

# Guide to the William Thompson Sedgwick Papers

MS 1312



compiled by R. Joseph Anderson and Nancy Robertson

October 1981

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P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1312

**CREATOR:** Sedgwick, W. T. (William Thompson), 1855-1921

**TITLE:** William Thompson Sedgwick Papers

**DATES:** 1864-1922

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1.5 linear feet (4 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Correspondence, research material, writings and biographical material collected by C.-E.A. Winslow for a biography of Sedgwick, published in 1924. The correspondence (1879-1921) is with students and colleagues on professional matters, and the fragmentary research material concerns bacteriological studies of milk. For additional Sedgwick correspondence, see the C.-E.A. Winslow papers, MS749. The writings include articles, lecture notes, reports and essays. Also in the papers is a lengthy tribute to Sedgwick by George C. Whipple. These papers form part of the Contemporary Medical Care and Health Policy Collection.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1312>

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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.1312>.

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

Acquired as part of the C.-E.A. Winslow Papers (MS 749).

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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

William Thompson Sedgwick Papers (MS 1312). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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### Associated Materials

Related material: C.-E.A. Winslow Papers (MS 749), Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

William Thompson Sedgwick (1855-1921), educator and bacteriologist, was one of the founders of the American public health profession. Educated at Yale (Ph.B., Sheffield Scientific School, 1877) and Johns Hopkins (Ph.D., 1881), Sedgwick taught at Johns Hopkins, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Harvard. He was responsible for founding schools of public health in both M.I.T. and Harvard.

The Sedgwick Papers at Yale were collected by C.-E.A. Winslow while he was preparing a biography of Sedgwick, *A Pioneer of Public Health--William Thompson Sedgwick* (1924) with E.O. Jordan and G.C. Whipple. The papers are made up of one and one-half linear feet of material that is arranged in four series: CORRESPONDENCE, RESEARCH MATERIAL, WRITINGS, and BIOGRAPHICAL MATERIAL. Although the manuscript group is fragmentary and incomplete, it represents the largest extant collection of Sedgwick's papers.

CORRESPONDENCE spans the years 1878 to 1920 and consists of correspondence from students and colleagues. The 1906 correspondence from students on the occasion of Sedgwick's thirtieth anniversary in teaching is of special interest. RESEARCH MATERIAL is largely undated and fragmentary and concerns bacteriological studies of milk. WRITINGS extends from 1879 to 1920 and includes articles, lecture notes and texts, reports, essays and occasional programs. BIOGRAPHICAL MATERIAL includes a lengthy tribute to Sedgwick by George C. Whipple.

The Sedgwick Papers are part of the Contemporary Medical Care and Health Policy Collection, and they were originally accessioned as part of the papers of C.-E.A. Winslow. For additional Sedgwick correspondence see the Winslow Papers (MS 749).

## **Scope and Contents**

Correspondence, research material, writings and biographical material collected by C.-E.A. Winslow for a biography of Sedgwick, published in 1924. The correspondence (1879-1921) is with students and colleagues on professional matters, and the fragmentary research material concerns bacteriological studies of milk. For additional Sedgwick correspondence, see the C.-E.A. Winslow papers, MS749. The writings include articles, lecture notes, reports and essays. Also in the papers is a lengthy tribute to Sedgwick by George C. Whipple. These papers form part of the Contemporary Medical Care and Health Policy Collection.

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## **Arrangement**

Arranged in four series: I. Correspondence. II. Research Materials. III. Writings. IV. Bibliographic Material.

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## Collection Contents

### Series I: Correspondence, 1878-1921

CORRESPONDENCE is arranged chronologically.

b. 1, f. 1	Correspondence	1878-1892
b. 1, f. 2	Correspondence	1893-1899
b. 1, f. 3	Correspondence	1900-1905
b. 1, f. 4	Correspondence	1906
b. 1, f. 5	Correspondence	1907-1910
b. 1, f. 6	Correspondence	1911-1912
b. 1, f. 7	Correspondence	1913-1914
b. 1, f. 8	Correspondence	1915-1916
b. 1, f. 9	Correspondence	1917-1919
b. 1, f. 10	Correspondence	1920-1921
b. 1, f. 11	Correspondence	undated

**Series II: Research Material, 1879-1916***1/4' (1/2 box)*

RESEARCH MATERIAL is arranged chronologically.

b. 2, f. 1	Research material	1879, 1894, 1902-1912
b. 2, f. 2	Research material	1913-1915
b. 2, f. 3	Research material	1915
b. 2, f. 4	Research material	1916, undated

**Series III: Writings, 1879-1920, undated***1/2'(1 box)*

WRITINGS is arranged chronologically and contains four folders of undated material.

b. 3, f. 1	Writings: bibliography	1879-1921
b. 3, f. 2	Writings	1879, 1885-1889
b. 3, f. 3	Writings	1892-1899
b. 3, f. 4	Writings	1900-1913
b. 3, f. 5	Writings	1916-1920
b. 3, f. 6	Writings	undated



**Series IV: Biographical Material, 1864-1922***1/4'(1/2 box)*

BIOGRAPHICAL MATERIAL is arranged chronologically.

b. 4, f. 1	Correspondence, account book and notes	1864, circa 1871, 1900
b. 4, f. 2	Educational records	1872-1877
b. 4, f. 3	Newsclippings	1898-1919
b. 4, f. 4	Copper plate	Circa 1900
b. 4, f. 5	Certificates and citations	1904-1909, 1917-1922
b. 4, f. 6	Photographs	1908
b. 4, f. 7	Tributes	1921

## **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**

Educators  
Milk -- Microbiology  
Public health

### **Occupations**

Bacteriologists  
Biologists

### **Preferred Titles**

*Contemporary Medical Care and Health Policy  
Collection*

### **Names**

Sedgwick, W. T. (William Thompson), 1855-1921  
Whipple, George Chandler, 1866-1924  
Winslow, C.-E. A. (Charles-Edward Amory),  
1877-1957