

Burton Egbert Stevenson Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



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

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm78041475>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms012112>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2012
Revised 2023 May

Collection Summary

Title: Burton Egbert Stevenson Papers

Inclusive Dates: 1900-1951

ID No.: MSS41475

Creator: Stevenson, Burton Egbert, 1872-1962

Extent: 7,700 items

Extent: 33 containers plus 1 oversize

Extent: 13.2 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm78041475>

Summary: Anthologist, author, and librarian. Correspondence with poets and other writers, comments on the origin of quotations, obscure biographical data on literary figures, and negotiations with publishers relating to the compilation of Stevenson's anthologies. Includes correspondence and administrative files from his service as European representative of the American Library Association, including material on the American Library in Paris, founded in 1918. Also contains drafts and copies of his own writings.

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

MacLean, Charles Agnew, 1880-1928--Correspondence.

Milam, Carl Hastings, 1884-1963--Correspondence.

Miller, Joaquin, 1837-1913.

Moore, Clement Clarke, 1779-1863.

Putnam, Herbert, 1861-1955--Correspondence.

Raney, M. Llewellyn (McKendree Llewellyn), 1877-1964--Correspondence.

Stevenson, Burton Egbert, 1872-1962.

Wilcox, Ella Wheeler, 1850-1919.

Organizations

American Library Association.

American Library Association. Library War Service.

American Library in Paris.

Subjects

Libraries--France--Paris.

Libraries--United States--Societies, etc.

Libraries--United States.

World War, 1914-1918--Libraries.

Occupations

Anthologists.

Authors.

Librarians.

Acquisition Information

The papers of Burton Egbert Stevenson, anthologist, author, and librarian, were given to the Library of Congress in 1953-1959.

Processing History

The papers of Burton Egbert Stevenson were arranged and described in 1953. The finding aid was revised in 2012 and again in 2016

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Burton Egbert Stevenson is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Burton Egbert Stevenson 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, Burton Egbert Stevenson Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1872, Nov. 9	Born, Chillicothe, Ohio
1890-1893	Attended Princeton University, Princeton, N.J.
1894-1898	City editor, <i>Chillicothe Daily News</i>
1895	Married Elizabeth Shepard Butler (died 1960)
1898-1899	On staff of <i>Daily Advertiser</i>
1899-1957	Public librarian, Chillicothe, Ohio
1901	Published <i>At Odds with the Regent</i> . Philadelphia and London: J. B. Lippincott Co.
1912	Published <i>The Home Book of Verse, American and English, 1580-1912</i> . New York: H. Holt and Co.
1917	Organized library at Camp Sherman, Ohio
1918-1920	Established and directed American Library in Paris, France
1925	Published <i>Home Book of Modern Verse</i> . New York: H. Holt and Co.
1926-1930	Director, American Library in Paris, Paris France
1934	Published <i>Home Book of Quotations, Classical and Modern</i> . New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.
1962, May 13	Died, Chillicothe, Ohio

Scope and Content Note

The paper of Burton Egbert Stevenson (1872-1962) span the years 1900-1951. A librarian for much of his career, Stevenson also published over fifty books of his own fiction and of poetry anthologies during his lifetime. The collection consists of correspondence with poets and other writers, comments on the origin of quotations, obscure biographical data on literary figures, and negotiations with publishers relating to the compilation of several anthologies by Stevenson. Also featured are correspondence and administrative files from his service as European representative of the American Library Association, including material on the American Library in Paris, founded in 1918. A final segment contains drafts and copies of his

own writings. The collection is organized into four series: [General Correspondence](#) ; [American Library Association File](#) ; and [Speeches, Articles, and Book File](#) ; and [Oversize](#) .

Much of the correspondence in the American Library Association series consists of formal requests for reading material from soldiers on the front during World War I from Library War Service. Some of the [General Correspondence](#) concerns challenges to the received authorship of famous poems by writers such as Joaquin Miller, Clement Clarke Moore, and Emma Wheeler Wilcox.

Correspondents include fellow librarians Charles Thomas Agnew MacLean, Carl Hastings Milam, Herbert Putnam, and M. Llewellyn Raney.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in four series:

- [General Correspondence](#)
- [American Library Association File](#)
- [Speeches, Articles, and Book File](#)
- [Oversize](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-11	<p><u>General Correspondence</u></p> <p>Mostly letters received with attached and related notes, writings, clippings, and other papers concerning the background and publication rights of writings by others.</p> <p>Arranged by name of writer or organization.</p>
BOX 12-25	<p><u>American Library Association File</u></p> <p>Special correspondence including letters sent and received with attachments and related matter and a miscellany of general office files including financial records, photographs, and printed matter concerning the American Library Association and the American Library in Paris.</p> <p>Organized alphabetically by name of correspondent, topic, or type of material within special correspondence and miscellany files.</p>
BOX 26-33	<p><u>Speeches, Articles, and Book File</u></p> <p>Writings by Stevenson.</p> <p>Arranged by title or type of writing.</p>
BOX OV 1	<p><u>Oversize</u></p> <p>Broadside and poster.</p> <p>Arranged and described according to the series, container, and folder from which the items were removed.</p>

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-11	General Correspondence Mostly letters received with attached and related notes, writings, clippings, and other papers concerning the background and publication rights of writings by others. Arranged by name of writer or organization.
BOX 1	"A" miscellaneous
BOX 1	Allen, Elizabeth Akers, "Rock Me to Sleep"
BOX 1	Allison, Young E., "Derelict"
BOX 1	Almy, Frederic, "Do-Say"
BOX 1	"B" miscellaneous (3 folders)
BOX 1	Bossidy, John C., "Aristocracy of Harvard"
BOX 1	Butler, William, "Nothing to Wear"
BOX 1	Burroughs, John, "Waiting," clippings and photostatic material
BOX 2	"C" miscellaneous (2 folders)
BOX 2	Carruth, Herbert, "Each in His Own Tongue"
BOX 2	Case, Lissie York, "There Is No Unbelief"
BOX 2	Clark, J. I. C., "The Fighting Race"
BOX 2	"D" miscellaneous
BOX 2	D'Arcy, Hugh, "The Face upon the Floor"
BOX 2	Davis, Robert H., "I Am the Printing Press"
BOX 2	Desprez, Frank, "Lasca"
BOX 2	Dickinson, Charles M., "The Children"
BOX 2	Doudney, Sarah, "The Lesson of the Water-Mill"
BOX 3	"E" miscellaneous
BOX 3	English, Thomas Dunn, "Ben Bolt"
BOX 3	"F-G" miscellaneous (2 folders)
BOX 3	Greene, Horner, "What My Lover Said"
BOX 3	"Ha" miscellaneous
BOX 3	Hale, Sarah Josepha, "Mary Had a Little Lamb"
BOX 4	"He" miscellaneous
BOX 4	Henry Holt & Co.
BOX 4	Houghton Mifflin Co.
BOX 4	"I" miscellaneous
BOX 5	"J-L" miscellaneous (2 folders)
BOX 5	Kinney, Cootes, "Rain on the Roof"
BOX 5	"L" miscellaneous (2 folders)
BOX 5	Libraries, miscellaneous

General Correspondence

Container	Contents
BOX 5	Library of Congress
BOX 5	Lissauer, Ernest, "Hassgesang gegen England"
BOX 5	Lytle, William Haine, "Anthony to Cleopatra"
BOX 6	"M" miscellaneous (3 folders)
BOX 6	Malone, Walter, "Opportunity"
BOX 6	McCreery, J. L., "There Is No Death"
BOX 6	Miller, Joaquin, "Columbus"
BOX 6	Moore, Clement Clarke, "The Night before Christmas"
BOX 6	"N-O" miscellaneous
BOX 7	"P" miscellaneous (4 folders)
BOX 7	Publishers' permissions, 1905-1917 (3 folders)
BOX 7	"Q" miscellaneous
BOX 8	"R" miscellaneous (3 folders)
BOX 8	Rogers, Robert Cameron, "The Rosary"
BOX 8	Rose, Alexander M., "Hoch! Der Kaiser"
BOX 8	"S" miscellaneous (1 folders) (1 folders)
BOX 9	Smith, Langdon, "Evolution"
BOX 9	Spaulding, Susan Mary, "Fate"
BOX 9	Stevenson, Burton Egbert, including drafts of writings, documents, and contractual material (2 folders)
BOX 9	"T" miscellaneous
BOX 9	Taylor, Benjamin F., "The Isle of Long Ago"
BOX 9	Thayer, Ernest L., "Casey at the Bat"
BOX 10	"U-V" miscellaneous (2 folders)
BOX 10	"W" miscellaneous (3 folders)
BOX 10	Wilcox, Ella Wheeler, "Solitude"
BOX 10	"Y-Z"
BOX 10	Unidentified
BOX 11	Miscellaneous related matter
BOX 11	Clippings
BOX 11	Notes
BOX 11	Poems and quotations
BOX 12-25	American Library Association File Special correspondence including letters sent and received with attachments and related matter and a miscellany of general office files including financial records, photographs, and printed matter concerning the American Library Association and the American Library in Paris. Organized alphabetically by name of correspondent, topic, or type of material within special correspondence and miscellany files.

American Library Association File

Container

Contents

BOX 12	Special correspondence
BOX 12	"A-F" (3 folders)
BOX 13	"G-L" (6 folders)
BOX 14	"L" miscellaneous
BOX 14	"M" miscellaneous
BOX 14	Milan, Carl H.
BOX 14	"Mc" miscellaneous
BOX 15	"M-P" (6 folders)
BOX 16	Putnam, Herbert
BOX 16	"Q" miscellaneous
BOX 16	"R" miscellaneous (3 folders)
BOX 17	(1 folder)
BOX 17	Rainey, M. L.
BOX 17	Red Cross
BOX 17	"S" miscellaneous (2 folders)
BOX 18	(3 folders)
BOX 19	(1 folder)
BOX 19	Stevenson, Burton Egbert
BOX 19	"T" miscellaneous (3 folders)
BOX 20	(2 folders)
BOX 20	"U-V" miscellaneous (2 folders)
BOX 20	"W" miscellaneous (1 folders)
BOX 21	(2 folders)
BOX 21	"Y-Z" miscellaneous (2 folders)
BOX 21	Presentation of U.S. books to French libraries
BOX 22	Miscellany
BOX 22	General office file (4 folders)
BOX 23	(5 folders)
BOX 24	(5 folders)
BOX 25	Photographs
BOX 25	Printed matter and clippings <i>See also Oversize</i> (2 folders)
BOX 26-33	Speeches, Articles, and Book File Writings by Stevenson. Arranged by title or type of writing.

Speeches, Articles, and Book File

Container	Contents
BOX 26	The Avengers
BOX 26	The Blade That Won (2 folders)
BOX 26	The Destroyer (1 folder)
BOX 27	(2 folder)
BOX 27	For Life, for Death
BOX 27	Girl with the Blue Sailor
BOX 27	His Mother's Son
BOX 28	Jada
BOX 28	A King in Babylon
BOX 28	The Kingmakers (2 folders)
BOX 29	The Red Carnation (2 folders)
BOX 29	The Rose of Sharon
BOX 29	Secret Agent
BOX 29	A Soldier of Virginia
BOX 30	The Spell of Holland (2 folders)
BOX 30	The Storm Center (2 folders)
BOX 31	That Affair at Elizabeth (Hearts' Divided) (2 folders)
BOX 31	Tom Chester's Choice
BOX 31	Tom Remington's Battle
BOX 32	Villa Aurelia (3 folders)
BOX 33	Miscellaneous
BOX 33	Condensed novels
BOX 33	Short stories and articles
BOX OV 1	Oversize Broadside and poster. Arranged and described according to the series, container, and folder from which the items were removed.
BOX OV 1	American Library Association File
BOX OV 1	Miscellany
BOX OV 1	Printed matter and clippings
BOX OV 1	Broadside, "By the Way, When You Have Finished Your Book..."
BOX OV 1	Poster, "The American Library Association has Opened in Paris..." (Container 25)