



Finding Aid/Contents List

Title: Charles E. Mudie Papers

Collection ID: MSS00042

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Biographical Note: Charles Edward Mudie (1818-1890) was a publisher, author, and the founder of Mudie's Select Library. Located in London, Mudie introduced through his innovative library the concept of lending books by way of a circulating system operated by membership. With the help of his wife Mary and son Arthur Oliver, Mudie established during the Victorian era a network with publishers and writers to support and maintain the library. Collections of books in the library were curated or selected by Mudie in accordance with Victorian morals, limiting titles to subjects pertaining to science, biographies, fiction and "adventure" (travel). The lending of books operated by having multiple copies available for subscribers to borrow. The concept of Mudie's Select Library proved successful with the opening of three branches outside of London, in York, Manchester and Birmingham. Upon his death in 1890, his son Arthur Oliver Mudie succeeded him as Chairman of the Library.

Scope and Contents: The Charles E. Mudie Papers dates from 1816 to 1897. Correspondence in the Mudie Papers comprises the most voluminous resource, with letters sent to and written by Mudie, his wife Mary, and third-party individuals. The collection includes photographs, broadsides, passports and a travel diary from 1859. Topics from the letters shed light on Mudie's Circulating Library subscription system and the book trade, and discussions of 19th century books. Conversations about British politics, the Italian unification, travel around Europe, the opening of Mudie's Great Hall in 1860, literary matters, family genealogy and personal matters are also recorded in the letters and the mixed materials.

Arrangement: The collection is arranged in two major series: correspondence and mixed materials. Correspondence is arranged in alphabetical order.

Extent/Size: 1 box, .5 cubic feet

Languages: English, Italian

Access: Open to researchers.

Use/Restrictions: The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials. Under certain conditions specified in the law, libraries and archives are authorized to furnish a photocopy or other reproduction. One of these specified conditions is that the photocopy or reproduction is not to be "used for any purpose other than private study scholarship or research." If a user makes a request for, or later uses, a photocopy or reproduction for purposes in excess of "fair use," that user may be liable for copyright infringement. This institution reserves the right to refuse to accept a copying order if, in its judgement, fulfillment of the order would damage materials or involve violation of copyright law.

Series 1: Correspondence**Sub-series 1: Charles E. Mudie Correspondence**

- Folder 1:** Ainsworth, W. Harrison letters, 1800, undated
Folder 2: Bentley, George letters, 1884-1886, undated
Folder 3: Blanc, Louis letters, 1861, undated
Folder 4: Brooke, Rajah letter, undated
Folder 5: Brooks, Shirley letter, 1859
Folder 6: Browning, Robert letter, 1866
Folder 7: Caine, Hall letter, 1897
Folder 8: Carlyle, Mr. & Mrs. Letter, undated
Folder 9: Collins, Frances letter, 1877
Folder 10: Collins, Wilkie letters, 1860
Folder 11: Conder, G.W. letter, 1872
Folder 12: Cowden-Clarke, Mary letter, 1884
Folder 13: Gordon Cummins, Constance letters, 1882-1885
Folder 14: Cruikshank, George letters, 1870
Folder 15: Darwin, Charles letter, 1865c.
Folder 16: Dennis, George letter, 1884
Folder 17: Dickens, Charles letter, 1860
Folder 18: Edwards, Amelia B. letters, 1864-1877
Folder 19: Fletcher, J.C. letter, 1883
Folder 20: Forster, John letter, 1860, 1872
Folder 21: Gladstone, William Ewart (W.E.) letter, 1882
Folder 22: Guizot, Guillaume letter, 1865
Folder 23: Hall, Samuel Carter (S.C.) letters, 1883, undated
Folder 24: Sir Rowland Hill letter, undated
Folder 25: Howitt, William letter, 1866
Folder 26: Hughes, Thomas letters, 1857-1861
Folder 27: Hunt, W. Holman letter, 1860
Folder 28: Inchbold, John William (J.W.) letter, 1883
Folder 29: Ireland, Alexander letter, 1883
Folder 30: Mrs. Jameson letter, undated
Folder 31: Kingsley, Charles letters, 1857, 1867
Folder 32: Kingsley, Henry letters, 1860, undated
Folder 33: Lever, Charles letters, 1848, 1864
Folder 34: Mac Millan, A. letter, 1860
Folder 35: Lord Mahon letter, 1873
Folder 36: Manning, Anne letters, 1859-1869
Folder 37: Masson, David letters, 1858-1883
Folder 38: Mulock, Dinah letters, 1859-1884, undated
Folder 39: Nightingale, Florence letters, 1863, 1867
Folder 40: Oliphant Wilson, Margaret (M.O.W.), undated
Folder 41: Palgrave, Sir Francis letter, 1869
Folder 42: Payn, James letters, undated
Folder 43: Rae, Edward letters, 1877-1883
Folder 44: Reade, Charles letters, undated
Folder 45: Reid, Mayne letters, 1857, 1875, undated
Folder 46: Ruskin, John letter, undated
Folder 47: Sala, George Augustus letters, 1860-1862

Folder 48: Shields, Frederick letter, undated
Folder 49: Stowe, Harriet Beecher (H.B.) letter, undated
Folder 50: Trollope, Frances Eleanour letters, 1887, undated
Folder 51: Emerson Tennent, James letters, 1860
Folder 52: Tennyson, Alfred letter, undated
Folder 53: Sellwood, Emily, (Mrs. Alfred Tennyson) letter, undated
Folder 54: Twining, Louisa letter, undated
Folder 55: Woolner, Thomas letter, 1860
Folder 56: Wordsworth, Christopher letter, 1865
Folder 57: Mudie, Carl letter, 1871 (letter sent by Charles Mudie)

Series 1: Correspondence

Sub-series 2: Mary Mudie Correspondence

Folder 58: Cargill, Jessie W. letter, 1896
Folder 59: Edwards, Amelia B. letter, undated
Folder 60: Gaskell, Margaret Emily (Meta) letter, undated
Folder 61: Greenaway, Kate letter, 1891
Folder 62: Hall, Samuel Carter letter, undated
Folder 63: Kavanagh, Julia letter, 1875
Folder 64: Moore, Henry letters, 1872, 1885
Folder 65: Ristori, Adelaide letter, undated
Folder 66: Mudie, Mary (mom to daughter) letters, 1869-1871, undated

Series 1: Correspondence

Sub-series 3: Third Party Correspondence

Folder 67: Cardinal Nicholas Wiseman letter, 1858
Folder 68: Queen Victoria letter, 1866
Folder 69: Mazzini, Joseph to Angelo Bezzi letter 1865
Folder 70: Mazzini, Joseph to Kate Hill letters, 1862-1865
Folder 71: Gaskell, Elizabeth Cleghorn (Mrs. Gaskell) letter, 1862
Folder 72: Pawling, Gilbert letter, 1816

Series 2: Mixed Materials

Folder 73: British passport granted to Charles E. Mudie, his wife, children, governess, and maid, July 6, 1861
Folder 74: Italian route sheet issued by the city of Bologna, Italy, June 21, 1848, and an Italian visa or abroad passport, July 3, 1849
Folder 75: Great Hall opening guest list, December 17, 1860
Folder 76: Travel diary titled, *The travels of two children through France and Italy in 1859* aged 11 and 9 1/2
Folder 77: Newspaper clipping of an ad titled, *Sisters' Charity: £25,000 as Grants for the Poor*, and clipped illustration published by D. Ardley, from the town of Torquay
Folder 78: Check for the amount of three guineas paid to Charles Haddon (C.H.) Spurgeon
Folder 79: Textual and pictorial materials related to Giuseppe (Joseph) Mazzini
Folder 80: Mudie Circulating Library pamphlet