

Yale University Library  
Yale Divinity Library

# Guide to the Charles Cutler Torrey Papers

RG 271



Divinity Library staff

2019

409 Prospect Street  
New Haven, CT 06511  
divinity.library@yale.edu

<http://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/special-collections>

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Yale Divinity Library  
409 Prospect Street  
New Haven, CT 06511  
divinity.library@yale.edu  
<http://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/special-collections>

**CALL NUMBER:** RG 271

**CREATOR:** Torrey, Charles Cutler, 1863-1956

**TITLE:** Charles Cutler Torrey papers

**DATES:** 1880–1980

**BULK DATES:** 1880–1956

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 3.75 linear feet (9 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Correspondence, diaries, and writings document the life and work of Charles Cutler Torrey, Biblical scholar and archaeologist who taught Semitic languages at Andover Theological Seminary (1892–1900) and Yale University (1900–1932).

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.271>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.271>.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

- b. box
- f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Portion donated by Carol Gourley (granddaughter), 2018

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### Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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## Preferred Citation

Charles Cutler Torrey papers (RG 271), Special Collections, Yale Divinity School Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

### Chronology

Date	Event
1863 December 20	○ Born in East Hardwick, Vermont
1884	○ Received B. A. from Bowdoin College
1889	○ Received B.D. from Andover Theological Seminary
1892	○ Received Dr. Phil., Strasbourg University
1892–1900	○ Taught Semitic languages at Andover Theological Seminary
1900-1901	○ Founder and first director (1900–01) of the American School of Archaeology (later renamed the American School of Oriental Research) at Jerusalem.
1900-1931	○ Professor of Semitic Languages, Yale University
1915-1922	○ Curator, Palestinian Pottery Collection, Yale University
1920-1932	○ Chairman, Department of Semitic Languages, Yale
1931-1932	○ Sterling Professor, Yale
1931-1938	○ Associate Curator of Coins, Yale University Library
1956 November 12	○ Died in Chicago

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## Scope and Contents

Correspondence, diaries, writings and notes document the life and work of Charles C. Torrey, an eminent Biblical scholar who taught at Yale University from 1900 to 1932.

Series I, Correspondence, includes letters to family members and colleagues.

The diaries of Series II date from 1880s to the 1950s. Though the entries are brief, they give an unparalleled view of the life of a Yale professor in the period 1900-1935, and the career of America's most distinguished scholar of the Semitic languages in the first half of the twentieth century.

Series III, Writings, includes published and manuscript articles and lectures.

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## Arrangement

The collection is arranged in four series:

I. Correspondence

II. Diaries and Notebooks

III. Writings

IV. Personal Items and Memorabilia

## Collection Contents

### Series I: Correspondence

Family correspondence		
b. 1, f. 1	To parents, written from Bowdoin College	1883 October, December
b. 1, f. 2	To parents, written from Germany	1889 August - December
b. 1, f. 3	To parents, written from Germany	1890 January - December
b. 1, f. 4	To "J" [brother Joseph] and "Dear Folks" written from Germany and Switzerland	1890 August - December
b. 1, f. 5	To parents, Elliot [brother], written from Germany	1891 January - April
b. 1, f. 6	To "Dear Folks", written from Italy	1892 March
b. 1, f. 7	To parents, written from Paris	1895 July-August
b. 1, f. 8	to "Dear People", written from Paris and Germany	1898 July - August
b. 1, f. 9	To "Dear People", parents, brothers, written primarily from Middle East including Constantinople, Jerusalem	1900 August - December
b. 1, f. 10	to "Dear People", Elliot, written from Middle East, primarily Jerusalem, Sidon	1901 January - May
b. 1, f. 11	To/from parents, brothers and fragments	1902-1906
General correspondence		
b. 1, f. 12	From George F. and Mary Moore	1891, 1895, 1911(?)
b. 1, f. 13	Letter signed by several Andover Theological Seminary students on the departure of Torrey to Yale	1900
b. 1, f. 14	From unidentified correspondents, including regarding Syrian civil war, riot in Beirut	1903
b. 1, f. 15	From W. K. Eddy, G. Ford, unidentified	1904-1906
b. 1, f. 16	From James Smith	1932
b. 1, f. 17	From Edward H. Sturdevant	1932
b. 1, f. 18	Letters received on the occasion of Torrey's 70th birthday	1933
b. 2, f. 1	From C. A. Owen	1933
b. 2, f. 2	To [James] Muilenberg	1935-1941

## General correspondence (continued)

b. 2, f. 3	From and about George M. Lamsa	1939
b. 2, f. 4	To Mr. Exman	1942
b. 2, f. 5	To/from George and Elizabeth Dahl	1946-1954
b. 2, f. 6	From Barsam Kashish	1951
b. 2, f. 7	Letters received on the occasion of Torrey's 90th birthday	1953

**Series II: Diaries and Notebooks**

b. 2, f. 8-10	Pocket diaries	1880–1895
b. 3, f. 1-3	Pocket diaries	1896–1909
b. 4, f. 1-3	Pocket diaries	1910–1931
b. 5, f. 1-3	Pocket diaries	1932–1949
b. 6, f. 1-2	Pocket diaries	1950–1955
b. 6, f. 3	Travel journal with Arabic notes	No date
b. 6, f. 4	Address book	No date
b. 6, f. 5	Two notebooks related to courses and students	No date

**Series III: Writings**

## Articles

b. 6, f. 6	Full listing of articles contained in the collection
b. 6, f. 7	A: including "Al-Kindi's History of the Qadis of Egypt" ( <i>American Journal of Semitic Languages and Literatures</i> , April 1910)
b. 7, f. 1	B - E: including "The Beginning of the Dura Synagogue Inscription" ( <i>Jewish Quarterly Review</i> , 1938)
b. 7, f. 2	F - G: including "The Foundry of the Second Temple at Jerusalem" ( <i>Journal of Biblical Literature</i> , 1936), "Gold Coins of Khokand and Bukhara" ( <i>Numismatic Notes and Monographs</i> , 1950)
b. 7, f. 3	H - J: including "The Influence of Second Isaiah in the Gospels and Acts" ( <i>Journal of Biblical Literature</i> , "Jeffery's 'Foreign Vocabulary of the Quran" ( <i>The Moslem World</i> , 1939)
b. 7, f. 4	K - M: including "Medes and Persians" ( <i>Journal of the American Oriental Society</i> , 1946)
b. 7, f. 5	N - O: including "A New Phoenician Grammar" ( <i>Journal of the American Oriental Society</i> , 1937), "The Older Book of Esther" ( <i>Harvard Theological Review</i> , 1944)
b. 7, f. 6	P: including "Pehlevi Seal Inscriptions From Yale Collections" ( <i>Journal of the American Oriental Society</i> , 1932)
b. 7, f. 7	Q - Se: including "The Question of the Original Language of Qoheleth" ( <i>Jewish Quarterly Review</i> , 1948, "Semitic Inscriptions" ( <i>American Journal of Semitic Languages and Literatures</i> , 1905)
b. 8, f. 1	Si - Sy: including "The Site of Bethulia" ( <i>Journal of the American Oriental Society</i> , 1899)
b. 8, f. 2	T - Z: including "Translations made from the Original Aramaic Gospels" ( <i>Studies in the History of Religions Presented to Crawford Howell Toy</i> , 1912)

## Book

b. 8, f. 3	<i>The Second Isaiah</i> (NY: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1928) - annotated by James Muilenburg
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## Notes and Manuscripts

b. 8, f. 4	"Hexatenchal Criticism" - bound volume containing notes and published material	
b. 9, f. 1	Haskell Lectures	no date
b. 9, f. 2	Miscellaneous notes	no date
b. 9, f. 3-4	"Missions" - Parts VIII - XVI	no date
b. 9, f. 5	Aramaic inscription of the Lord's Prayer	no date

## Writings by others



## Writings by others (continued)

b. 9, f. 6	Essays in honor of Torrey: <i>Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research</i> , Number 132	1953 December
b. 9, f. 7	Miscellaneous, including reviews of Torrey's work	1922 - 1942, no date

**Series IV: Personal Items and Memorabilia**

b. 9, f. 8	Documents related to Alice G. Richards Estate	1936
b. 9, f. 9	Correspondence of Amos Wilder with Torrey's daughter regarding her father's papers	1979-1980
b. 9, f. 10	Miscellaneous	1898-1920, no date

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Names**

Torrey, Charles Cutler, 1863-1956