOX 2	Africa
BOX 2	Belgium
BOX 3	Miscellaneous
BOX 3	Quotations
BOX 3	Obituary, 1936
BOX 3	Passports, 1903-1931 <i>See also Oversize</i>
BOX 3	Photographs
BOX 3	Africa, 1903-1916, undated (4 folders)
BOX 3	Autographed portraits, 1897, 1916-1925, undated <i>See also Oversize</i>
BOX 3	Belgian royal family, 1922, undated <i>See also Oversize</i>
BOX 3	Louvain, Belgium, 1914, undated
BOX 4	Miscellaneous, 1921-1930
BOX 4	Sheldon, Mary French, 1903-1907, undated
BOX 4	Slides, undated
BOX 4	Ward, Herbert, undated
BOX 4	Scrapbooks, 1896-1936, undated (2 folders)
BOX 4	Writings
BOX 4	By Sheldon
BOX 4	“Congo”
BOX 4	Albert I, King of the Belgians, 1909-1923, undated
BOX 4	Colonial, 1922-1923, undated
BOX 5	Development, 1916, undated
BOX 5	Foreword, undated
BOX 5	Léopold II, King of the Belgians, 1898, undated
BOX 5	Miscellany, 1891-1928, undated
BOX 5	Congo tribal customs, undated

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 5	“The Drifter Anchored,” undated
BOX 5	Fragments, undated
BOX 5	“How He and She Collaborated,” undated
BOX 5	Letter to the editor, 1903
BOX 5	“Love’s Hazard,” undated
BOX 5	Miscellaneous, undated
BOX 5	<i>Memoirs of Judas</i> , translated by Sheldon, undated
BOX 5	Chapters 1-11 (2 folders)
BOX 6	Chapters 12-33 (4 folders)
BOX 6	“Nature’s Child,” undated
BOX 6	<i>Pilate and Ovid’s Daughter</i> , undated
BOX 6	<i>Salambo</i> , translated by Sheldon, 1885-1886 (2 folders)
BOX 7	By others
BOX 7	Stanley, Henry M., <i>The Congo and the Founding of the Free State</i> , 1885 (2 vols.)
BOX 7	Ward, Sarita, <i>A Valiant Gentleman; Being the Biography of Herbert Ward, Artist and Man of Action</i> , 1927
BOX OV 1	Award, 1893 (Container 1)
BOX OV 1	Drawings, 1915, 1926 (Container 2)
BOX OV 1	Passports, 1903-1931 (Container 3)
BOX OV 1	Photographs
BOX OV 1	Autographed portraits, 1897 (Container 3)
BOX OV 1	Belgian royal family, 1922 (Container 3)