IHLC MS 263
Louis Livingston Seaman
Collection, 1869-1932

Manuscript Collection Inventory
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Louis Livingston Seaman.
Papers/Collection, 1869-1932.

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Box 1

Personal Papers

Biographical Information

Obituaries [includes one from New York Times, March 30, 1932], 1932

Correspondence

U.S. Army Post Canteens

[H. L. E. Johnson, Chairman, Committee on National Legislation, American Medical Association] to [Charles A. L. Reed, President of the American Medical Association], circa June 2-7, 1901 Johnson discusses the National Association of Military Surgeons’ passage of a resolution in support of the Army Canteen [resulting from a speech by Seaman] and requests permission to organize a committee that would work with the NAMA in their efforts to petition Congress to repeal the law against the Canteen.

H. L. E. Johnson and Wm. L. Rodman (future president of the American Medical Association [AMA]) to the President and Members of the AMA, June 7, 1901

Johnson and Rodman discuss Seaman’s convincing presentation to the AMA on behalf of the National Association of Military Surgeons, urging the AMA to petition Congress about the repeal of the law that outlawed the Army Canteen. [Note: As a result of Seaman’s presentation, the AMA unanimously passed a resolution in favor of petitioning Congress to repeal the law against the Army Canteen.]

Edward L. Munson (U.S. Army Medical Department, later a Brigadier General in World War I) to Seaman, June 24, 1901

Munson commends Seaman for his efforts to re-establish the Army Canteen and discusses the effects of Seaman’s outspokenness among the “temperance element.”

Munson to Seaman, July 6, 1901

Munson discusses his own research on alcoholism in the U.S. Army and states his intention to secure a resolution from the American Public Health Association in favor of the Army Canteen, much like Seaman secured resolutions from the American Medical Association and the National Association of Military Surgeons.

Charles S. Francis (Editor of the Troy [NY] Times) to Seaman, August 16, 1901
Francis writes about his support of the Army Canteen and complains about the politics surrounding the Cornell University crew team, of which his son John Francis is a member.

Seaman to the Secretary of War [Elihu Root], circa August 1901
Seaman reports that because of his address to the National Association of Military Surgeons, many military officers would now like more information regarding the Canteen issue. Seaman requests permission to contact commanders of Army posts, who could supply medical reports, records of arrests, military trials and desertions, and other valuable statistics that would inform his argument about the Canteen.

Munson to Seaman, September 3, 1901
Munson suggests that Seaman would be the ideal person to address the American Public Health Association about passing a resolution in favor of the Army Canteen, and provides a plan detailing how Seaman could join the APHA, ingratiate himself to its key members, and gain the group’s support for a resolution.

Munson to Seaman, September 6, 1901
Munson reports that Seaman’s application to the APHA has been submitted, and continues to develop their plan about how to gain the APHA’s support for the Canteen.

Munson to Seaman, October 7, 1901
Munson reports that the APHA voted on its resolution regarding the Canteen, and though one man was opposed to its re-establishment, “the chairman was conveniently deaf and declared the result unanimous.”

Munson to Seaman, November 5, 1901
Munson discusses his ideas for a medical essay contest, as requested by Seaman.

German East Africa
Seaman (“Indian Ocean, Off the Coast of Zanzibar, Poor Bleeding Africa”) to [C. S. Dodge] (New York City), May 30, 1906
Seaman writes about the horrors of colonization he witnessed in German East Africa, including the enslavement, forced labor, slaughter, disease, and starvation of native Africans. He also focuses on the Africans’ strong religious faith, and discusses at length the Germans’ public works, establishment of military hospitals, study of tropical diseases, building of botanical, chemical, and biological laboratories, and founding of small, industrial schools. He remarks that the Germans’ positive developments do not make up for their abuse and ruin of the African people, writing, “The paternalism of the Arab and the Hindus or Goanese is infinitely more humane than the white slavery under the present regime, which often exceeds in cruelties the most inhuman treatment accorded the negro in the South when slavery was a recognized institution.”
Gilbert S. Grosvenor (Editor of *National Geographic Magazine*) to Seaman, inviting him to lecture the National Geographic Society on German East Africa, December 2, 1906

C.S. Dodge (New York City) to Seaman, commenting on Seaman’s experience in German East Africa, December 7, 1906

Gilbert S. Grosvenor to Seaman, to schedule a December 12 meeting in New York City, December 10, 1906

World War I

Lord Stamfordham (Private Secretary to King George V) to Seaman, expressing the king’s thanks to Seaman for his efforts as president of the New York British War Relief Association, November 18, 1915

Seaman (“within the sight of Verdun”) to his wife “Mollie,” describes booming guns, a German airplane being chased by French Swallow, and POWs doing road (“fat and contented at being prisoners”), September 11, 1916

Sulgrave Institution [Great Britain]

Seaman to Baron Emil de Cartier (Belgian Embassy, Washington, D.C.), inviting the King and Queen of Belgium to attend an event hosted by the Sulgrave Institution, now known as the George Washington-Sulgrave Institution [draft with Corrections], circa 1919

Letters regarding Seaman

Letters written by caretakers, regarding Seaman’s health, 1930

Speeches and Writings

“Observations in China and the Tropics on Army Ration and the Post Exchange or Canteen,” Drafted Excerpt, circa 1901 [manuscript draft with excerpt of printed version]

On Modern China (and College Athletics in the U.S.), delivered at Cornell University, ca. 1901 [typescript draft with handwritten corrections]


“The Army Cartridge Belt,” circa 1903 [carbon typescripts]

Japanese Burial Practices, circa 1904 [manuscript and letterpress copy]

Speeches about Russo-Japanese War, circa 1905 [typescript drafts with handwritten corrections]


“The Aftermath of the Balkan War,” presented at the Session of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, held in honor of the International Commission, appointed by the Carnegie Peace Endowment, to investigate the war of the Allies, 1913


“The Holier Than Thou Policy of the United States,” 1916 [carbon typescript draft with handwritten corrections]

Poems [manuscripts and carbon typescript]

Catalogued publications shelved with the unit’s book collection (see Appendix)

Clippings from periodicals regarding Seaman
General
Includes reports on lectures, a news item about the Russo-Japanese War, and a gossip column identifying Seaman as “a 14-carat lady killer,” circa 1890s-1910s

U.S. Army Post Canteens [see also flat storage]
Includes reports on lectures, legislation, and writings concerning the debate over the abolition of the Army Canteen, circa 1901

Printed Material on Subjects related to Seaman
Newspaper clipping regarding a process for manufacturing synthetic diamonds, circa 1893
Pethick, W. R., “An Account, in Chinese, of the attempt to assassinate Li Hung Chang in Japan,” signed by the author and addressed to Seaman, September 15, 1899
Buffalo (NY) Courier clipping regarding the inadequacy of the sanitation practiced at U.S. Army facilities in the Spanish-American War, August 26, 1901 [flat storage]
Congo Reform Association, Boston, Massachusetts, literature, circa 1904-1906
New York American, Dec. 11, 1906 issue, mostly regarding the conditions of the Congo Free State [flat storage]

Legal Papers
Will and Itemized Trusts, 1928, 1932

Ephemera
Painting of Seaman in Hong Kong, in traditional Chinese dress, 1882
Autographed Photographs of Actresses Helena Modjeska (1888) and Isabel Irving (1904)
Engraving of The Varsity Challenge Cup, Presented by Louis Livingston Seaman Cornell '72, Made by Theodore B. Starr, 1898
Plan of the City of Peking, circa 1899 [flat storage]
Malahide Castle, Ireland, Postcard, August 21, 1900
“Hiawatha”, The Messiah of the Ojibway Production and Publicity Stills, 1903 [8 photographs]
[Note: This was the first dramatic narrative film made in Canada. Though the film itself is lost, images are extant in the 1903/04 catalogue of the Charles Urban Trading Company, and now in the Seaman Collection. Seaman likely acquired the photographs from Rosenthal, the film’s producer/director, during the Russo-Japanese War. Both men participated in the war on the Japanese side: Seaman as an observer of Japanese medical practices, and Rosenthal as a camera operator for the Urban Trading Company.]
Mary La F. Russell, “His Hobby” [print of humorous drawing of Theodore Roosevelt], 1907
Hamlin Garland, Revised Manuscript Draft from “Prairie Memories,” and Photograph, Addressed “To Dr. Seaman” [flat storage], circa 1915-1928

Envelopes
Box 2

Photographs
Louis Livingston Seaman
Student portrait in military uniform, Cornell University, 1869
Snapshot in front of home [?], New York City, circa 1890s
Portrait in formal wear, Barclay Bros., Edinburgh, circa 1900-1903
Snapshot in Manchuria, mounted on horse, circa 1904 [2 copies]
Poses in summer suit, nature scene [2 photos], circa 1900-1910
Photographs of the dedication of the tank America, presented to Cornell University by the British Government, at the request of Seaman, 1926 [3 photos and 1 postcard]
Group shot, Seaman leaning against a wood fence (others in group unidentified), circa 1920s [flat storage]

Africa
German East Africa
Images depict African natives, enslaved natives, colonialists, agriculture and nature scenes [mostly unidentified], circa 1906.

North Africa
Images depict African natives and nature scenes [unidentified], circa 1906.

Asia
Philippines [Spanish-American War]
Images depict victims of fire and disease, groups of villagers, colonialists in uniform, San Pedro Church at Cavite, trenches at San Fernando, caribou, and nature scenes [mostly unidentified], 1899-1900.

Russo-Japanese War
Color Photographs, 1904
Images depict the boundary wall between Mongolia and Manchuria; Seaman and Japanese officers examining a sign posted in an army encampment; army barracks; a new latrine in Liaoyang, emphasizing sanitation; and a Japanese woman in formal dress [most reproduced in black-and-white in Seaman’s The Real Triumph of Japan. New York: Appleton, 1906].

Japanese/Chinese, 1900, 1904 [3 folders, identified]
Images depict Seaman with Chinese Viceroy Li Hung Chang (1900); Chinese Gen. Chung Tzor Lin, formerly a Manchurian bandit, with Seaman, and with his cavalry at Hsin Min Tung; military hospitals at Port Arthur; Chinese unloading Standard Oil products at Hsin Min Tung, Manchuria; Chinese harvesting Kaoliang in Manchuria; Chinese watching fighting at Ta Shih Chiao; men shoeing a horse in Manchuria; a marketplace in Newchwang, Manchuria; victims of the Nanshua [sic] battle; mines; a street scene in Kow Pangtze; Diabutsu statue, Hiogo, Japan; and “the burning of fodder, gunny-bags, and provisions at the Yinkow Station of the Chinese Eastern Railway immediately preceding their evacuation, by the Russians” [July 25, 1904].
[Note: Seaman selected from these photographs to illustrate his *From Tokio through Manchuria with the Japanese*. New York: Appleton, 1905, and *The Real Triumph of Japan*. New York: Appleton, 1906.]

Japanese/Chinese, 1904 [unidentified]
Images depict Japanese soldiers, buildings, destroyed buildings, war casualties, street scenes, and nature scenes.

Russian Military, 1904 [identified]
Images depict Russian soldiers; a Russian Siege gun at the fort at the mouth of the Liao River; the Battleship *Czarwitch* in the harbor of Tsingtao; the funeral of a Russian soldier; the evacuation of Newchwang, Manchuria; soldiers carrying cable for electric mines to be placed in the Liao River; and Seaman inspecting a Russian submarine.

[Note: Seaman selected from these photographs to illustrate his *From Tokio through Manchuria with the Japanese*. New York: Appleton, 1905, and *The Real Triumph of Japan*. New York: Appleton, 1906.]

North America
Cuba
Images depict the *Rough Rider*, a boat once used as a fumigation and disinfectant ship, now is disrepair; a memorial to American soldiers; and railroad workers [some identified], circa 1905.
Appendix

Appendix for catalogued books in this collection.

Observations in China and the Tropics on Army Ration and the Post Exchange or Canteen (Carlisle, Pa.: Association of Military Surgeons, 1901) [613.21 Se1]
From Tokio through Manchuria with the Japanese (New York: Appleton, 1905) [951.8 SE16f]
The Real Triumph of Japan, the Conquest of the Silent Foe (New York: Appleton, 1906) [610.952 Se16r]
Shall Disease Triumph in Our Army?: A Plea for the Reorganization of the Medical Department of the United States Army (New York: American Defense Society, 1906?) [613.67 SE1s]
An Appeal to the Patriotic Women of America (s.l.: s.n., 1915?) [940.48 SE16a]
The Crucifixion of Belgium: An Address on Germany’s Deportation of the Innocent People of Belgium and Northern France (New York: The Church of St. John the Evangelist, 1916) [940.405 SE16c]
The Holier Than Thou Policy of the President: Presented at the Session of the Academy of Political and Social Science, Philadelphia 1916 (New York: s.n., 1916) [940.373 SE16h]
Report...to the Members of the British War Relief Association, Inc., on His Return from His Second Visit to the War Zone, October 23, 1916 (London: British War Relief Association, 1916) [940.3 SE16R]
The Owen-Dyer Bills for Increased Rank of Medical Officers (Chicago: American Medical Association, 1918) [355.345 SE16o]
The Prevention of Disease in the War: More Power for the Medical Department of the Army (New York: American Defense Society, 1918?) [940.5475 SE16p]
Shall the Treaty of Peace be One of Justice or One of Infamy? (Washington, D.C.: U.S. G.P.O., 1919) [951.041 SE16s]