Guide to the Holmes Family Papers

MS 1000

compiled by Susan Grigg

October 1979

Yale University Library
P.O. Box 208240
New Haven, CT 06520-8240
mssa.assist@yale.edu
http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/
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Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives
Yale University Library
P.O. Box 208240
New Haven, CT 06520-8240
mssa.assist@yale.edu
http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1000

**CREATOR:** Holmes family

**TITLE:** Holmes family papers

**DATES:** 1823–1896

**BULK DATES:** 1856–1896

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1 linear foot

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The principal figure in these papers is Charles Edward Latimer Holmes, of Waterbury and Bridgeport, Connecticut, manufacturer of brass and silver, and the son of Israel Holmes. Included are correspondence, business papers, a diary, and family scrapbooks. Holmes' letters to his second wife, Annie E. Slade Holmes, and his daughter, Lydia Holmes Bliss, were chiefly written while he was traveling on business to France and England in 1879 and to England in 1883. His business papers consist of letter books (1881-1883) and correspondence and patents related to his inventions (1879-1883). Also in the papers is a diary kept by his first wife, Mary E. Steele Holmes, while they were living in Nebraska in 1856. Of the two scrapbooks, one contains letters from his uncle, Reuben Holmes, while the second was kept by a member of the Israel Holmes family and contains clippings, letterheads from the family businesses, programs, speeches, poems by C. E. L. Holmes, and other memorabilia.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1000

### 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 http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1000.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to 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
Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Conditions Governing Access
The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use
Unpublished materials authored or otherwise produced by the creator(s) of this collection are in the public domain. There are no restrictions on use. Copyright status for other collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

Preferred Citation
Holmes Family Papers (MS 1000). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical
Charles Edward Latimer Holmes was born in Waterbury, Connecticut, on May 15, 1832. He had little education and entered the manufacturing business at seventeen. In 1857, he moved to Nebraska, but returned in 1860. During the Civil War, he helped to organize the 23rd regiment of Connecticut volunteers and, after being appointed colonel, was sent to fight in Louisiana. After the war, he returned to the manufacturing business. He was married twice and had a daughter by the second marriage. Holmes died on April 28, 1884.

Scope and Contents
The Holmes Family Papers consist mainly of personal letters and business papers of C. E. L. Holmes (1832-1884) and scrapbooks documenting his literary career. The personal letters, 1864-1884, were addressed to his second wife, Annie E. (Slade) Holmes, and his daughter, Lydia (Holmes) Bliss, while he was doing business in New York and Connecticut and traveling to England (1879, 1883) and France (1879). The business papers are mainly letterbooks, 1881-1883, and correspondence and patents related to his inventions, 1879-1883. The scrapbooks contain clippings and a few manuscripts of his poems and prose plus several business cards from manufacturing enterprises with which he was associated.

There are also a few papers of other family members: a diary, “First Housekeeping,” by his first wife, Mary (Steele) Holmes (d. 1862), kept while they were living in Nebraska in 1856; some printed and manuscript poems and prose by his father, Israel Holmes (1800-1874); and copies of several letters, 1823, written by his father’s brother, Reuben Holmes (1798-1833), around the time he was graduated from West Point.

The Holmes Family Papers were given to Yale University Library by Mrs. Arthur B. Dayton in 1955.
## Collection Contents

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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
Business
Businessmen
Families
Inventions
Literature -- History and criticism

Geographic Names
Connecticut -- Industry
Europe -- Description and travel
Great Britain
Nebraska -- Social life and customs
West (U.S.)

Genres / Formats
Diaries
Scrapbooks

Occupations
Manufacturers

Names
Holmes, Charles Edward Latimer, 1832-1884
Holmes, Israel, 1800-1874
Holmes, Mary E. Steele, d. 1862
Holmes, Reuben, 1798-1833

Families
Holmes family