

Guide to the Manly Family Papers

RG 82



Compiled by Martha Lund Smalley

2001

409 Prospect Street
New Haven, CT 06511
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<http://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/special-collections>

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Yale Divinity Library
409 Prospect Street
New Haven, CT 06511
divinity.library@yale.edu
<http://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/special-collections>

CALL NUMBER: RG 82

CREATOR: Manly family

TITLE: Manly Family Papers

DATES: 1888-1976

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 4 linear feet (8 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Correspondence, writings, photographs, and collected materials document the life and work of the Manly family in China. Political unrest in Chengdu 1911-1912 is well documented, as is the daily work of a Methodist missionary working with native churches. The collection includes valuable photographs of Sichuan from the early 1900s. Wilson Edward Manly, his wife Florence and daughters Marian and Grace were American Methodist missionaries in Sichuan (Szechwan) province from 1893 to 1943.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.082>

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/divinity.082>.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Marian Manly, 1971

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Preferred Citation

Manly Family Papers (RG 82), Special Collections, Yale Divinity School Library.

Processing Information

Place names were modernized in the description, with the name originally used in the collection material or in an older version of the finding aid in parenthesis: e.g. "Beijing (Peking)" or "Benin (Dahomey)".

Biographical / Historical

Date	Event
1893	○ Wilson Edward Manly went to China as Methodist missionary
1896	○ Wilson Edward ("Ward") Manly and Florence Brown married in Shanghai, moved to Chengdu
1898	○ Daughter Marian born in Chongqing (Chungking); Marian returned to China as medical doctor; she was also an author using the pseudonym Han Suyin.
1901	○ Daughter Grace born in Chongqing (Chungking); returned to China as missionary; died in 1942.
1908	○ Son Gordon born in Chengdu
1913	○ W.E. Manly received D.D. from Cornell College

Scope and Contents

Series I, Correspondence, includes detailed original letters written by W. E. Manly to his family in the U.S. from 1911 to 1914. A political uprising in Chengdu, dealings with native teachers and churches, and Methodist mission politics are described. Correspondence with Bishop J. W. Bashford, Joseph Beech, and other missionaries relates to the political unrest. Circular letters written by the Manlys to supporters in the U.S. provide a good overview of their work. A set of excerpts from Manly correspondence called "Chronicles" provides a glimpse of correspondence earlier than the letters available in original format.

Series II, Writings, includes material written by W. E. Manly, Grace Manly, and Marian Manly. W. E. Manly was interested in engineering devices to improve life in West China, including a waterwheel system to produce electricity. An essay by Marian Manly describes the Chin I School of Midwifery, which she headed.

Series III, Photographs, includes portraits and group shots of missionaries, Chinese native workers, conferences, and school groups, as well as scenery and scenes from life in Sichuan province in the early 1900s. Many of the photographs are identified, with approximate dates.

Series IV, Collected Material and Memorabilia, includes ephemeral written material and artifacts.

Arrangement

- I. Correspondence
- II. Writings
- III. Photographs
- IV. Collected Items and Memorabilia

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence, 1892–1976

b. 1, f. 1	W.E. Manly from Chongqing (Chungking), Tzechow, and elsewhere in Sichuan to family in Ohio, including re: Methodist conference	1893, 1911 January–June
b. 1, f. 2	W.E. Manly from Tzechow, Chongqing (Chungking), and elsewhere to family, including re: Bible School, trips to outlying congregations, political unrest in Chengdu (Chentu), Pa Gao secret society	1911 July - December
b. 1, f. 3	W.E. Manly from Tzechow and elsewhere to family, including re: robberies, railroads	1912 January - June
b. 1, f. 4	W.E. Manly from Tzechow and elsewhere to family, including re: trips to countryside, electrical power, "white slavery"	1912 July - December
b. 1, f. 5	W.E. Manly from Tzechow and elsewhere to family, including re: salaries of native pastors, mission property	1913 January - June
b. 1, f. 6	W.E. Manly from Tzechow and elsewhere to family; including re: native teacher playing cards, political unrest in Chongqing (Chungking)	1913 July - December
b. 1, f. 7	W.E. Manly from Tzechow and elsewhere to family, including re: statistics of converts; return home on furlough (1914); return to China with Florence and Gordon	1914-1915
b. 1, f. 8	W.E. Manly to siblings and father	1911-1915
b. 1, f. 9	W.E. Manly to others, including Bishop J. W. Bashford, Joseph Beech, J. E. Johnson, re: insurrection in Yang Shien and Chengdu (Chentu), mission finances	1911-1912
b. 1, f. 10	Florence Manly to W.E. Manly and daughters	1911, 1915
b. 1, f. 11	"Chronicles" - excerpts from letters	1892-1895
b. 1, f. 11a	"Chronicles" - excerpts from letters	1896-1900
b. 1, f. 12	Circular letters to "Friends of the Decatur District," "Friends," including re: political unrest	1911-1915
b. 1, f. 13	To/from W.E. Manly: American Consular Service, including re: political unrest	1911, 1912
b. 1, f. 14	To W.E. Manly: Bashford, Beech, Alice Brethorst, including re: "Revolutionists"	1911
b. 1, f. 15	Letters from others to W.E. Manly: Cornell College re: D.D. conferred on W.E. Manly in absentia	1913
b. 1, f. 16	To/from W.E. Manly: T. James, Spencer Lewis, S. McCartney, E. Meuser, J. Nicolson	1911
b. 1, f. 17	To/from W.E. Manly: H. Openshaw, C. B. Rape, J. Sparling, Thomas Torrance	1911, 1912
b. 1, f. 18	Letters from others to Florence Manly	1911
b. 1, f. 19	Marian Manly to/from family	1952, 1971-1974
b. 1, f. 20	Marian Manly to/from others, including to Sen. Fulbright, to President Nixon re: Vietnam War	1970-1976
b. 1, f. 21	Joseph Beech to Bishop Bashford re: uprising in Chengdu (Chentu)	1911

b. 1, f. 22

Cables; inventory of correspondence prepared by Marian Manly

1911-1912

Series II: Writings, 1911-1948

Of W.E. Manly

b. 2, f. 23	News updates re: political situation, etc.	1911-1913
b. 2, f. 24	Re: Railroad and power sites	1911-1912
b. 2, f. 25	Reports re: mission work	1912
b. 2, f. 26	"A Visit to the Salt Wells"; "Thoughts on Homegoing"	1911, 1914

Of Grace Manly

b. 2, f. 27	Re: Missionary service	1932
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Of Marian Manly

b. 2, f. 28	Re: Chin I School of Midwifery	1948
b. 2, f. 28a	Notes, Talks	

Series III: Photographs, 1888 - 1950, undated

b. 2, f. 29	Portraits and family groups: W.E. and Florence	early 1900s
b. 2, f. 30	Portraits and family groups: W.E. and Florence in groups	
b. 2, f. 31	Portraits and family groups: Grace and Marian	
b. 2, f. 32	Portraits and family groups: ancestors	
b. 2, f. 33	Chinese students and other associates	
b. 2, f. 34	Chinese students and other associates	
b. 2, f. 35	Chinese students and other associates	
b. 2, f. 36	Chinese students and other associates	
b. 3, f. 37	Chinese students and other associates	early 1900s – 1950
b. 3, f. 38	Chinese associates, including native pastors and families	
b. 3, f. 39	Methodist missionaries in West China; China Inland Mission missionaries in Chinese clothing	
b. 3, f. 40	Missionaries	
b. 3, f. 41	Missionaries; including vacationing in Sichuan (Szechuan), travel in countryside	1906-1947
b. 3, f. 42	Methodist women missionaries	
b. 3, f. 43	Missionaries of other missions - Sichuan (Szechuan)	
b. 3, f. 44	Methodist Bishops	
b. 3, f. 45	Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Lewis	
b. 3, f. 46	Methodist Annual Conferences, school groups	1897-1937
b. 3, f. 47	Conference groups	1908-1940s
b. 3, f. 48	Church groups	
b. 3, f. 49	Mission school groups	1906-1930s
b. 4, f. 50	Chinese individuals and groups	
b. 4, f. 51	Missionaries and Chinese workers	
b. 4, f. 52	Missionaries and Chinese workers - tribes country ("Thibetans")	
b. 4, f. 53	Various mission projects, including babies born at Chin I School of Midwifery, native pastors	
b. 4, f. 54	Chengtu Methodist Church (Chengdu) construction	1920
b. 4, f. 55	Tien Gu Chao Methodist station (destroyed by Boxers, then rebuilt)	1902
b. 4, f. 56	W.E. Manly's waterwheel project for electricity	

b. 4, f. 57	Tzechow - Pilgrim Festival - "Bright Eye" goddess	circa 1907
b. 4, f. 58	Tzechow - Revolution of 1912	
b. 4, f. 59	Sichuan (Szechuan) scenes	
b. 4, f. 60	Sichuan (Szechuan) scenes	
b. 4, f. 61	Sichuan (Szechuan) scenes	
b. 4, f. 62	Sichuan (Szechuan) scenes - cities, Jin Fu San (Mountain of Golden Happiness)	
b. 4, f. 63	Sichuan (Szechuan) scenes - cities	
b. 4, f. 64	Sichuan (Szechuan) scenes - bridges	
b. 5, f. 65	Sichuan (Szechuan) scenes - temples, priests, idols	
b. 5, f. 66	Life of the people of Sichuan (Szechuan)	
b. 5, f. 67	Life of the people of Sichuan (Szechuan)	
b. 5, f. 68	Life of the people of Sichuan (Szechuan)	
b. 5, f. 69	Life of the people of Sichuan (Szechuan)	
b. 5, f. 70	Wen Miao Ho Gai	
b. 5, f. 71	Unidentified scenes - China	
b. 5, f. 72	Unidentified scenes - China	
b. 5, f. 73	Unidentified scenes - China	
b. 5, f. 74	Unidentified scenes - China	
b. 5, f. 75	Unidentified scenes - China	
b. 5, f. 76	Unidentified scenes - China	
b. 6, f. 77	Methods of travel in Sichuan (Szechuan)	
b. 6, f. 78	Photos from other provinces	
b. 6, f. 79	Yangtze River scenes	
b. 6, f. 80	Yangtze River scenes	
b. 6, f. 81	Yangtze River scenes	
b. 6, f. 82	Unidentified buildings	
b. 6, f. 83	Unidentified buildings	
b. 6, f. 84	University of California	1888-1900
b. 6, f. 85	Miscellaneous individuals	
b. 6, f. 86	Mr. and Mrs. Hudson Taylor, China Inland Mission missionaries	1899

Series IV: Collected Items and Memorabilia, 1895, undated

b. 6, f. 87	Newspaper clippings	1895
b. 6, f. 88	Financial statement / poem	
b. 6, f. 89	Silver chopsticks of Marian Manly	
b. 6, f. 90	Red Cross pass	
b. 6, f. 91	New Testament and Bible of Marian Manly	
b. 6, f. 92	Address book	
b. 7, f. 93	Embroidered cloths	
b. 7, f. 94	Printed paper	
b. 7, f. 95	Chinese plaque	
b. 8, f. 96	Chinese shoes	
b. 8, f. 97	Vases	

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

Clergy
Missionaries
Missions -- China

Geographic Names

China -- History -- Boxer Rebellion, 1899-1901

Names

Manly, Florence
Manly, Grace
Manly, Marian
Manly, Wilson E.

Corporate Body

Methodist Episcopal Church