

Chaillé, Stanford E., Collection

Stanford E. Chaillé Collection

1860-1903



Title Statement

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Revision Description

2025-03-17 Ella Winterling added Existence and Location of Copies.

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2008.031

Unit Date

1860-1903

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

The collection consists of letters, government issued documents, printed material, and two photo albums of Dr. Stanford E. Chaillé, Confederate surgeon during the American Civil War and dean of Tulane University's medical school. Significant topics include the Union occupation of New Orleans, postwar elections, Dr. Chaillé's medical career, and Chaillé genealogy. Materials cover the period shortly before the Civil War to the early twentieth century, and deal mostly with New Orleans.

Creator

Chaillé, Stanford E., 1830-1911

Extent

0.2 Cubic Feet 1 box

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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Source of Acquisition

The Stanford E. Chaillé Collection was purchased by Special Collections in 2004.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Stanford E. Chaillé took place in June 2008.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Stanford E. Chaillé Collection, Ms2008-031, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

Stanford E. Chaillé was born on July 9, 1830, in Natchez, Mississippi, the descendant of several patriots of the Revolutionary War. Educated by private tutors until his mother's death, Chaillé eventually graduated from Phillips' Academy in South Andover, Massachusetts, in 1847. Chaillé then received an A. B. (bachelor's degree) in 1851 from Harvard College and later earned his medical degree from the Medical Department of the University of Louisiana (now Tulane) in 1853. Chaillé later returned to Harvard College and received an A. M. (master's degree) in 1854. On February 23, 1857, Dr. Chaillé married Laura E. Montfort. The union produced one child, Mary Laura Chaillé. Laura E. Montfort died on August 18, 1858. Before the American Civil War, Dr. Chaillé worked as a resident student in the New Orleans Charity Hospital and then served as a resident physician at the United States Marine Hospital and at the Circus Street Infirmary.

During the war, Dr. Chaillé rose from being a private in the New Orleans Light Horse Brigade to acting Confederate Surgeon General of Louisiana in 1862. In May, 1862, Dr. Chaillé became the surgeon and medical inspector of the Confederate Army of Tennessee. In July of 1863, Dr. Chaillé took the post of surgeon-in-charge of the Fairground Hospital #2 in Atlanta, Georgia, then transferred to Okmulgee Hospital in Macon, Georgia in December, 1863. While in Georgia, Dr. Chaillé met, and later married, Mary Louisa Napier.

After the Civil War, Dr. Chaillé lectured and demonstrated anatomy and obstetrics in New Orleans. In 1878, Congress selected Dr. Chaillé to study the great yellow fever epidemic, and he later sat on the Havana Yellow Fever Commission. Dr. Chaillé also contributed significantly to medical literature. Among these contributions was his formulation of infant developmental standards in 1887. From 1885 until his retirement in 1908, Dr. Chaillé served as the dean of Tulane's medical school. Dr. Stanford E. Chaillé died in 1911.

Scope and Content

The Stanford E. Chaillé Collection consists of letters, government-issued documents, printed material, and two photo albums containing thirty-six photos. Those pictured in photos include: Dr. Chaillé, Laura Chaillé, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Layton M. D. P., and other friends. Materials date from shortly before the American Civil War to the decades following southern Reconstruction. Salient topics are the occupation of New Orleans by the Union during the Civil War, postwar government elections, the great yellow fever epidemic, and Dr. Chaillé's long career and accolades. Several documents relate to Dr. Chaillé's position as dean of the Tulane Medical School, such as a notable graduation speech welcoming Confederate leader Jefferson Davis. Dr.

Chaillé's interest in genealogical research also appears in letters and documents. In one genealogical sketch, Dr. Chaillé traces his family tree to France where it was "very Catholic" before 1540.

Keywords

Civil War

United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865

Existence and Location of Copies

Some of this collection has been digitized and is available online.

Rights Statement for Archival Description

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Arrangement

The collection is arranged by material type. Letters appear chronologically.

Description of Subordinate Components

Stanford E. Chaillé's biographical/genealogical information

Unit Date 1863-1899

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Confederate marriage license for Stanford E. Chaillé and Mary L. Napier

Unit Date 1863

Biographical Sketch of Dr. Chaillé

Unit Date 1894

Manuscript resume

Unit Date 1899

Manuscript of Chaillé lineage

Unit Date 1899

Correspondence

Unit Date 1862-1903

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Letter from Mr. Legaré, Farmington

Unit Date April 30, 1862

Scope and Content

Discusses Mr. Legaré's travels through Union held New Orleans and Baton Rouge.

Letter from A.L.N., New Orleans, LA

Unit Date May 14, 1862

Scope and Content

Advises Dr. Chaillé to return to New Orleans.

Letter from Henry Hacksford, New Orleans, LA

Unit Date May 17, 1862

Scope and Content

Advises Dr. Chaillé to return to the city.

Letter from Mary Owen Preston, Lexington

Unit Date October 5, 1862

Scope and Content

Discusses the confederate evacuation of Lexington and includes a picture of Mrs. William Preston and Caroline Preston.

Letter from Marvin T. Myers, Richmond

Unit Date October 12, 1862

Scope and Content

Discusses fight at Leesburg with Lee.

Letter from Stanford E. Chaillé to a Mr. Barker, New Orleans, LA

Unit Date March 22, 1883

Scope and Content

Requests a copy of the Medical News and apologizes for previous abruptness.

Letter from Mr. Legaré, Mobile

Unit Date April 20, 1864

Scope and Content

Discusses a Confederate coward.

Letter from Henry R. Rand, Macon, GA

Unit Date February 4, 1865

Scope and Content

Mr. Rand admits to defrauding Dr. Chaillé of \$744 but pleads for leniency

Letter from General Randall L. Gibson, Washington, D.C.

Unit Date December 25, 1876

Scope and Content

Asks Dr. Chaillé to analyze the Republican officers and returns board from a recent election. This letter apparently refers to Republican attempts to shut out former Confederate Democrats from power in Louisiana (postmarked envelope included).

Letter from W.R. Morrison, St Charles Hotel, New Orleans, LA

Unit Date July 8, 1877

Scope and Content

Informs Dr. Chaillé of when his testimony is required (for an apparent congressional hearing).

Letter from the Honorable Alexander Randall, Annapolis, MD

Unit Date October 31, 1877

Scope and Content

Informs Dr. Chaillé of the results of Alexander Randall's investigation of any person named "Peter Chaillé" in the eastern shores of Maryland.

Letter from Stanford E. Chaillé to Colonel Charles Chaillé Long, Asheville, NC

Unit Date October 15, 1889

Scope and Content

Discusses Chaillé family lineage. Includes many specific questions about the Chaillé family.

Letter from Stanford E. Chaillé to Professor Albert B Miles, M.D., New Orleans, LA

Unit Date 1894

Scope and Content

Letter of recommendation for Dr. Warren Stowe.

Letter from Alcée Fortier, New Orleans, LA

Unit Date November 1, 1899

Scope and Content

Describes the origins of the name "Chaillé." According to Alcée Fortier, Chaillé derives from the French word for flint.

Letter from J. W. Nicholson, Baton Rouge, LA

Unit Date June 11, 1903

Scope and Content

Thanks Dr. Chaillé for two addresses.

Speech

Unit Date 1889

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Scope and Content

In this speech, Chaillé states that there is "no heart nobler and no hands braver than those of Jefferson Davis."

Miscellaneous printed material (broadside, newspaper clipping)

Unit Date 1885, n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Photo album 1

Unit Date 1860-1880

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Photo album 2

Unit Date 1866-1882

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)