

# Guide to the George Washington Lyon Papers

MS 979



compiled by Janet Elaine Gertz

August 1983

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 979

**CREATOR:** Lyon, George Washington, 1828-1875

**TITLE:** George Washington Lyon papers

**DATES:** 1854-1858

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.5 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Notebooks, papers and diploma relating to George Washington Lyon's student years at Columbia University.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0979>

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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.0979>.

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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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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

George Washington Lyon Papers (MS 979). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

George Washington Lyon.

He was born in New York City, Oct. 14, 1828. In the fall of 1851 was elected to the New York Assembly by a large majority, served one term with credit to himself and his constituency, but thereafter withdrew from politics, political life not suiting his tastes.

He acted as best man at the wedding of his intimate friend, Mr. J. H. Bates, at Kalamazoo, and there formed the acquaintance of Miss Abby L. Duncan, a sister of Mr. Bates's bride, a handsome and accomplished young lady, whom he afterward married.

He studied medicine, graduated at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, and practised his profession in New York City for a few years before settling in Kalamazoo, Mich.

He died at Kalamazoo, Mich., on Tuesday, Nov. 23, 1875.

The following appeared in a Kalamazoo (Mich.) newspaper of Nov. 23, 1875:--

"George W. Lyon, one of our leading physicians, and a resident here of over fifteen years, died this morning at about half-past nine o'clock, of consumption of the bowels. Dr. Lyon has been ill for several months, and but little hope has been entertained of his recovery. His mind was clear, and he appeared to be aware of his immediate dissolution, for he silently took his wife's hand, and pressed it to his lips, and looked into her face a good-bye he could not utter. He became unconscious after that, and died without the least apparent pain. Mrs. Lyon, Mrs. James Taylor, Mrs. And Mr. Charles R. Bates, and Dr. Porter were with him when he died. Dr. Lyon was about fifty years of age, and has been one of our best-known citizens for many years, a gentleman of unusual culture even for these days, and a physician who was at the head of his profession. A host of friends here and elsewhere will mourn his loss. He leaves a wife but no children."

(Taken from *A History of the Class of 1851*, 1893, p. 193).

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## Scope and Contents

Notebooks, papers and diploma relating to George Washington Lyon's student years at Columbia University.

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## Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1 - 13	Student notebooks	1854-1856
b. 1, f. 14	Patient lists	1858
b. 2	Diploma (For this item, see MG Common folio, No. 1)	1856

## **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**

Medicine -- Study and teaching

### **Names**

Lyon, George Washington, 1828-1875

### **Corporate Body**

Columbia University -- Students