

**Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain Papers**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**2010**

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm78015503>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc/mss/eadmss.ms010265>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Finding aid encoded by Glenn R. Gardner, 2010

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain Papers

**Span Dates:** 1775-1913

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1828-1913)

**ID No.:** MSS15503

**Creator:** Chamberlain, Joshua Lawrence, 1828-1914.

**Extent:** 1,000 items

**Extent:** 11 containers

**Extent:** 4.4 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

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

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm78015503>

**Summary:** Union Army officer, educator, and governor of Maine. Correspondence, biographical notes, record books, military reports, speeches, accounts of engagements of the Army of the Potomac, and other material mostly concerning the Civil War.

## 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

Brown, John Marshall, 1838-1907--Correspondence.

Burrage, Henry S. (Henry Sweetser), 1837-1926--Correspondence.

Chamberlain, Joshua Lawrence, 1828-1914.

Connor, Selden, 1839- --Correspondence.

Hamlin, Charles, 1837-1911--Correspondence.

Howard, O. O. (Oliver Otis), 1830-1909--Correspondence.

McClellan, Carswell, 1835-1892--Correspondence.

Sargent, Horace Binney, 1821-1908--Correspondence.

Seward, William H. (William Henry), 1801-1872--Correspondence.

Warren, G. K. (Gouverneur Kemble), 1830-1882--Correspondence.

Woodman, Cyrus, 1814-1889--Correspondence.

### Organizations

United States. Army of the Potomac.

United States. Army. Corps, 5th (1862-1865)

United States. Army. Maine Infantry Regiment, 20th (1862-1865). Company G.

### Subjects

Gettysburg, Battle of, Gettysburg, Pa., 1863.

### Places

Maine--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Maine--Militia.

Pennsylvania--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

### Form/Genre

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Campaigns.

### Occupations

Army officers.

Educators.

Governors--Maine.

## Provenance

The papers of Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain, Union Army officer, educator, and governor of Maine, were given to the Library of Congress by Rosamond Allen and Eleanor W. Allen, 1938-1956.

## Processing History

The Chamberlain Papers were processed prior to 1950 and revised and expanded, 1968-1973. The finding aid was revised in 2010.

## Other Repositories

A collection of Alice Rains Trulock's research materials for her book, *In the Hands of Providence: Joshua L. Chamberlain and the American Civil War* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1992), is located at the Pejepscot Historical Society, Brunswick, Maine. These research materials include photocopies of documents from several repositories, including the Manuscript Division.

## Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

## Access and Restrictions

The papers of Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain 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, Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

Date	Event
1828, Sept. 8	Born, Brewer, Maine
1852	Graduated, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine
1852-1855	Student, Bangor Theological Seminary, Bangor, Maine
1855	Married Fannie Adams
1855-1862	Taught, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine
1862	Appointed lieutenant colonel, 20th Maine Regiment
1863	Appointed colonel, 20th Maine Regiment Fought at Battle of Gettysburg and awarded Congressional Medal of Honor for his defense of Little Round Top
1864	Promoted by Ulysses S. Grant to brigadier general of volunteers
1867-1871	Governor of Maine
1871-1883	President, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine
1893	Awarded Medal of Honor for actions at Battle of Gettysburg

1914, Feb. 24

Died, Portland, Maine

## **Scope and Content Note**

The papers of Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain (1828-1914) span the years 1775-1913, with the bulk from 1828 to 1913. The collection consists of correspondence, biographical notes, record books, military reports, speeches, accounts of engagements of the Army of the Potomac, and other material mostly concerning the Civil War. Included are reports of Company G, 20th Maine Volunteers, and Chamberlain's account of the battle of Gettysburg. There are letters relating to the state militia in Maine, military reunions, and data for a history of the 5th United States Army Corps in which Chamberlain served as a colonel of the 20th Maine Regiment.

Prominent correspondents include John Marshall Brown, Henry S. Burrage, Selden Connor, Charles Hamlin, O. O. Howard, Carswell McClellan, Horace Binney Sargent, William Henry Seward, Gouverneur Kemble Warren, and Cyrus Woodman.

## **Arrangement of the Papers**

The collection is organized by type of material and includes an addition.

## Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	General correspondence
BOX 1	5 Feb. 1848-2 Feb. 1873
BOX 2	15 Apr. 1873-2 July 1882
BOX 3	6 July 1882-6 May 1913, undated
BOX 4	Miscellany
BOX 4	Sermon in Philadelphia, Pa., 1775
BOX 4	Prewar and Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine, papers
BOX 4	Celebrations Society of the Potomac, 20th Maine Regiment Association
BOX 4	Batchelder correspondence
BOX 4	Papers as governor of Maine
BOX 4	Transition papers, Jan. 1880
BOX 4	Political pieces
BOX 4	Letters to his wife
BOX 4	Letter to his mother
BOX 4	Grant, Ulysses S., and J. E. Rice
BOX 4	Reminiscences to Chamberlain
BOX 4	Army and Navy Escutcheon Co. (F. H. Dyer)
BOX 4	Miscellaneous postwar correspondence
BOX 5	Miscellaneous war correspondence
BOX 5	Civil War correspondence, original military orders, and mustering out papers
BOX 5	Battles, engagements, and skirmishes, regimental records
BOX 5	Regimental records (2 folders)
BOX 6	Regimental records by state (2 folders)
BOX 6	Regimental records, personnel statistics, and officers' obituary announcements
BOX 6	Officers' obituary announcements
BOX 7	List of officers
BOX 7	Personnel statistics (2 folders)
BOX 7	Photographs
BOX 7	Maps
BOX 8	Regimental index
BOX 8	Reports of operations
BOX 8	Dispatches (3 folders)
BOX 9	Centennial celebration scrapbook
BOX 9	Quartermaster's log and Chamberlain's scrapbook of press clippings, 1890s
BOX 9	Press clippings
BOX 9	Largely 1870s and 1880s
BOX 9	Largely 1910s
BOX 10	Printed materials by Chamberlain

## Container List

<b>Container</b>	<b>Contents</b>
BOX 10	Unbound printed matter, largely annotated
BOX 10	Printed matter concerning Chamberlain
BOX 11	Addition
BOX 11	General correspondence, 1860-1901 (2 folders)
BOX 11	Writings
BOX 11	George W. Addams, Paul Parley's Trip to France
BOX 11	Horace B. Chamberlain, poem
BOX 11	Tracings, sketches, and printed matter
BOX 11	Correspondence, 1858-1889
BOX 11	Correspondence and returns relating to Company G, 20th Maine