

# Guide to the Charlton Thomas Lewis Papers

MS 981



compiled by Janet Elaine Gertz

October 1982

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
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New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 981

**CREATOR:** Lewis, Charlton T. (Charlton Thomas), 1834-1904

**TITLE:** Charlton Thomas Lewis papers

**DATES:** 1612-1904

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1 linear foot (2 boxes, 1 folio)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The major part of the papers consist of a collection of autographs of literary, intellectual, and political figures, largely English and American, compiled by Charlton T. Lewis. Included are such notables as Robert Browning, Washington Irving, William James, John Stuart Mill, Louis Orléans, comte de Paris, Richelieu, Talleyrand, Alfred Lord Tennyson, Voltaire, John Wesley, and Walt Whitman. There is also personal correspondence addressed to Lewis and his wife, Margaret P. Sherrand Lewis, as well as essays, addresses, and an unpublished novel by Lewis, and a speech on Italian immigrants by Margaret P. Lewis.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0981>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0981>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

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

Gift of James McKeen Lewis and Mrs. Lincoln MacVeagh in 1947.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

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### Preferred Citation

Charlton Thomas Lewis Papers (MS 981). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

CHARLTON THOMAS Lewis, son of Joseph J. and Mary Sinton (Miner) Lewis, was born on February 25, 1834, in West Chester, Pa. He was Class Poet, and was especially distinguished in mathematics during his college course.

After graduation he studied law in his father's office in West Chester until the spring of 1854, when he entered the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was appointed by the Philadelphia Conference to the Newark Circuit. He was stationed first in Wilmington, Del., in March, 1855, and the following year at the Broad Street Church, Philadelphia. He then accepted an appointment as Professor of Languages in the State Normal University of Illinois, at Bloomington. After a year there, he was Professor of Mathematics a year, and then Professor of Greek in Troy (N. Y.) University. He was Acting President of the latter institution in 1862. In December of that year he became pastor of an Independent Methodist Church in Cincinnati.

In 1863-1864 he was Deputy Commissioner of Internal Revenue at Washington, and then removed to New York City, where he remained afterward engaged in the practice of law. He began his New York career in association with Hon. Samuel S. Cox, in the firm of Lewis & Cox, which devoted itself largely to suits arising in the construction of Internal Revenue Laws. After the reduction of Internal Revenue to a peace basis, he gained a high reputation as an authority on insurance law, and for more than twenty years was counsel to the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York. In 1898 he lectured at Cornell University on the Principles of Insurance, and in 1899 at Harvard and Columbia Universities on Life Insurance. From 1873 to 1878 he was Secretary and Treasurer of the Chamber of Life Insurance of the United States. He was also a Director in the International Bell Telephone Company, North American Trust Company, United States Mortgage and Trust Company, and other business corporations.

For many years he made a study of the question of treatment of criminals, and did most effective service in behalf of reform in the administration of prisons and public charities. From 1881 he was Chairman of the Executive Committee of the New York Prison Association, and from 1893 President of the Association, annually reelected. He was Delegate of the United States to the International Prison Congress at Paris in

1895, in the same year Chairman of the Commission to Revise the Penal Laws of New Jersey, Vice-President of the National Prison Association in 1897, and Delegate of New Jersey to the National Prison Congress at Philadelphia in 1901. He was a member of the Board of Managers of the New Jersey State Reformatory in 1901, and was reappointed in 1903. During the last ten years he was also President of the State Charities Aid Association of New Jersey.

He was a brilliant classical scholar and spent many years in the preparation of "Harper's Latin Dictionary," 1879; new edition 1896. With this as a basis he also published "The Latin Dictionary for Schools," 1889, and "The Elementary Latin Dictionary," 1891. He translated Bengel's "Gnomon of the New Testament," 2 vols., 1861-1863, which has been often republished as the Tract Society's "Critical English New Testament," and wrote "A History of Germany," founded on David Müller's "History of the German People," 1874. In 1895 he edited "Harper's Book of Facts," and in 1901 a translation of "The Letters of Prince Bismarck to his Wife." Besides these he wrote literary, essays, poems, anniversary addresses, and contributions to journals and newspapers. In 1870-1871 he was Managing Editor of the New York *Evening Post*. He was one of the most steadfast members of the Greek Club of New York, which has met at stated intervals every winter for forty years to read Greek together, and during this time has been in course more than once through the entire range of Greek literature. He was also a member of the New York Historical Society, the American Mathematical Society, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and many social and literary clubs. He gave little time to politics, but was a Delegate from New Jersey to the National Democratic Convention in 1896. He received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from New York University in 1877, and Doctor of Laws from Harvard University in 1903.

Dr. Lewis cared little about personal fame but sought every kind of knowledge for its own sake, and after mastering it delighted in changing his field of study. The night and morning before his sudden illness he passed at Columbia University Library pursuing studies in Dante, in which he had been greatly interested in his last years.

For many years Dr. Lewis resided at Morristown, N. J., and there he died, of cerebro-spinal meningitis, on May 26 1904. He was 70 years of age.

He married, on July 25, 1861, Nancy Dunlap, daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Farley) McKeen, of Brunswick, Me., who died in 1883. He afterward married Margaret P., daughter of Rev. Thomas Sherrard and his wife, Valeria G. Sherrard, of Tecumseh, Michigan. Of the four children by the first marriage three are living. The elder son (Yale 1833) died in 1887. The younger son (Yale 1886) is Emily Sanford Professor of English Literature in Yale University. One of the daughters graduated from Smith College in 1895. By the second marriage he had a son and a daughter, who, with their mother, survived.

From *Yale University Obituary Record*.

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## Scope and Contents

The Charlton Thomas Lewis Papers fall into two sections. The first consists of a collection of autographs of famous literary, intellectual, and political figures compiled by Lewis, and of letters addressed to him and his wife, Margaret P. (Sherrard) Lewis by notables of their acquaintance. Beginning with two documents signed by members of the British Privy Council in 1612 and 1615, the collection contains letters and other items from such prominent figures as Robert Browning, Washington Irving, William James, the first duke of Marlborough, John Stuart Mill, Louis Orléans (comte de Paris; an essay, "L'Esprit de conquête en 1870"), the due de Richelieu, Talleyrand, Alfred Lord Tennyson, Voltaire, John Wesley, and Walt Whitman. Also included are several menu cards signed by numerous individuals. These letters and documents have been arranged chronologically, however, an alphabetical list is provided in the register. Note that the folder numbers are listed non-sequentially as a result.

The remainder of the papers consists of writings by Lewis, as well as one by Margaret C. (Lewis) MacVeagh; included are an unpublished novel, sermons, addresses, and essays on historical and legal topics. There are in addition several oversize items, to wit, Lewis' Harvard L.L.D. diploma, two certificates, and a plan of Ticonderoga.

These papers were donated to Yale University in 1947 by James McKeen Lewis and Mrs. Lincoln MacVeagh.

## Collection Contents

### Inventory, 1612-1904, undated

.75 linear feet (2 boxes)

Correspondence and autograph collection		1612-1904, undated
b. 1, f. 1	Abbot, George, abp. of Canterbury	1612 September 1
b. 1, f. 13	Abbott, John Stevens Cabot	1869 January 1
b. 1, f. 19	Arnold, Sir Edwin	1888 March 21
b. 1, f. 11	Bacon, Theodore	1854 September 14
b. 1, f. 16	Bancroft, George	1877 June 13
b. 1, f. 12	Banks, Nathaniel Prentiss	1865 February 8
b. 1, f. 20	Bigelow, John	1896 February 4, 1897 November 29
b. 1, f. 20	Bigelow, Poultney	1895 November 16
b. 1, f. 23	Bolton, William Orde-Powlett, 2nd baron	1822 November
b. 1, f. 23	<a href="#">Browning, Robert</a>	1864 February 5
b. 1, f. 11	Buchanan, James	1857
b. 1, f. 12	Butler, Benjamin F.	1865 January 8
b. 1, f. 1	Caesar, Sir Julius	1612 September 1, 1615 July 7
b. 1, f. 17, 18	Carnavon, Howard Molyneux Herbert, 4th earl	1883 November 19, 1884 January 4, 1885 July 21, August 31, 1886 May 8
b. 1, f. 12	Chamberlain, Joshua Lawrence	1865 June 26
b. 1, f. 22	Cleveland, Stephen Grover	1904 January 16
b. 1, f. 1	Coke, Sir Edward	1615 July 7
b. 1, f. 13	Collier, Robert Laird	1868 September 14
b. 1, f. 19	Conway, Moncure David	1889 January 26
b. 1, f. 11	Cozzens, Frederick Swartout	1864 April 29

## Correspondence and autograph collection (continued)

b. 1, f. 11	Crittenden, John Jordan	1862 October 7
b. 1, f. 11	Curtis, George William	1869 August 22
b. 1, f. 6	D'Arusmont, Frances (Wright)	1824
b. 1, f. 20	Drisler, Henry	1891 April 17
b. 1, f. 20	Eliot, Charles William	1897 September 30, 1899 February 27
b. 1, f. 1	Ellesmere, Thomas Edgerton, baron	1612 September 1, 1615 July 7
b. 1, f. 14	Fechtler, Charles Albert	[ca. 1870 Apr]
b. 1, f. 1	Fentoun, Thomas Erskine, viscount	1612 September 1
b. 1, f. 21	Ferris, Morris Patterson	1900 June 7
b. 1, f. 19	Field, Henry Martyn	1886 oct 29
b. 1, f. 16	Garfield, James Abram	1872 June 20
b. 1, f. 17	Gildersleeve, Basil Lanneau	1881 April 21
b. 1, f. 16	Gilman, Daniel Coit	1872 August 8
b. 1, f. 14, 21	Godwin, Parke	1870 March 14, 1900 November 15
b. 1, f. 20	Goodwin, Maud (Wilder)	1897 October 28
b. 1, f. 1	Greville, Fulke, Baron Brooke	1615 July 7
b. 1, f. 22	Hadley, Arthur Twining	1904 May 5
b. 1, f. 11	Hancock, Winfield Scott	1864 December 7
b. 1, f. 6	Hardwicke, Philip Yorke, 3rd earl	1824 October 9
b. 1, f. 19, 20	Harper, Joseph Wesley, Jr.	1887 January 14, 1895 December 10
b. 1, f. 18	Hawthorne, Julian	1885 December 21
b. 1, f. 11	Houghton, Richard Monckton Mill, 1st baron	1864 October 18
b. 1, f. 23	Irving, Washington	1857 March 12
b. 1, f. 14	Jackson, John P[eter?]	[ca. 1870 Dec]
b. 1, f. 16	James, Thomas L.	1875

## Correspondence and autograph collection (continued)

b. 1, f. 21	James, William	1903 December 24
b. 1, f. 23	Kotzebue, August Friedrich Ferdinand von	1790 December 11
b. 1, f. 1	Knollys of Greys, William Knollys, baron	1615 July 7
b. 1, f. 20	Lane, Gardiner Martin	1897 September 28, December 27
b. 1, f. 19	Lane, George Martin	1888 April 5, October 4, 1889 February 10
b. 1, f. 18	Lanman, Charles Rockwell	1884 March 5
b. 1, f. 1	Lennox, Ludovick Stuart, 2nd Duke of Lennox and Duke of Richmond	1612 September 1
b. 1, f. 22	Leonard, J A	1904 March 7
b. 1, f. 11	Lewis, Charlton Thomas	1862 June 16, 1865
b. 1, f. 13	Lieber, Francis	1869 June 6
b. 1, f. 11	Lind-Goldschmidt, Jenny Maria	1851 May 27
b. 1, f. 17	Lowell, James Russell	1883 November 28
b. 1, f. 10	Lyell, Sir Charles	1845 March 7
b. 1, f. 7	Lyndhurst, John Singleton Copley, baron	1828 April 27
b. 1, f. 11	McClellan, George Blinton	1864 February 12
b. 1, f. 3	McDonald, Flora (Macdonald)	1751 April 23
b. 1, f. 17	MacVeagh, Wayne	1881 September 15
b. 1, f. 9	Maltby, Edward, bp, of Durham	1838 January 18
b. 1, f. 2	Marlborough, John Churchill, 1st duke	1718 December 10, 1727 June 21
b. 1, f. 10	Mathew, Theobald	1845 January 3
b. 1, f. 12	Mill, John Stuart	1866 April 15
b. 1, f. 8	Moore, Thomas	1836 January 2
b. 1, f. 20	Morgan, Morris Hicky	1897 September 29, October 8
b. 1, f. 5	Mornington, William Wellesley Pole, 3rd earl	1807 November 10



## Correspondence and autograph collection (continued)

b. 1, f. 11	Morrill, Justin Smith	1864 January 18
b. 1, f. 1	Northampton, Henry Howard, earl	1612 September 1
b. 1, f. 1	Nottingham, Charles Howard, earl	1612 September 1
b. 1, f. 14, 15	Orléans, Louis Philip Albert, comte de Paris	1870 December 6, 1870 December
b. 1, f. 3	Parker, Sir Hyde	1756 June 9
b. 1, f. 12	Parker, Joel	1865 October 25
b. 1, f. 1	Parry, Sir Thomas	1612 September 1
b. 1, f. 6	Peel, Sir Robert	1822 November 4
b. 1, f. 1	Pembroke, William Herbert, 3rd earl	1612 September 1
b. 1, f. 11	Pierce, Franklin	1858 March 5
b. 1, f. 5	Plunkett, William Conyngham Plunkett, 1st baron	1807 May 30
b. 1, f. 23	Portal, Antoine, baron de	1819 June 15
b. 1, f. 16, 17	Porter, Noah	1872 June 20, 1883 July 1
b. 1, f. 8	Portland, William Cavendish Bentinck-Scott, 5th duke	1837 July 13
b. 1, f. 23	Pratt, Sir Charles	1754 February 11
b. 1, f. 19	Price, Thomas Randolph	1886
b. 1, f. 5	Richelieu, Armand Emmanuel Sophie Septemanie du Plessis, duc de	1816 September 27
b. 1, f. 22	Riis, Jacob August	1903 September 12
b. 1, f. 7	Rives, William Cabell	1829 August 30
b. 1, f. 1	Rochester, Robert Carr, viscount See also: Somerset, Robert Carr, earl	1612 September 1
b. 1, f. 12	Romero, Matías	1865 October 21
b. 1, f. 7	Rop, John	1834 June 30
b. 1, f. 5	Ross, Sir John	1819 May 2
b. 1, f. 18	Schaff, Philip	1885 March 24

## Correspondence and autograph collection (continued)

b. 1, f. 21	Schumacher, Ludwig	1889 December 29
b. 1, f. 18	Sessions, D R	1885 June 24
b. 1, f. 12	Seward, William H.	1865 September 26
b. 1, f. 1	Shrewsbury, Gilbert Talbot, earl	1612 September 1, 1615 July 7
b. 1, f. 17	Smalley, George Washburn	1880 October 13, 14
b. 1, f. 1	Somerset, Robert Carr, earl See also: Rochester, Robert Carr, viscount	1615 July 7
b. 1, f. 19, 20	Stedman, Edmund Clarence	1886 March 23, 1888 January 21, 1896 January 12
b. 1, f. 20	Stockton, Frank Richard	1895 May 27
b. 1, f. 14	Storrs, Richard Salter	[1870] June 15
b. 1, f. 1	Suffolk, Thomas Howard, earl	1612 September 1, 1615 July 7
b. 1, f. 16	Sumner, Charles	1871 February 3, [ca. 1872]
b. 1, f. 5	Talleyrand-Périgord, Charles Maurice de, prince de Bénévent	1819 August 21
b. 1, f. 9	Tennyson, Alfred Tennyson, 1st baron	1842 December 31
b. 1, f. 11	Thacher, Thomas Anthony	1862 July 18
b. 1, f. 3	Voltaire, Françoise Marie Arouet	1765 June 3
b. 1, f. 12	Wagner, M, Lewis	[1865] June 13
b. 1, f. 6	Wallenstein, earl de	1826 October 4
b. 1, f. 22	Watterson, Henry	1904 May 14
b. 1, f. 9	Webster, Daniel	1838 January 27
b. 1, f. 9	Weiss, [ <u>underline</u> ], bp. of Strasbourg	1842 November
b. 1, f. 7	Wendt, S	1832 January 25
b. 1, f. 4	Wesley, John	1790 June 17
b. 1, f. 7	Wetterstedt, graf	1829 September 4
b. 1, f. 13, 20, 21	White, Andrew Dickson	1869 June 9, 15, 1896 October 8 1901 August 15

## Correspondence and autograph collection (continued)

b. 1, f. 7	White, Charles	1833
b. 1, f. 21	White, Horace	1900 April 14
b. 1, f. 23	Whitman, Walt <a href="#">"At home" card signed by Walt Whitman.</a> A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives and <a href="#">online</a> .	1887 April 14
b. 1, f. 7	Williams, Thomas	1833 July 3
b. 1, f. 22	Wilson, John	undated
b. 1, f. 7, 10	Wilson, Joshua	1830 March 20, 1846 August 31
b. 1, f. 23	Winkler, Karl Gottfried Theodor	undated
b. 1, f. 1	Winwood, Sir Ralph	1615 July 7
b. 1, f. 23	Witzleben, Karl August Friedrich von	1829 November 8
b. 1, f. 23	Wood, Fernando	1859
b. 1, f. 1	Worcester, Edward Somerset, 4th earl	1612 September 1, 1615 July 7
b. 1, f. 1	Wotton of Marley, Edward Wotton, baron	1612 September 1, 1615 July 7
b. 1, f. 5	Yarborough, Charles Anderson-Pelham, 1st baron	1816 February 12
b. 1, f. 23	Yates, James	1770 February 6
b. 1, f. 5	Yenn, John	1815 April 12
b. 1, f. 4	Yonge, Sir George	1786 April 21, 1791 June 25
b. 1, f. 22	Young, Arthur	[1780-1790]
b. 1, f. 4	Young, John	1778 March 12
b. 1, f. 6	Youngman, William	1821 November 5
b. 1, f. 1	Zouche, Edward Curzon, baron	1612 September 1, 1615 July 7
Writings		
b. 1, f. 25-27	Sermons	1855-1860, undated
b. 2, f. 28	"Lafayette and the Historians" English	1895 November 19

## Writings (continued)

b. 2, f. 29	"The Character of Lafayette" English	1896 February 22
b. 2, f. 30	"Address at the Alumni Meeting" English	1903 June 23
b. 2, f. 31	"The Condition of Moslem Women under Islam" English	undated
b. 2, f. 32	"Copyright" English	undated
b. 2, f. 33	"The Interest of Society in the Reform of Penal Law" English A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	undated
b. 2, f. 34	"The Professional Spirit and Scientific Medicine" English	undated
b. 2, f. 35	"The Tax on Life Insurance Policies" English	undated
b. 2, f. 36	Unpublished novel	undated
b. 2, f. 37	Two commencement addresses	undated
b. 2, f. 38	Miscellaneous addresses, notes, etc. re: Penal codes and reform	undated
b. 2, f. 39	Address on the Revolutionary War	undated
b. 2, f. 40	Two notebooks of addresses and notes	undated
b. 2, f. 41	"Address" and notes English	undated
b. 2, f. 42	Miscellaneous notes	undated
b. 2, f. 43	Margaret Charlton (Lewis) MacVeagh: address concerning Italian immigrants	undated
Certificates		
b. 3	New York State Supreme Court: certificate as attorney and counsellor at law	1863 November 30
b. 3	New Jersey: appointment as commissioner of the reformatory	1903 May 1
b. 3	Harvard University: Doctor of Laws diploma	1903 June 24
b. 3	"A Plan of the Town and Fort of Carillon at Ticonderoga; with the Attack made by the British Army Commanded by Genl. Abercrombie, 8 July 1758. Engraved by Thos. Jefferys..." English	undated

## **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.

### **Subjects**

Clergy  
Italians -- United States  
Law  
Lawyers

### **Genres / Formats**

Autographs  
Sermons

### **Names**

Lewis, Charlton T. (Charlton Thomas),  
1834-1904  
Lewis, Margaret P. Sherrand