

Charles Mason Remey Family Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2012

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm81037580>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms012102>

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Collection Summary

Title: Charles Mason Remey Family Papers

Span Dates: 1778-1949

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1855-1932)

ID No.: MSS37580

Creator: Remey, Charles Mason, 1874-1974

Extent: 1,125 items

Extent: 61 containers plus 1 oversize

Extent: 25.5 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm81037580>

Summary: Primarily the papers of Charles Mason Remey relating to his activities on behalf of the Bahá'í faith. Also includes papers of George Collier Remey (1841-1928) pertaining to his service with the U.S. Navy during the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, the Philippine Insurrection, and the Boxer Rebellion; papers of Iowa jurist and temperance and women's rights advocate, Charles Mason (1804-1882); and papers of Mary Josephine Mason Remey (1845-1938)

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

Mason family.

Mason, Charles, 1804-1882. Charles Mason papers.

Remey family.

Remey, Charles Mason, 1874-1974.

Remey, George Collier, 1841-1928. George Collier Remey papers.

Remey, Mary Josephine Mason, 1845-1938. Mary Josephine Mason Remey papers.

Organizations

United States. Navy.

Subjects

Bahai Faith.

Courts--Iowa.

Spanish-American War, 1898.

Temperance.

Women's rights.

Places

China--History--Boxer Rebellion, 1899-1901.

Philippines--History--Philippine American War, 1899-1902.

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

Occupations

Architects.

Provenance

The papers of the Charles Mason Remey family were given to the Library of Congress by Charles Mason Remey between 1913 and 1962. Material deposited in the Library by Remey between 1920 and 1932 was converted to a gift in 1939. One volume was added as a transfer from the Collections Management Division of the Library in 1983.

Processing History

The Charles Mason Remey Family Papers were processed in 1966 and reprocessed in 1971 and 1985. The finding aid was revised in 2006 and again in 2012.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of the Charles Mason Remey family is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of the Charles Mason Remey family 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, Charles Mason Remey Family Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Charles Mason

Date	Event
1804, Oct. 24	Born, Pompey, N.Y.
1829	Graduated, United States Military Academy, Annapolis, Md.
1830-1831	Assistant professor in engineering, United States Military Academy, Annapolis, Md.
1832	Admitted to New York bar
1837	Married Angelica Gear
1837	Aide and public prosecutor, Des Moines County, Wisconsin Territory
1838-1847	Chief justice, Supreme court, territory of Iowa
1851	Member, commission to draft the first law code of Iowa
1851-1852	Judge, Des Moines County, Iowa
1853-1857	United States commissioner of patents
1857	Member, first Iowa State Board of Education
1864	Chairman, Democratic National Central Committee
1882, Feb. 25	Died, Burlington, Iowa

George Collier Remey

Date	Event
1841, Aug. 10	Born, Burlington, Iowa
1859	Graduated, United States Military Academy, Annapolis, Md. Commissioned midshipman Commissioned midshipman
1859-1861	Served on <i>Hartford</i> (sloop), East India Squadron
1861-1862	Served on <i>Marblehead</i> (gunboat) during Peninsular Campaign
1863	Executive officer on <i>Canandaigua</i> (screw sloop) Commanded <i>Marblehead</i> (gunboat) during attacks on Fort Wagner Led attack on Fort Sumter and was imprisoned by Confederates

1865	Assigned to White House after Abraham Lincoln's assassination
1865-1866	Served off the west coast of South America
1870-1871	Participated in Tehuantepec Survey Expedition
1873	Married Mary Josephine Mason
1889-1892	Commanded <i>Charleston</i> (flagship)
1892-1895	Served at Navy Yard, Portsmouth, N.H.
1895-1896	Member, Naval Examining and Retiring Board
1896-1898	Commandant, Navy Yard, Portsmouth, N.H.
1898	Commissioned rear admiral Commandant, Naval Base, Key West, Fla.
1898-1900	Commandant, Navy Yard, Portsmouth, N.H.
1900-1902	Commander in chief, Asiatic Fleet
1902-1903	Chairman, Lighthouse Board
1903 .	Retired
1928, Feb. 10	Died, Washington, D.C

Charles Mason Remey

Date	Event
1874, May 15	Born, Burlington, Iowa
1893-1896	Attended Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y.
1896-1903	Trained in architecture at Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Paris, France
1903-1906	Traveled in Europe and Asia Architecte diplome, par le gouvernement Francais
1906-1908	Instructor of architecture, George Washington University, Washington, D.C.
1908-1910	Assistant professor, George Washington University, Washington, D.C.
1930s-1940s	Live in Washington, D.C. 1931 Married Gertrude Heim Klemm (died 1932)
1950	Moved to Haifa, Israel, at request of Shoghi Effendi to build a Bahá'í house of worship
1951	Appointed president of International Bahá'í and a Hand in the Cause
1974, Feb. 4	Died

Scope and Content Note

The family papers of Charles Mason Remey (1874-1974) span the years 1778-1949, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1855-1932. The collection consists of correspondence, diaries, journals, genealogical papers, photographs, and other papers of Remey and Mason family members. The largest part pertains to Charles Mason Remey, a French-trained architect, relating to his activities on behalf of the Bahá'í faith. Also included are papers of George Collier Remey (1841-1928) pertaining to his service in the navy during the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, the Philippine American War, and the Boxer Rebellion. Other materials include the journals of Charles Mason (1804-1882), Iowa jurist and temperance and women's rights advocate, and of Mary Josephine Mason Remey (1845-1938).

The collection is organized into eight series: [Journals of George Collier Remey](#), [Journals of Mary Josephine Mason Remey](#), [Journals of Charles Mason](#), [Correspondence of George Collier Remey](#), [Miscellany](#), [Journals of Charles Mason Remey](#), [Formerly Restricted Journals of Charles Mason Remey](#), and [Oversize](#).

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in eight series:

- [Journals of George Collier Remey](#)
- [Journals of Mary Josephine Mason Remey](#)
- [Journals of Charles Mason, 1829-1882](#)
- [Correspondence of George Collier Remey, 1855-1930](#)

- Miscellany, 1778-1931
- Journals of Charles Mason Remey, 1910-1949
- Formerly Restricted Journals of Charles Mason Remey
- Oversize, circa 1830-circa 1890

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-4	<p><u>Journals of George Collier Remey</u></p> <p>Two sets of journals. Arranged by title and by numbered sequence therein.</p>
BOX 5-8	<p><u>Journals of Mary Josephine Mason Remey</u></p> <p>Journals. Arranged by volume number.</p>
BOX 8-18	<p><u>Journals of Charles Mason, 1829-1882</u></p> <p>Journals and diaries. Arranged by type of writing and by numbered volume therein. Diary volumes are numbered in chronological order.</p>
BOX 19-20	<p><u>Correspondence of George Collier Remey, 1855-1930</u></p> <p>Official and personal correspondence. Arranged by type of correspondence and chronologically therein.</p>
BOX 21	<p><u>Miscellany, 1778-1931</u></p> <p>Includes genealogical notes and papers of various members of the Remey family. Arranged by name of person and therein by type of material.</p>
BOX 22-37	<p><u>Journals of Charles Mason Remey, 1910-1949</u></p> <p>Journals mainly concerning the Baháí Faith. Arranged by title, and by chronology or volume numbers therein.</p>
BOX 38-61	<p><u>Formerly Restricted Journals of Charles Mason Remey</u></p> <p>Volumes of "Reminiscences and Letters" concerning the Baháí faith. Arranged by volume number.</p>
BOX OV 1	<p><u>Oversize, circa 1830-circa 1890</u></p> <p>Oversize certificates. Arranged and described according to the series, container, and folder from which the items were removed.</p>

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-4	Journals of George Collier Remey Two sets of journals. Arranged by title and by numbered sequence therein.
BOX 1	“Life and Letters of Rear Admiral George Collier Remey, United States Navy,” typescripts
BOX 1	Introduction, by R. Adm. Reginald R. Belknap
BOX 1	Vol. 1, parts 1-2
BOX 2	Vol. 2, parts 1-2
BOX 2	Vol. 3, parts 1-2
BOX 2	Vol. 4, parts 1-2
BOX 3	Vol. 5, parts 1-2
BOX 3	Vol. 6, parts 1-2
BOX 4	Vol. 7, parts 1-2
BOX 5-8	Journals of Mary Josephine Mason Remey Journals. Arranged by volume number.
BOX 5	“Life and Letters of Mary Josephine Mason Remey,” typescripts
BOX 5	Vols. 1-5
BOX 6	Vols. 6-10
BOX 7	Vols. 11-15
BOX 8	Vol. 16, parts 1-2
BOX 8-18	Journals of Charles Mason, 1829-1882 Journals and diaries. Arranged by type of writing and by numbered volume therein. Diary volumes are numbered in chronological order.
BOX 8	“Life and Letters of Judge Charles Mason,” typescripts
BOX 8	Vols. 1-2
BOX 9	Vols. 3-6
BOX 10	Vols. 7-10
BOX 11	Vols. 11-14
BOX 12	Vols. 15-17
BOX 13	Diaries
BOX 13	1829, valedictory, vol. 1
BOX 13	circa 1829-1832
BOX 13	Temperance address, vol. 2
BOX 13	Temperance address, vol. 3
BOX 13	1832, temperance address, vol. 4
BOX 13	1836, July 11-1858, Dec. 31, vols. 5-20
BOX 13	1859, vols. 23-24

Journals of Charles Mason, 1829-1882

Container

Contents

BOX 14	1860, Jan. 1-1865, Nov. 19, vols. 25-43
BOX 15	15 1865, May 1-1869, Dec. 31, vols. 44-60 and 60a
BOX 16	16 1870, Jan. 1-1873, Sept. 27, vols. 61-79
BOX 17	17 1873, Sept. 28-1877, Dec. 31, vols. 80-98
BOX 18	18 1878, Jan. 1-1882, Feb. 21, vols. 99-115
BOX 18	1882, Jan. 23-Feb. (2 letters), vol. 116

BOX 19-20

Correspondence of George Collier Remy, 1855-1930

Official and personal correspondence.

Arranged by type of correspondence and chronologically therein.

BOX 19	Official
BOX 19	1885, Sept.-1865, Apr
BOX 19	1866, June-1872, Nov.
BOX 19	1873, Feb.-1875, Dec.
BOX 19	1876, Jan.-1879, Dec.
BOX 19	1880, Sept.-1885, Dec.
BOX 19	1886, Jan.-1888, Oct.
BOX 19	1889, April-1891, Nov.
BOX 19	1892, Feb.-Sept.
BOX 19	1893, Jan.-1894, Nov.
BOX 19	1895, Apr.-Nov.
BOX 19	1896, Mar.-1897, May
BOX 19	1897, June-1898, May
BOX 19	1898, June-Dec.
BOX 19	1899, Jan.-Dec.
BOX 19	1900
	(2 folders)
BOX 19	1901, Feb.-Dec.
BOX 19	1902, Feb.-May
BOX 19	1902, June-1903, June
BOX 19	1903, July-1910 June
BOX 20	Personal
BOX 20	1855, Mar.-1875, Nov.
BOX 20	1879, Feb.-1896, Nov.
BOX 20	1897, Feb. -1899, Nov.
BOX 20	1900 Jan.-May
BOX 20	1901, May-Dec.
BOX 20	1902, Jan.-Dec.
BOX 20	1903
	(2 folders)
BOX 20	1904, Jan.-1907, Dec.
BOX 20	1908, Jan.-1912, May
BOX 20	1913, Aug.-1916, Jan.
BOX 20	1917, Dec.-1930, Apr.

Correspondence of George Collier Remey, 1855-1930

Container	Contents
BOX 20	Undated
BOX 21	Miscellany, 1778-1931 Includes genealogical notes and papers of various members of the Remey family. Arranged by name of person and therein by type of material.
BOX 21	Charels Mason papers
BOX 21	George Collier Remey
BOX 21	Biographical file
BOX 21	Certifications
BOX 21	General
BOX 21	Photographs
BOX 21	"Reminiscences"
BOX 21	Mary Josephine Mason Remey, certificates
BOX 21	Charles Mason Remey, correspondence, 1928, July-Nov.
BOX 21	Other family members
BOX 21	Certificates, circa 1830-circa 1890 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 21	Genealogy
BOX 21	History of Woodstock, Vt., from the Nathan Howland Commission
BOX 22-37	Journals of Charles Mason Remey, 1910-1949 Journals mainly concerning the Bahá'í Faith. Arranged by title, and by chronology or volume numbers therein.
BOX 22	"Journal-Diary of Bahá'í Travels in Latin America, 1946-1947"
BOX 22	"Bahá'í Reminiscences"
BOX 22	Vols. 1-2
BOX 23	Vols. 3-6
BOX 24	Vols. 7-11
BOX 25	Vols. 12-16
BOX 26	Vols. 17-21
BOX 27	Vols. 22-26
BOX 28	Vols. 27-31 29
BOX 29	Vols. 32-35
BOX 30	Vols. 36-39
BOX 31	Vols. 40-44
BOX 32	Vols. 45-48
BOX 33	Vols. 49-52
BOX 34	Vols. 53-56
BOX 35	"Daily Diary"
BOX 35	1940-1944 (7 vols.)
BOX 36	1945-1948 (6 vols.)
BOX 36	"Letters Treating of Bahá'í Activities," 1910-1948
BOX 36	"Herbert's Diary, an Account of Trailer and Travels," 1940-1949

Journals of Charles Mason Remey, 1910-1949

Container	Contents
BOX 37	“The Biography of a House, a Monograph” (2 vols.)
BOX 37	“The Mausoleum of the Remey Family”
BOX 38-61	Formerly Restricted Journals of Charles Mason Remey Volumes of “Reminiscences and Letters” concerning the Baháí faith. Arranged by volume number.
BOX 38	“Reminiscences and Letters”
BOX 38	Vols. 1-4
BOX 39	Vols. 5-9
BOX 40	Vols. 10-13
BOX 41	Vols. 14-19
BOX 42	Vols. 20-24
BOX 43	Vols. 25-29
BOX 44	Vols. 30-34
BOX 45	Vols. 35-39
BOX 46	Vols. 40-44
BOX 47	Vols. 45-49
BOX 48	Vols. 50-54
BOX 49	Vols. 55-59
BOX 50	Vols. 60-64
BOX 51	Vols. 65-70
BOX 52	Vols. 71-75
BOX 53	Vols. 76-81
BOX 54	Vols. 82-86
BOX 55	Vols. 87-92
BOX 56	Vols. 93-98
BOX 57	Vols. 99-103
BOX 58	Vols. 104-107
BOX 59	Vols. 108-111
BOX 60	Vols. 112-115
BOX 61	Vols. 116-119
BOX OV 1	Oversize, circa 1830-circa 1890 Oversize certificates. Arranged and described according to the series, container, and folder from which the items were removed.
BOX OV 1	Miscellany
BOX OV 1	Certificates, circa 1830-circa 1890 (Container 21)