

# Dr. Thomas Siveter papers

Ms Coll 92



Katherine Isham

2023

Yale University  
333 Cedar St.  
New Haven, CT 06520-8014  
203-737-1192  
203-785-5636  
historical.library@yale.edu  
<http://historical.medicine.yale.edu/>

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Medical Historical Library, Cushing/Whitney Medical Library  
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New Haven, CT 06520-8014  
203-737-1192  
203-785-5636  
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**CALL NUMBER:** Ms Coll 92

**CREATOR:** Siveter, Thomas, Dr.

**TITLE:** Dr. Thomas Siveter papers

**DATES:** circa 1880 - 1882

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1.5 linear feet (1 box)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The collection includes materials from Iowa physician Thomas Siveter (1800-1893), a prominent surgeon in Salem, Iowa from 1845-1893 and a founding member of the Iowa State Medical Society. The collection includes a patient logbook, advertisements for medications and medical products, correspondence, and a few items of ephemera.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/med.ms.0092>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/med.ms.0092>.

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

Gift of Bert Hansen, 2016, 2017.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

## Conditions Governing Use

Materials in this collection are in the public domain.

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## Preferred Citation

Dr. Thomas Siveter papers. Historical Library, Harvey Cushing / John Hay Whitney Medical Library, Yale University.

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## Biographical / Historical

Thomas Siveter was born in England in 1800. Between the ages of fifteen and twenty-one he was "bound out" to surgeon John Abernathy in London, England, who was a successor of John Hunter. In 1824 Siveter married Lydie Bridgewater of Edinburgh, Scotland and in 1826 they moved to the United States, settling in Cayuga County, New York and Ohio before taking up residence in Salem, Iowa in 1845. Siveter had joined the Quaker Society of Friends in 1844.

Dr. Siveter became a prominent physician in Salem and in 1850 was a charter member of the Iowa Medical and Chirurgical Society. He served as president of the society in 1856, when the name changed to The Iowa State Medical Society, and again in 1858. Siveter continued practicing medicine in Salem until his death in 1893.

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## Scope and Contents

The collection includes materials from Iowa physician Thomas Siveter (1800-1893), a prominent surgeon in Salem, Iowa from 1845-1893 and a founding member of the Iowa State Medical Society. The collection includes a patient logbook, advertisements for medications and medical products, correspondence, and a few items of ephemera.

## Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1	<p>Patient logbook</p> <p>Logbook includes handwritten entries with dates, names, and charges for medical services with occasional treatment notes.</p>	1872-1882
b. 1, f. 2	<p>Advertisements</p> <p>Dr. Hazen's Apparatus for the Treatment of the Mucous Membrane of the Air Passages advertisement</p> <p>Illustration and description of apparatus which includes douche and inhaler. Handwritten notations on reverse.</p>	circa 1880 - 1882
	<p>Lactopeptine advertisement</p> <p>New York Pharmacal Association advertisement describing improvements in Lactopeptine.</p>	1880
	<p>Lactopeptine leaflet</p> <p>Four page New York Pharmacal Association advertising leaflet.</p>	
	<p>Liquid Pancreopepsine advertisement</p> <p>William R. Warner &amp; Co. advertisement for Liquid Pancreopepsine "digestive fluid" solution. Advertisement for physician's medical cabinet on reverse.</p>	
	<p>New York Dispensary Animal Vaccine Service leaflet</p> <p>Two pages, annotated in margins. Includes history of the dispensary and directions for the preservation and use of vaccine lymph for cowpox.</p>	
	<p>Parke, Davis &amp; Co.'s Sugar Test Flasks instructions</p> <p>Two pages of instructions for Parke, Davis &amp; Co.'s method for determining diabetic sugar of the urine.</p>	
	<p>Planten's Sundry List leaflet</p> <p>Double-sided, folded in thirds. Advertisement for H. Planten and Son capsules, includes illustrations and prices.</p>	1881
	<p>Rawson's Suspensorium, Patent Elastic Self-Adjusting Suspensory Bandages advertisement</p> <p>S. E. G. Rawson company advertisement with notations on bottom of page.</p>	
	<p>Sharp and Smith, Elastic Goods and Specialty, Wholesale and Retail advertisement</p> <p>One side includes instructions for measurements to order medical stockings from Sharp &amp; Smith and illustration. Other side has illustrations of ear trumpets sold by Sharp &amp; Smith. Printed on pink paper.</p>	
	<p>Sharp and Smith, Manufacturers, Wholesale and Retail Dealers in Surgical Instruments leaflet</p> <p>Four page advertisement for Sharp &amp; Smith's medical paraphernalia with illustrations. Products include spine braces, ankle braces, and splints for scoliosis, club foot, and hip joint disease.</p>	

Warner & Co.'s Soluble Sugar-Coated Pills leaflet  
Four pages, includes product list with prices.

*Wilford's Microcosm* advertisement  
Advertisement for second volume of monthly magazine *The Microcosm*, with handwritten notes on reverse.

Young's Great Bible Concordance leaflet  
Four page leaflet about the index to the Hebrew and Greek words found in Young's Great Bible Concordance, published and distributed by the American Book Exchange. Includes an introduction, reviews, and two example pages.

b. 1, f. 3	Correspondence	1880-1882
	<p>Letter "To Special Correspondents, Relative to Diseases in Iowa in 1880" Printed circular on blue paper with envelope from L. F. Andrews, Secretary State Board of Health, Des Moines, Iowa. Circular is addressed "to the Correspondents of the State Board of Health" and asks for recipients to submit death and disease statistics to the State Board of Health using the enclosed postage paid envelope.</p>	1880
	<p>Letter to Dr Thomas Siveter from the office of Coburn, Birks &amp; Co. One page written in ink on "Coburn, Birks &amp; Co. wholesale druggists, and dealers in surgical instruments &amp; druggists sundries" letterhead stationary with stamped envelope. "We send you by this mail 1 doz of our catheters, as ordered. We however fail to understand the remainder of your order, please explain more fully and we will send at once."</p>	1881
	<p>Letter from Gibb[?] T. Litson Written in pencil on both sides of one piece of paper. Writer is asking Siveter for assistance in a land dispute.</p>	1881
	<p>Note to Thomas Siveter from Joel James Short letter written in pencil dated March 23, 1882: "I read your note and in answer would say for you to attend to Campbell immediately. I do not know what is wanted it is all right I expect. Yours, Joel James, Trustee." On reverse is written "Salem Township Trustees Board."</p>	1882
b. 1, f. 4	Miscellaneous ephemera	circa 1880 - 1882
	<p>H. D. Jennings Blank Book Manufacturer, Book Binder and Paper Ruler business card "Presented by P. F. Pierce," Keokuk, Iowa. Back of card has numbers which appear to be prices written in pencil.</p>	
	<p>Miscellaneous notes Two small notes: one on lined paper has information about attending patients written in pencil; the other is blank except for the name H D Jennings written at the top.</p>	
	<p>Salem Post Office receipt for Box No. 39 Receipt for one year rental.</p>	1880

## **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.

### **Genres / Formats**

Advertisements -- Medicines, Patent, proprietary, etc.

### **Subjects**

Advertising -- Medicine  
Medicine -- 19th century  
Medicine -- United States  
Patent medicines