



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

- Folder 48:** Sellwood, Emily, (Mrs. Alfred Tennyson), undated
Folder 49: Twining, Louisa, undated
Folder 50: Woolner, Thomas, 1860
Folder 51: Wordsworth, Christopher, 1865
Folder 52: Mudie, Carl, 1871 (letter sent by Charles Mudie)

Series 1: Correspondence

Sub-series 2: Mary Kingsford Mudie Correspondence

- Folder 53:** Bentley, George, c.1885-1886
Folder 54: Edwards, Amelia B., undated
Folder 55: Hall, Samuel Carter, undated
Folder 56: Hughes, Thomas, 1857
Folder 57: Kavanagh, Julia, 1875
Folder 58: Moore, Henry, 1872, 1885
Folder 59: Mudie, Mary Kingsford to the Mudie children, 1871, undated
Folder 60: Mulock, Dinah, 1860-1884, undated
Folder 61: Reid, Mayne, 1857
Folder 62: Trollope, Frances Eleanor, 1887, undated

Series 1: Correspondence

Sub-series 3: Third Party Correspondence

- Folder 63:** Caine, Hall, 1897
Folder 64: Cardinal Nicholas Wiseman, 1858
Folder 65: Cargill, Jessie (Mrs. Cargill), 1896
Folder 66: Gaskell, Elizabeth Cleghorn (Mrs. Gaskell), 1862
Folder 67: Gaskell, Margaret Emily (Meta), undated
Folder 68: Greenaway, Kate, 1891
Folder 69: Hunt, W. Holman, 1860
Folder 70: Lever, Charles, 1848, 1864
Folder 71: Mazzini, Joseph, 1862, 1865
Folder 72: Mudie, Mary Polly, 1869
Folder 73: Pawling, Gilbert, 1816
Folder 74: Queen Victoria, 1866
Folder 75: Ristori, Adelaide and Portia Gigliuca, undated
Folder 76: Shields, Frederic, undated

Series 2: Mixed Materials

- Folder 77:** British passport granted to Charles E. Mudie, his wife, children, governess, and maid, July 6, 1860
Folder 78: Italian route sheet issued by the city of Bologna, Italy, June 19, 1848, and an Italian visa or abroad passport, July 3, 1849
Folder 79: Great Hall opening guest list, December 17, 1860
Folder 80: Travel diary titled, *The travels of two children through France and Italy in 1859* aged 11 and 9 1/2
Folder 81: 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 82: Check for the amount of three guineas paid to Charles Haddon (C.H.) Spurgeon, 1859

Folder 83: Textual and pictorial materials related to Giuseppe (Joseph) Mazzini

Folder 84: Mudie Circulating Library pamphlet