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005 Small Manuscripts Collection
006 Canfield Collection
140 Personal Papers
200 1845
210 1933
220 1908-1928
240 0.81 cf.
241 1 @ 0.47 box, 1 @ 0.24 box, 1 @ 0.1 map folder
261 This collection of Charles W. Canfield's personal papers
primarily contains correspondence, family papers and notes.
270 Charles W. Canfield, the son of Charles B. Canfield and Mary
Canfield, was born in 1856 in Connecticut and died September 9th,
1934 in Wilmington. He attended Yale University and matriculated
in 1878 with a degree in literature. Charles W. Canfield lived in
New York City where he occasionally wrote for local newspapers
and served as Vice President of Empire Monument Company (ca.
1910, see below). He moved to Wilmington in the early 20th century
and briefly worked for the Delaware Public Archives Commission in
Wilmington (ca. 1927-1928). Letters from this time suggest that
he also contributed to an ad campaign for Wilmington Trust around
1924.

Additionally, this collection features correspondence from other
family members including his father, Charles B. Canfield, who
resided in New York beginning in the mid 19th century. These
letters (1845-1855) include correspondence with his parents,
Philemon and Deidamia Canfield. A letter from P. Canfield
(presumably Philemon Canfield) dated February 26, 1855 indicates
that it's Charles B. Canfield's 25th birthday and that he is the
youngest son.

A notable letter in this collection is a letter from Charles B.
Canfield's brother who was a soldier during the Civil War. He
wrote from Harpers Ferry in August 4, 1861. Later letters (1862)
indicate that his brother was hospitalized.

In 1866, the first letter written by Charles W. Canfield appears
in the collection. Subsequent letters address life at school.
Letters written by Charles B. Canfield addressed to his wife Mary
chronicle a trip to Europe. Letters written between 1889 and 1893
indicate both Charles W. and Charles B. Canfield traveled abroad.

Charles B. Canfield served as present of Empire Monument Company
in New York City until his death in 1908. Charles W. Canfield
assumed the role of Vice President of the organization by 1910,
according to these letters.

There is a gap in correspondence between 1910 and 1918 when
letters in the collection suggest that Charles W. Canfield had
moved to Wilmington. These letters (1918-1931) primarily address
historical and cultural inquiries to and from Charles W.
Canfield. These letters indicate a relationship with print media

and cultural institutions in Wilmington including The Every Evening, Free Library and Delaware Public Archives Commission.

A folder of correspondence (1908, 1922-1927) regarding the Yale class of 1878 can be found in this collection. These letters discuss updates on class members and fundraising efforts.

A letter from November 8th, 1927 stated that Charles W. Canfield was appointed "custodian" of the Delaware Public Archives Commission. A later letter (December 1, 1927) reveals that Canfield was paid \$100 a month to serve as an assistant in the office of the Public Archives Commission in Wilmington (County Building) under State Archivist Henry C. Conrad. Correspondence primarily addresses information requests, acknowledgement of acquisitions and details about the reorganization of records in the Wilmington office. Canfield issued a status report with an itemized list of file cabinets and shelves within new storage facilities on January 27, 1928. He also offers an update of document processing efforts pursuant to this project. Retention policy is debated in letters from March 1928. In May 1928, Canfield's contract with the Archives Commission expired and his position was vacated on July 2, 1928 when he sent a letter with detailed information about the location of archival material to Conrad.

Finally, this collection contains Charles W. Canfield's bible (1868). Additionally, a collection of letterhead and business cards for Charles W. Canfield, indicate that while he was in Wilmington he advertised his advertising skills. Estate documents in this collection point to Harry Canfield, brother of Charles W. Canfield and son of Charles B. Canfield as executor of the estate of his father upon his death in 1908. This folder of documents also holds three deeds of cemetery plots. Two plots were purchased in Harford (1836, 1864) by Philemon Canfield and Charles B. Canfield respectively. The third plot was purchased at Mount Hope Cemetery in Rochester, New York by Mrs. L. T. Chadwick (1846).

Items located in the ephemera folder include receipts for printing orders for Charles W. Canfield; a business biography of Charles B. Canfield issued by the Flint Granite Company of Albany, New York; a small Caldwell calendar (1929); a copy of obituaries for Deidamia Canfield (ca. 1875); images of New Castle County landmarks, and an official appointment of Alfred D. Vanderver to Second Lieutenant, Company M of the 2nd Regiment Delaware Volunteer (1861). Additionally, this collection includes notes and research on Delaware history, family remembrances, genealogical records, funeral service documents for Charles B. Canfield (1908), two notebooks and a diploma from Yale (1878, see oversized). A diploma from Yale issued to Charles W. Canfield is located in a map folder.

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329 WORK STATUS:

- needs sorting
- needs unfolding

- needs foldering/reboxing
- other:

ARCHIVIST:

- review for identification/needs further identification
- needs processing
- determine origin/purpose
- other:

CONDITION:

- totally disorganized
- order not apparent
- origin questionable
- other:

330 Arranged categorically and chronologically within folders.
331 No index.
332 Handwritten, printed, typed.
350
360 Fair condition. Acid, dirt, storage damage.
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990 December 29, 2011
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sbd