Collection Summary

Title: Selected Manuscript Holdings from the Library of Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

Inclusive Dates: c.1450-1935

ID no.: rb021001

Extent: 3 linear feet

Extent: 29 items

Extent: 28 boxes

Language: Collection material is primarily in English. Materials also in shorthand.

Location: Rare Book and Special Collections Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/2020729540

Summary: Manuscripts from the Library of Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. (1841-1935) were a part of the larger Holmes Family Library gift to the Library of Congress in 1935. The collection contains correspondence, sermon notes, recipe books, household account books, notebooks, travel journals, tributes, diaries, an address book, a medical account book, photograph album, book of quotations, Latin vocabulary, medieval medical recipe book, and a ship's log.

Provenance

Received by the Library of Congress through the Holmes bequest of 1935, these manuscripts were a part of the book and print collection that represents the combined libraries of several generations of the Holmes Family.

Processing History

These selected manuscripts were inventoried and described by Marianna Stell in the first quarter of 2020. The organization reflects the manuscript numbers assigned when the materials were first transferred to the Rare Book and Special Collections Division. For more information regarding the entirety of the Holmes gift see the Annual Report of the Library of Congress, 1935, p. 270-274.

Copyright Status

Materials from the Select Manuscript Holdings from the Library of Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. are governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.) and other applicable international copyright laws.

Access and Restrictions

The Select Manuscript Holdings from the Library of Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Rare Book and Special Collections 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: Select Manuscript Holdings from the Library of Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., Rare Book and Special Collections Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

Manuscripts from the Library of Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. (1841-1935) were a part of the larger Holmes Family Library gift to the Library of Congress in 1935. The collection contains correspondence, sermon notes, recipe books, household account books, notebooks, travel journals, tributes, diaries, an address book, a medical account book, photograph album, book of quotations, Latin vocabulary, and a ship's log. Creators of the manuscripts include Oliver
Wendell Holmes, Jr., Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr., Dr. James Oliver, Fanny Bowditch Dixwell Holmes, and Amelia Jackson Holmes. The sermon books are notes from the sermons of Joshua Moodey, Gurdon Saltonstall, and Jacob Wendell. Journals include a diary of George Otis and the journal of Captain Thomas Bowditch, of the Brig Nereus.

**Arrangement**

The collection is organized in 1 series:

- Selected Manuscript Holdings from the Library of Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., (1450-1935)

**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**

Bowditch, Thomas, Captain.
Holmes, Amelia Jackson, 1818-1888.
Holmes, Fanny Bowditch Dixwell, 1840-1929.
Holmes, Oliver Wendell, 1809-1894.
Holmes, Oliver Wendell, Jr., 1841-1935--Contemporaries.
Holmes, Oliver Wendell, Jr., 1841-1935--Correspondence.
Holmes, Oliver Wendell, Jr., 1841-1935--Influence.
Holmes, Oliver Wendell, Jr., 1841-1935.
Holmes, Oliver Wendell, Jr., 1841-1935.
Lane, Franklin Knight, 1864-1921--Correspondence.
Le Duc, William Gates 1823-1917--Correspondence.
Moodey, Joshua, 1633?-1697--Sermons.
Oliver, James, 1659-1703.
Otis, George, 1797-1828--Diaries.
Saltonstall, Gurdon, 1666-1724--Sermons.
Upham, Charles Wentworth, 1802-1875--Travel--Europe.
Wendell, Jacob, 1691-1761--Sermons.
Winthrop, John, 1588-1649.

**Organizations**

Nereus (Brig)
Oliver Wendell Holmes Collection (Library of Congress)
United States. Army. Massachusetts Infantry Regiment, 20th (1861-1865)

**Subjects**

Congregational churches--Sermons.
Formulas, recipes, etc.--United States.
Medicine--Formulae, receipts, prescriptions.
Sermons, American--18th century.
Sermons, American--19th century.
Selected Manuscript Holdings from the Library of Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

Description of Series

Container

Series

Selected Manuscript Holdings from the Library of Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

Contains correspondence, sermon notes, recipe books, household account books, notebooks, travel journals, tributes, diaries, an address book, a medical account book, photograph album, book of quotations, Latin vocabulary, a medieval medical recipe book, and a ship's log.
# Container List

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| **MANUSCRIPT BOX 1** Holmes MS 1 | Facsimile copy of Oliver Wendell Holmes black book, 1881-1935  
28.5 cm x 22cm; 160 pages  
Facsimile copy of Oliver Wendell Holmes' black book. Letter dated January 20, 1941 pasted to the front board from John G. Palfrey, Literary Executor and Legatee of Mr. Justice Holmes to Richard W. Hale, Esq. of Boston, Massachusetts with instructions regarding how the book should be used in relation to O.W. Holmes' library. |
| **MANUSCRIPT BOX 2** Holmes MS 2 | Copybook, May 1875  
28.5 cm x 22.5 cm; 85 numbered pages; begins on page 21  
Tomas Groom & Co. Stationers account book used as a copybook and organized by date. The majority of the quotations taken from the journal of John Winthrop and other colonial preachers. Written in pen. |
| **MANUSCRIPT BOX 3** Holmes MS 3 | Notebook, undated  
18 cm x 11.5 cm  
Fairbacks & Co Stationers notebook with notes regarding ceremonial matters of etiquette at a White House dinner. Written in pen. |
| **MANUSCRIPT BOX 4** Holmes MS 4 | Notepad, undated  
16.5 cm x 10.5 cm; 27 leaves  
Personal notepad of recipes and poems. "Fanny B. Dixwell" written on the first page. Written in pencil. |
| **MANUSCRIPT BOX 5** Holmes MS 5 vol. 1 | Amelia J. Holmes recipes for French cooking, May 10, 1866  
21 cm x 18 cm; 55 leaves; conservation binding.  
Recipes divided into the following categories: soups, fish, meats, vegetables, eggs, cake, caramel sauce, desserts, bread, drinks. Written in ink. |
| **MANUSCRIPT BOX 5** Holmes MS 5 vol. 2 | Recipes collected by Amelia J. Holmes, multiple dates  
24 individually encased leaves numbered 1-16, 18-25  
A collection of loose-leaf recipes once kept with MS 5 and rehoused separately. Most recipes hand-written in ink. |
| **MANUSCRIPT BOX 6** Holmes MS 6 | Amelia S. Holmes account book, 1870  
21 cm x 17.5 cm; 50 leaves  
Account book with calendar pasted to the front board. Expenses divided into nine categories. Written in ink. |
MANUSCRIPT BOX 7
Holmes MS 7
Lexicon to Ammianus Marcellinus, 1837
16.5 cm x 11 cm; 9 leaves
Handwritten vocabulary aid from Latin to English. Organized by page number beginning with "vol. 1" of an unnamed title. Front page of notebook missing, but the back page reads, "Lexicon to Ammianus Marcellinus Constantinopolitan Historian. Signed "W.t. H. May 23, 1837." Written in ink.

MANUSCRIPT BOX 8
Holmes MS 8
Manuscript sermon book, April '97 - October '97 [1797?]
15.5 cm x 9 cm; 92 leaves
Handwritten sermon book. Front leaf inscribed with the signature of "John Coity." Most entries begin: "by m Saltonstall in NC" and are followed by the time of day (morning or afternoon) and the date. One entry begins "by m Joanes of N Haven in NC." Written in ink.

MANUSCRIPT BOX 9
Holmes MS 9
Manuscript sermon book of Reverend Joshua Moodey (supposed) written partly in shorthand, 1673-1684
16 cm x 10 cm; 141 leaves
Handwritten sermon book. The first two pages are written in a second hand and include a biographical sketch of Dr. Moodey and reasons for which the author attributes the manuscript to his authorship. Laid-in leaf with signature of Benjamin Trumbell. Written in ink.

MANUSCRIPT BOX 10
Holmes MS 10
Manuscript book of sermon notes of Jacob Wendell, before 1761
10.5 cm x 16 cm; 90 leaves
Handwritten sermon book. Note on inside cover reads: "Written by Jacob Wendell, who was of Rev. M. Colman Chh. & afterwards Mr. William Cooper in the home church. The handwriting is perfectly similar to the letter of his in my possession (above statement approved autograph of Wendell, J. W.)."

MANUSCRIPT BOX 11
Holmes MS 11
Manuscript book of sermon notes, 1728-1730
16.5 cm x 11 cm; 171 leaves
Handwritten sermon book. Entries begin with a date, the name of the preacher, and the biblical reference on which the sermon is based. Two signatures on the inside of the front board read: "Doctor Foster" and "OW Holmes Boston." The item is missing a title page and leaves at the front of the volume. Written in ink.

MANUSCRIPT BOX 12
Holmes MS 12
Journal of George Otis, May 1824 - November 1824
21 cm x 8 cm; 146 73 leaves, leaves 6-8 missing. Numerous excisions replaced with rice paper. Conservation binding and fly leaves.
Diary of Reverend George Otis (b.1797 - d.1828), M.A., Instructor in Harvard College, Officiator of Christ Church in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Brief entries arranged by date commenting on matters personal and professional. Written in ink.

MANUSCRIPT BOX 13
Holmes MS 13
Charles Wentworth Upham's Outline of Tour in Europe Vol. I, May 15, 1855 - November 21, 1856
25 cm x 20 cm; 143 pages
Travel diary of Charles Wentworth Upham (b.1830-d.1860). Charles was the son of Charles Wentworth Upham (b.1802- d.1875) and Ann Susan Holmes Upham (b.1804- d.1877). He went to Harvard 1852, and married in 1859 Mary Haven. Volume I includes details of his European travels in the British Isles, specifically the cities of Liverpool, Chester, Bangor, London, as well as trips to Ireland and Wales. Also includes descriptions of travels in Continental Europe including: Antwerp, the Hague, Rotterdam, Leyden, Haarlen, Amsterdam, Cologne, Bonn, Coblenz, the Rhine, Frankfurt am Main.
Heidelberg, Badeu, Strasburg, Basle, Bern, Freiburg, Vevey, the Castle of Chillon, Geneva, the Alps, and Paris.

Charles Wentworth Upham's Outline of Tour in Europe Vol. II, May 15, 1855 - November 21, 1856
25 cm x 20 cm; 228 pages
Travel diary of Charles Wentworth Upham (b.1830-d.1860). Volume II includes visits to the following locations: Paris, Bordeaux, Bayonne, Spain, Marseilles, Nimes, Avignon.

Charles Wentworth Upham's Outline of Tour in Europe Vol. III, May 15, 1855 - November 21, 1856
25 cm x 20 cm; 213 pages

Journal of a Voyage from Calcutta to Boston in the Brig Nereus commanded by Capt. Thomas Bowditch Begun Thursday 25th of February 1819 and terminated, February 25, 1819
28.5 cm x 23 .5 cm; 259 pages
Maritime logbook. Includes information about the directional course, the winds, the milage, calculations as to location, and general remarks. Written in ink in a measured cursive on laid paper. The end of the notebook includes lunar observations and navigational calculations using the Bennett and Bowditch methods.

Collection of sermons, undated
19.5 cm x 15 cm; 240 leaves
Handwritten sermon book. Each entry begins with a biblical verse, often written first in Greek with an English translation and a citation for the chapter and verse of the biblical study. Front paste down has ink signatures of a "OW Holmes" as well as "James Willson" and the back flyleaf reads, "James Willson His Book 1725 Giving him by his Brother John Willson." The front cover also reads, "The author of this ms was born Sept. 1 1596. Educated & lived sixteen years in a university, and was writing His collection AD 1635. vid. page 90". Written in ink.

Suffolk Superior Judiciary Court (S.J.C) March Term, 1814
18 cm x 12.5 cm; 36 leaves
Entries of Superior Judiciary Court Cases. Includes entries from March Term 1814, November Term 1814, and March Term 1815. Written in ink.

26 cm x 20.5 cm
Manuscript book of annual meetings. Brief entries often including the date, location, and names of the individuals present.

Manuscript medical account book of Dr. James Oliver, August 12, (16)85
15.5 cm x 10.5 cm; 70 leaves
Medical account book for Dr. Oliver's practice in Cambridge, Massachusetts contains prescriptions for patients and the charges for medicine and other things. Written in
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<td>MANUSCRIPT BOX 21 Holmes MS 21</td>
<td>Memoir of Dr. John Brown, undated 10 cm x 13.5 cm Small manuscript notebook with &quot;Memoir of Dr. John Brown&quot; written on the cover. &quot;O.W. Holmes Boston&quot; inscribed on the inside of the flyleaf. Letter inside addressed to Mr. Holmes dated 21st of June, but no year provided.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANUSCRIPT BOX 22 Holmes MS 22</td>
<td>Medieval Italian medical recipe book, 15th century? 10.5 cm x 7.5 cm; 79 leaves Incomplete manuscript recipe book in red and black ink with rubrication. Script is a neat bookhand. Title page and colophon lacking. Some annotations in the form of strikethroughs and manicules.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANUSCRIPT BOX 23 Holmes MS 23</td>
<td>&quot;Thirty Years at Long Wharf&quot; by George Watson Prescott, April 23, 1890 18 cm x 13 cm; 45 leaves The front flyleaf has the following dedication in ink: &quot;Prof. Oliver Wendell Holmes, M.D..&quot; The book contains a summary of accounts organized by decade for the years 1860 to 1890. Preface written by George Watson Prescott. Written in ink.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANUSCRIPT BOX 24 Holmes MS 24</td>
<td>A rhymed letter by General William G. LeDuc, April 22, 1913 20.5 cm x 14.5 cm; 6 leaves Typewritten letter in verse form with manuscript introduction by General William G. LeDuc to Justice Holmes. Ink corrections and annotations added in manuscript hand.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANUSCRIPT BOX 25 Holmes MS 25</td>
<td>Photo album of Granston Manor, 1898 16.5 cm x 21 cm; 19 photographs on 9 leaves Small photo album containing black and white photographs, some faded. On the clothbound cover is written: &quot;Granston manor 1898.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANUSCRIPT BOX 26 Holmes MS 26</td>
<td>Manuscript translated from St. Helena by an Unknown Channel, 1817 26 cm x 20 cm; 108 leaves. Typescript. Paper covers. Laid in, two letters dated December 9 and 10th (no year) from Franklin K. Lane to Mr. Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, presenting this item Enclosed correspondence indicates that this typewritten manuscript was provided to Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr by Franklin Knight Lane. Lane refers to the manuscript as &quot;the socialist autobiography of Napoleon.&quot; The typewritten manuscript is a clean copy, and contains no markings of any kind on its 108 leaves. The author's name is not listed on the manuscript, but is thought to be Frederic Lullin de Chateauvieux.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MANUSCRIPT BOX 27 Holmes MS 27</td>
<td>A Message from Students of Northwestern University Law School to Mr. Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, January 12, 1932 25 cm x 17.5 cm A brief laudatory letter with 17 pages of student signatures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANUSCRIPT BOX 28 Holmes MS 28</td>
<td>A Tribute by the Lucas County, Ohio, Bar Association to Mr. Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes on his Ninety-first Birthday, March 5, 1932 28.5 cm x 24.5 cm; 58 typewritten leaves of typewriter paper; 3 photographs; 2 newspaper clippings; 1 card for the Secretary of Interior; contained in its original McM Ring Book notebook.</td>
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The typewritten minutes of a special meeting of the Lucas County Bar Association held in
the Court Room of Judge Robert G. Gosline, Toledo, Ohio. The meeting was called to
order by DeWitt Fisher, President of the Lucas County Bar Association, for the purpose
of paying tribute to Mr. Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes on the occasion of his ninety-first
birthday. Includes letters to DeWitt Fisher in support of the honorary proceeding, as well
as three photographs. Two newspaper clippings from the New York Times dated May
10, 1933 regarding the removal of Diego Rivera from the RCA Building in Rockefeller
Center, New York.