

# Guide to the Frank C. and Delia L. Porter Papers

MS 404



compiled by Staff of Manuscripts and Archives

May 1984

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 404

**CREATOR:** Porter, Frank Chamberlin, 1859-1946

**TITLE:** Frank C. and Delia L. Porter papers

**DATES:** 1864-1945

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 4.5 linear feet (17 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The papers consist primarily of the correspondence of Frank C. Porter (1859-1946), Yale theology professor, 1891-1927, and his wife Delia Wood Lyman Porter (1858-1933), author. The papers also include notes and research material on the Yale seal and Hebrew words by Frank Porter; manuscripts; printed matter, memorabilia, and correspondence concerning the writings of Delia Porter; the autobiography of Chester Smith Lyman; and correspondence of William Porter.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0404>

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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.0404>.

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

Gift of Quincy Porter, 1946, and of the Yale Divinity School, 1953.

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## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

Unpublished materials authored or otherwise produced by Delia Wood Lyman Porter are in the public domain. There are no restrictions on use. Copyright status for materials authored or otherwise produced by Frank Chamberlin Porter 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.

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## Preferred Citation

Frank C. and Delia L. Porter Papers (MS 404). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

FRANK CHAMBERLIN PORTER B. D. 1886

Born January 5, 1859, in Beloit, Wis.

Died January 24, 1946, in New Haven, Conn.

Father, Rev. William Porter, D.D. (B.A. Williams 1839; Andover Theological Seminary 1840-41; Union Theological Seminary 1841-1843), Brinsmade Professor of Latin at Beloit College; son of William and Mary Ann (Quincy). Porter of Lee, Mass. Mother, Ellen Gertrude (Chapin) Porter; daughter of Laertes and Laura (Colton) Chapin of Hartford, Conn.

Beloit High School and Preparatory School of Beloit College; B.A. Beloit College 1880, M.A. 1883; attended Chicago Theological Seminary 1881-1882, Hartford Theological Seminary 1884-1885, and Yale Divinity School 1885-1889 (B.D. 1886, Ph.D. 1889; Commencement speaker); ordained in First Church of Christ (Congregational), New Haven, January, 1895; teacher of mathematics and Greek Chicago High School 1882-84; on faculty Yale University 1889-1946 (instructor in Biblical Theology 1889-1891, Winkley Professor of Biblical Theology 1891-1927, and Winkley Professor emeritus 1927-46; librarian Trowbridge Reference Library 1895-1925; Nathaniel W. Taylor lecturer 1928-1929); taught in summer session Southwestern School of Theology 1911 and University of Chicago 1923, and gave courses at Haverford College 1912 and Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church, Lancaster, Pa., 1924; Bond lecturer Bangor Theological Seminary 1917 and Dudleian lecturer Harvard University Divinity School 1924; lecturer Oberlin Theological Seminary 1917 and Peking University 1924-25; D.D. Beloit College 1897 and Yale University 1931; author: "The Yercer Hara" in *Biblical and Semitic Studies* (1901), *The Messages of the Apocryptical Writers* (1905), "The Pre-Existence of the Soul in the Book of Wisdom and in the Rabbinical Writings" in *Old Testament and Semitic Studies in Honor of W. R. Harper* (1907), "The Mysticism of the Hebrew Prophets" in *At One With the Invisible* edited by E. Hershey Sneath, '84 D.(1921), "Paul's Belief in Life After Death" in *Religion and the Future Life* edited by E. Hershey Sneath (1922), "The Historical and the Spiritual Understanding of the Bible" in *Education for Christian Service* (1922), *The Mind of Christ in Paul* (1930), and "Toward a Biblical Theology for the Present" in *Contemporary American Theology* (2d series; edited by Vergilius Ferm; 1933); contributed articles on the Apocrypha, Judith, Proselyte, Book of Revelation, etc., to *Hasting's Bible Dictionary* (1898-1902) and to theological journals; associate editor *Journal of Biblical Literature* 1917-1920, 1922-1925, 1929-30; his *Collected Papers* were published in 1928; the volume *Studies in Early Christianity*, edited by Shirley J. Case, '04 D., to honor Professor Porter and Professor Benjamin W. Bacon, '81, was published in 1928; member Society of Biblical Literature and Exegesis and American Theological Society; honorary deacon Center Church (Congregational), New Haven.

Married June 10, 1891, in New Haven, Delia Wood Lyman (Wellesley 1875-1877), daughter of Professor Chester Smith Lyman (B.A. 1837) and Delia Williams (Wood) Lyman, granddaughter of Joseph Wood (B.A. 1801), great-granddaughter of Oliver Ellsworth (Class of 1766), great-great-granddaughter of William Wolcott (B.A. 1734), and sister of Oliver E. Lyman, '76, and Chester W. Lyman, '82. Children: Lyman Edwards, '16, and William Quincy, '19. Mrs. Porter died January 16, 1933.

Death due to cerebral hemorrhage. Buried in Grove Street Cemetery, New Haven. Survived by sons, two grandchildren, and a sister, Mary Quincy Porter (Wellesley 1889-1890) of New Haven.

In 1935 Professor Porter made a gift to the University to endow the Delia Lyman Porter Social Fund in the Divinity School. A portrait of Professor Porter, a gift of the alumni of the Divinity School, was presented to the School in 1936.

*Yale Obituary Record*, No. 105, p. 194.

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## Scope and Contents

The papers consist primarily of the correspondence of Frank C. Porter (1859-1946), Yale theology professor, 1891-1927, and his wife Delia Wood Lyman Porter (1858-1933), author. The papers also include notes and research material on the Yale seal and Hebrew words by Frank Porter; manuscripts; printed matter, memorabilia, and correspondence concerning the writings of Delia Porter; the autobiography of Chester Smith Lyman; and correspondence of William Porter.

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## Arrangement

Arranged in three series: I. Frank C. Porter Papers. II. Delia L. Porter Papers. III. Miscellaneous Papers.

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## Collection Contents

### Series I: Frank C. Porter Papers

#### Correspondence

b. 1, f. 1-8	Porter, Ellen Gertrude Chapin	1873-1888
b. 2, f. 9-15	Porter, Ellen Gertrude Chapin	1889-1893
b. 3, f. 16-20	Porter, Ellen Gertrude Chapin	1894-1898
b. 4, f. 21-27	Porter, Ellen Gertrude Chapin	1899-1905
b. 5, f. 28-35	Porter, Mary Quincy "May"	1884-1907
b. 6, f. 36-43	Porter, Mary Quincy "May"	1908-1915
b. 7, f. 44-50	Porter, Mary Quincy "May"	1916-1921
b. 8, f. 51-57	Porter, Mary Quincy "May"	1922-1928
b. 9, f. 58-61	Porter, Mary Quincy "May"	1929-1932
b. 9, f. 62	Porter, William	1891
b. 9, f. 63-64	Porter, Delia Wood Lyman	1895-1998

#### Writings

b. 10, f. 65-69	Yale seal
b. 11, f. 70-75	Yale seal
b. 12, f. 76-81	Yale seal

**Series II: Delia L. Porter Papers**

## Correspondence

b. 13, f. 82-83	Porter, Frank Chamberlain	1896, 1898
b. 13, f. 84-89	Children	1922-1930
b. 13, f. 90	Porter, Mary Quincy "May"	1891-1892
b. 13, f. 91	Miscellaneous	Undated

## Writings

b. 13, f. 91	Christian Discussion Club	
b. 14, f. 92-93	Christmas cards	1906-1931
b. 14, f. 94	CO Company records	1904-1907
b. 14, f. 95	Colonial dames	1899
b. 14, f. 96-97	England	1914
b. 14, f. 98-99	Europe	1908
b. 15, f. 100	Europe	1910
b. 15, f. 101	Factory inspector	1906-1907
b. 15, f. 102-106	Family letters	1928-1932
b. 16, f. 107	Lenten discussion	1915-1917
b. 16, f. 108	Lyman, Chester S.	1884-1890
b. 16, f. 109	Newspaper articles	1888-1989
b. 16, f. 110	Publications	
b. 16, f. 111	Rhymes	1900-1912
b. 17, f. 112	Spiritual training	1922-1931
b. 17, f. 113	Story letters	
b. 17, f. 104	Summer in England	1882
b. 17, f. 115	40th wedding anniversary	1931
b. 17, f. 116-117	General	1872-1889
b. 18, f. 118-119	Miscellanea	

**Series III: Miscellaneous Papers**

b. 19, f. 120-122	Porter, J. S.: <i>Porter's Theology</i> , vols. I-III	
	Porter, Mary Quincy "May"	
b. 20, f. 123-128	Porter, Frank Chamberlain	1879-1883, 1908-1913
	Porter, William, Jr.	
b. 21, f. 129-130	Porter, Frank Chamberlain	1882, undated
	Porter, William, Sr.	
b. 21, f. 131	Porter, Frank Chamberlain	1881-1882
	Porter, Ellen Gertrude Chapin	
b. 21, f. 132	Porter, Frank Chamberlain	1881-1883
b. 21, f. 133	Miscellanea	1864-1940



## **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  
Educators  
Families  
Hebrew language -- Etymology  
Women

### **Genres / Formats**

Autobiographies

### **Occupations**

Authors

### **Names**

Lyman, Chester Smith, 1814-1890  
Porter, Delia Lyman, 1858-1933  
Porter, Frank Chamberlin, 1859-1946  
Porter, William

### **Corporate Bodies**

Yale University -- Faculty  
Yale University -- Insignia