

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.
M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers: Volumes 1-13.
1853-1874

The volumes microfilmed on Reel 1 afford a vivid and evocative record of Carey Thomas's infancy, childhood, and youth. Comprised of her earliest diaries and notebooks (1864-1878) supplemented by two of her mother's journals, these volumes document in unusual detail the events and influences of Thomas's formative years. Volumes 1 and 2 are diaries of Mary Whitall Thomas, Carey Thomas's mother. Volume 1 (1853-1883) is essentially a journal of her spiritual and devotional life; its tone is confessional and self-critical, and its fund of factual detail is sparse. Her rebellion against the restrictions of women's lives and her struggle to bring her tastes and aspirations into conformity with the attitudes of her parents and with her own religious beliefs are reflected. The second journal (1857-1876) is a record of the Thomas children's early years and early development. Mary Thomas lovingly chronicles births and deaths, the health, growth, education, recreation and amusement, precocious behavior and remarks, and the personalities and characters of each of her children. A lengthy account of Carey's nearly fatal burn and subsequent convalescence begins with an entry dated January 1864. Although the childhoods of all ten Thomas children are recounted in this volume, it is unusually rich in detail and observation about M. Carey Thomas, the eldest, beginning with her birth and continuing until she was a student at Cornell. Volume 2, along with a few subsequent volumes, is interspersed with correspondence, in this case letters written to the Thomas children. These letters have been microfilmed where they occur in the volume. In addition, the letters to and from Carey Thomas have been xeroxed, so that copies could be filed and microfilmed with her incoming and out-going correspondence. The first six of M. Carey Thomas's diaries (Volumes 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11) complement her mother's account of her childhood and youth, covering the years 1864-1878. Volumes 4 and 5, which purport to be diaries from her 7th and 8th years, were written by her aunt Hannah Whitall Smith and her mother respectively. They contain brief, somewhat idealized accounts of visits with relatives, her studies, relations with her siblings, and religious activities. The first diary in Thomas's hand (no. 6), a small volume with a handful of entries, begins with the endearing resolution: "I am goin to be more gentel to the boys this year; I have asked Heavenly father to help me." Volumes 8, 10, and 11, written when she was in her early teens, are far more substantive, supplying insight into Thomas's developing personality and temperament. They reflect the conflict between her tomboyishness and her developing intellect as well as her relationships with her friends, parents, siblings. Her feminism as early as her thirteenth year is firmly documented, and her longing for education, independence, and excitement is a theme which recurs and strengthens throughout the succeeding volumes. The widely quoted statement of her feminist goals: "If I ever live and grow up my one aim... shall be and is to show that a woman can learn..." (Feb. 26, 1871) occurs along with other striking statements of the impact on her life of the traditional restrictions on women's activities and options in these volumes. The remaining

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volumes on the roll are sentimental and literary. Volume 3, a scrapbook with illustrations, presumably from magazines, glued in, is inscribed "Minnie from Frank" and undoubtedly was put together by Hannah Whitall Smith to cheer the convalescent M. Carey Thomas following her burn in 1864. Volume 7 is made up of poetry written by Carey Thomas including nature poems and poems dedicated to friends. Volume 9, entitled "Notebook of Favorite Poems" is a commonplace book bearing hand copied selections of both prose and poetry. Volume 12 is a list of books read (1873-1882), slightly annotated; and Volume 13 is a transcript of the Howland School Class Supper of June 29, 1874, including the class poem written by M. Carey Thomas.

Reel: 1

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers: Volumes 14-24.

1876-1878

Reel 2 is comprised of eleven volumes consisting of a diary, a literary sketchbook, a cooperative novel, and seven school notebooks. Of all of Carey Thomas's diaries, the one from 1878-1879 (1885) is the most introspective, the most revealing about her search for a direction in life, and the most explicit description of the emotional pain as well as the personal fulfillment occasioned by her rebellion against the traditions of society. Its cover inscribed with the name "Mr. Gummere," this diary's recurring theme is Thomas's romantic attraction to Frank Gummere, an attachment counterpoised, both in the journal and in life, by a network of stimulating and absorbing feminine friendships. Thomas was forthright in describing the events and emotions of her brief relationship with Gummere as well as the impact her attraction to him had on her studies and her aspirations. She explicitly examines the conflict for women imposed by the necessity to choose between marriage and a career. Along with her account of her friendship with Gummere, this journal also describes the "Friday Evening," a group of young Baltimore women who met together fortnightly for discussions of literary, intellectual, and feminist subjects. Her entries reflect the increasing importance to Thomas of her friendship with intellectual companions, both male and female. At the same time, the diary reveals her increasingly critical attitude toward the personal habits, tastes, and style of living of her Quaker family and their friends. An aspect of this estrangement from her former circles was an agonizing re-examination of her religious beliefs, culminating in professed atheism. The volume concludes with a postscript written in 1885 entreating that the contents remain forever private. This rather cryptic note seems to introduce a new and never completed entry, rather than to apply to the contents at hand. Volume 21, a literary sketchbook, is a curious volume containing a piece entitled "Sunday Sch Story" and several brief, disjointed sketches, some of which include the names of members of Thomas's family as characters. A novel, written cooperatively by Mamie Gwinn, Carey Thomas, Julia Rogers, Bessie King, and Mary Garrett -- the core of the "Friday Evening" group -- makes up Volumes 23 and 24. Contributions are in the handwriting of each collaborator, affording a ready contrast of style and imagination. The seven class notebooks (nos. 14-20) derive from Thomas's studies at Cornell University, 1875-1877. These paperbound notebooks include lecture notes on Latin, Greek, science, calculus, literature, and oratory, often with notes on two or more subjects appearing in a single volume. The name of the professor is usually given as a title to each set of lectures. In all except Volume 16, notes are written from front to back on the recto and from back to front on the verso. In these cases, the first set of notes has been microfilmed in entirety, followed by the second set of notes likewise filmed in its entirety. Volume 16 is more tattered than its fellows, and Volume 17 includes an insert (apparently a Greek examination) which was microfilmed where it occurred.

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Reel: 2

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers: Volumes 25-45.
1880-1883
Surviving volumes from M. Carey Thomas's studies in Europe (1880-1883), which consist almost entirely of her University lecture notes and her dissertation in draft and published form, are reproduced on Reel 3. Of the twenty-one volumes, thirteen are comprised of unbound lecture notes written in German. Time and staff limitations did not permit translation and detailed analysis of these notes; they were put in order and divided into separate volumes on the basis of a very cursory examination. Should a series of notes appear to be discontinuous or incomplete, a search should be made through all of this group of papers before concluding that a portion of the notes has indeed been lost. In addition to the notes in German, there are four volumes of lecture notes in English and French and one account book (no. 26) which contains a detailed record of Thomas's income and expenditures, August 1880 - August 1881. Notes and drafts of Thomas's thesis survive in Volumes 43 and 44. Volume 43 is very much mutilated by the removal of pages and cuttings, probably for incorporation into a later draft of the thesis. Volume 45 is a printed copy of Thomas's Ph.D. thesis, "Sir Gawayne and the Green Knight...", published in Zurich in 1883.

Reel: 3

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers: Volumes 46-74.
1884-1889
Reel 4 begins and ends with address books, both of which contain mostly European addresses. The remaining volumes are notebooks containing miscellaneous book lists and notes for lectures. Only two (no. 72 and no. 73) are dated; the remainder have been assigned the span dates /1885-1895/ because they appear to derive from the time when Carey Thomas was teaching in the English department at Bryn Mawr College. For the most part, both the bibliographies and notes pertain to English literature or to linguistics. Some volumes include notes in Mamie Gwinn's handwriting; Volumes no. 70 and no. 71 are entirely hers.

Reel: 4

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers: Volumes 75-99.
1890-1904

A varied assortment of volumes including seven diaries, two theatre books, three memorandum books, a book list, and fourteen account books makes up Reel 5. There is, with the reappearance of diaries in 1890 after a hiatus of eleven years, no resumption of the narrative and introspective style of Thomas's earlier journals. Her diaries on this reel and throughout the remainder of the collection are strikingly uniform in style and content, or more properly, lack of style and lack of content. Recorded in leatherbound (usually red) volumes with preprinted dates in an annual or five year format, the diaries present a terse and unelaborated record of such aspects of Thomas's personal life as health, visitors, travel, entertainment, moods, diet, appointments, etc. The entries, which are highly irregular and usually brief, yield a record of external events and activities rather than an account of her emotional and intellectual life. Noteworthy entries are rare: Volume 95 (1902) mentions Eleanora Duse's visit to BMC; Volume 97 notes without comment the marriage of Mamie Gwinn and Alfred Hodder. Volumes 77 and 99 are theatre scrapbooks. Volume 77 (1891-1916) is a collection of scripts and playbills of plays in which Thomas had seen Sarah Bernhardt perform. Volume 99 (1904-1920) is a more elaborate and diverse collection of playbills, newspaper clippings, etc. of plays, operas, and concerts Thomas had attended in Europe and the United States. These are often annotated by Thomas providing information about when and where she had seen the production and briefly noting her evaluation of the performers, scripts, etc. Also included in Volume 99 are agenda of conferences of World Peace Organization meetings. The account books, which like the diaries are usually leatherbound, record Thomas's personal expenditures.

Reel: 5

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers: Volumes 100-115.
1905-1909

Volumes on Reel 6, consisting of diaries, account books, memorandum books, and appointment calendars, set the pattern of Carey Thomas's twentieth century journals. For each year there is a diary and an account book. For 1907 and 1909 there are also appointment calendars, and for 1906 and 1909, memorandum books. There is as well a diary in a five year format, although it incorporates entries only for the years 1907 and 1909. Entries of particular interest in the diaries include notes on the visits to Bryn Mawr College of Henry James (no. 101) and Roger Fry (no. 107); the death of Alfred Hodder (no. 107); and Thomas's meeting with President Theodore Roosevelt to invite him to speak at the college on a subject of general interest to women, an invitation which he declined (no. 110). The 1906 and 1907 diaries provide some information about Thomas's problems with the Board of Trustees and their investigation of her administration. The 1906 diary has substantive accounts of the Suffrage Convention in Baltimore, particularly the social activities surrounding the convention.

Reel: 6

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers: Volumes 116-133.
1910-1915

Carey Thomas's diaries, account books, memorandum books, and appointment calendars, 1910-1915, are microfilmed on Reel 7. Diary entries cover Thomas's travels, her fundraising efforts, her suffrage activities, her moods, her health and her day to day social activities and official duties. Thomas's diaries from 1912-1915 give an exhaustive and touching account of Mary Garrett's declining health, her medical treatment, her final illness, and her death on April 3, 1915. Entries following Garrett's death, which are sparse, indicate that Thomas continued to follow her routine of official duties but declined social engagements during a period of mourning. Following the close of the college term, she travelled in the American West and to Japan.

Reel: 7

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers: Volumes 134-150.
1915-1920

Reel 8 begins with a scrapbook of newspaper clippings, most of which concern Mary Garrett's death and Thomas's inheritance of her estate. In addition, there are smaller lots of clippings covering Thomas's political activities and her retirement from the presidency of Bryn Mawr College. These clippings, exceedingly fragile, are mounted in a way that would make microfilming the entire text of some of them difficult or impossible. The clippings in this scrapbook have been gathered from a large number of newspapers, most of which have not been contacted for permission to include their copyrighted materials in this microfilm publication. In order to give the reader examples of the contents and appearance of the volume, a few pages bearing clippings from Philadelphia and Baltimore papers have been photographed. The remainder of the reel is comprised of the usual mix of diaries (annual and five year), account books, and appointment calendars. In addition there is an automobile log for 1916 and 1918 (no. 136) and a guest book for Thomas's Atlantic City flat, 1917-1919 (no. 141). Thomas's 1916 diary (no. 135) contains very brief entries regarding the Public Ledger attack and the investigation of the situation by a special committee of the Board of Trustees. On August 21, 1919 (no. 145) Thomas recorded her hope that Helen H. Taft would be named to succeed her as president of Bryn Mawr. Her 1917 diaries describe a trip to the Orient and briefly note her suffrage and civil defense activities. In general, entries regarding college matters tend to decline in number and those recounting Thomas's moods, travel, health, and visits with family and friends to become more predominant.

Reel: 8

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers: Volumes 151-169.
1921-1925

A Theatre Record scrapbook, 1920-1930, with mounted playbills, reviews, concert programs, etc. begins Reel 9. The remainder of the roll is made up of annual and five year diaries, appointment calendars, and account books, which are typical of Thomas's records during her retirement. The diaries and financial accounts chiefly cover her extended foreign travel following her retirement -- Turkey and the Middle East in 1922 and Europe and the Orient in 1923. Frequently during this time, Thomas's travel companion was Georgianna Goddard King, a Bryn Mawr College art history professor. The journals relate the pleasure King's company gave Thomas as well as their frequent quarrels and reconciliations. Other companions included Lucy M. Donnelly, Harry and Josephine Thomas, and Alys Smith Russell. A November 20, 1923 entry (no. 161) records a dinner with Marion Park which convinced Thomas that the college was in good hands. In early 1924, however, she was afraid that Miss Park intended to close the Carola Woerishoffer Department of Social Economy, a move that would have distressed its founder. After her retirement, Carey Thomas began to smoke and frequently entered her cigarette consumption in her diary.

Reel: 9

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers: Volumes 170-200.

1926-1931

Along with Thomas's annual diaries, five year diaries, personal expense account books, and appointment calendars from 1926-1931, Reel 10 includes several checkbooks and a 1926 diary of Edith Lowber, Carey Thomas's travelling companion during much of the last decade of her life. As usual, Thomas's diaries are made up of brief notes of her travel and sightseeing, shopping, theatre and concerts, companions and visitors, health, correspondence, reading, and work on her autobiography. Travel is a major topic in almost all of Thomas's journals; those on Reel 10 are distinguished by entries of two exceptional travel experiences. In 1928 (no. 180), Thomas and Lowber were in an automobile accident in France in which both were slightly injured. The following April, Thomas flew from Bagdad to Cairo, a flight which she describes briefly in her diary (no. 179). On January 27, 1928, Thomas noted the death of Marion Reilly, dean of Bryn Mawr College, 1907-1915, in her journal (no. 180) with a brief and appreciative summary of her character and contributions to worthwhile causes.

Reel: 10

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers: Volumes 201-223.

1932-1935

More than half of the volumes surviving from the last four years of Thomas's life are checkbooks, bank books, and receipt books. Apparently she destroyed financial records of these types by schedule, and there is, therefore, an unusually complete body of financial records for the years just prior to her death. These documents, along with Thomas's account books and other surviving records, reflect the financial reverses and strictures she experienced during the depression years at the end of her life. Her more typical records -- diaries, appointment calendars, etc.-- continue into her final year, but entries become increasingly sparse, irregular, and routine in content. Edith Lowber's death in March of 1934 during Thomas's final trip abroad and her own ill health in 1934 and 1935 are recorded.

Reel: 11

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers: Volumes 224-266.

Undated

Undated addressbooks, memorandum books, and checkbooks conclude subseries 1 of M. Carey Thomas's personal papers. The first eight of these volumes (approximately 500 frames) are address books, followed by thirty-three memorandum books (about 650 frames), and two checkbooks. The address books, which are indexed or alphabetized, are leatherbound and range in size from 3" x 5" to 7" x 9". Interleafed in some of them are sundry letterheads, business cards, envelopes, scraps, etc. bearing personal or business addresses. These have been microfilmed where they occur. The memorandum books, which are typically very small leatherbound or unbound notebooks, appear to have been used by Thomas for jotting down notes either at home, in the office, or while travelling. They include, among other things, the following types of memoranda: book lists, shopping lists, addresses and telephone numbers, lists of things to be done, accounts of expenses, and notes taken during conversations or interviews, including several which were apparently made during interviews with candidates for faculty or staff positions. The reel concludes with two undated checkbooks, one from a French bank, the other American.

Reel: 12

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Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Outgoing
Correspondence: William Adair - Hallie Flanagan.

M. Carey Thomas's letters to more than one hundred minor correspondents are microfilmed on Reel 13. Most of the recipients are represented by one or two letters of a highly routine nature: making or breaking appointments, accepting or declining invitations, ordering books, tickets, cigarettes, etc., paying or protesting bills, arranging for foreign letters of credit, recommending individuals and services, responding to requests for contributions to various causes, and conducting other types of personal business. Among the letters of special note are several which show Thomas's continuing interest in and support for prohibition legislation. Letters to Evangeline Booth, Ella A. Boole, and Gertrude Foster Brown document Thomas's belief in the importance and viability of the "noble experiment." Her support for an international organization of nations is reflected both in a letter to the editor of the Baltimore Sun (1920) urging women to vote against Warren G. Harding because his party had repudiated the League of Nations and in several letters (1925-28) to Charles C. Bauer regarding the League of Nations Non-Partisan Association, of which she was a member. Concerning suffrage and other women's issues, Thomas wrote to the Association of Collegiate Alumnae eloquently calling upon college women to become active in the suffrage campaign, to Moma Check and Carrie Chapman Catt about the College Equal Suffrage League and other suffrage matters, and to Charles Richard Crane (1916) sending a warning to Woodrow Wilson that failure to support women's suffrage unconditionally would be a political mistake. In a very cogent 1924 letter to Mary Anderson, Thomas declared her support for the Equal Rights Amendment arguing that her experience showed that even well intended legislation designed for the protection of women resulted in decreasing the jobs open to them. She added that she would welcome an opportunity to discuss this issue with Anderson and Rose Schneiderman. Her letters about Bryn Mawr College and the Bryn Mawr School include those to Caroline Chadwick-Collins, Elizabeth King Ellicott, Margaret Thomas Carey, the Bryn Mawr School Board, and Howard Comfort, to whom she wrote announcing John D. Rockefeller's Christmas Eve gift to the college of \$80,000. Family correspondence with Mary Smith Berenson, James Carey, 3rd, who managed her Maryland real estate in the 1920s, and Margaret Thomas Carey is included on this reel. Perhaps the most personally revealing letters on the reel are those to Richard Cadbury, 1874-84, in which Thomas discussed her attitude toward marriage, her ambitions, and her delights in travel, art, and literature. The longest run of letters is to D.K. Este Fisher, a Baltimore attorney who handled for Thomas litigation growing out of her inheritance of Mary Garrett's estate, the writing and re-writing of her own will, and other legal matters. Thomas wrote a substantive and illuminating reply to Ray Stannard Baker about Woodrow Wilson, whose biography he was writing. Her several letters to Lucy E. Anthony concern the latter's efforts to sponsor an authorized biography of Anna Howard Shaw. The Addressee Unknown file, made up of letters whose recipients are not indicated and cannot be inferred includes, among others, a 1906 letter of advice to a prospective

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tourist in Egypt based upon Thomas's own travel experiences.

Reel: 13

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Outgoing Correspondence: Abraham Flexner - H.A. Garfield. Letters to her youngest sister, Helen Thomas Flexner, constitute the bulk of M. Carey Thomas's letters on Reel 14. A total of eighty-two letters to Helen have been preserved in the Thomas Papers, of which seventy-seven date from the last six years of Carey Thomas's life. In these Thomas recounted family news, work on her autobiography, her health, and her travels, diversions, and avocations. Thomas probably wrote more candidly and more fully to Helen Flexner than to any other person in the 1930s. To her sister she confided her criticisms of the policies and character of Marion E. Park, her disillusionment with democracy as a form of government, and her distress at the necessity of economizing as the depression diminished the value of her real estate and other investments. She shared with Helen her pride in the decision that the Bryn Mawr College library was to be named in her honor and her pleasure in the prospect of participating in the Fiftieth anniversary celebration in 1935. Of the surviving earlier correspondence, a letter of January 5, 1909, in which Thomas explained the reasons for her animosity toward Mamie Gwinn Hodder, which developed after the latter's marriage, is most significant. A very few letters to Simon, James, and William Welch Flexner are present. Some twenty-seven letters addressed to Abraham Flexner, appealing for donations from the Rockefeller Foundation for the Athens Hostel project, are microfilmed at the beginning of the reel. Thomas's letters to John J. Foley about the Deanery, college buildings, and groundskeeping matters are of interest, as are her 1900 letters to Elizabeth Cladwell Fountain providing specific information about the proposed library for presentation to Andrew Carnegie in soliciting a contribution.

Reel: 14

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Outgoing Correspondence: Mary Garrett. 1878-1889

The letters Carey Thomas wrote to Mary Garrett during the decade 1878-1889, though infrequent, are generally lengthy, carefully constructed, and filled with detail regarding Thomas's activities, ideas, studies, ambitions, and personal pleasures.

Approximately 265 letters are microfilmed on this reel, ranging from a low of six in 1882 to a high of approximately forty-five in 1889. This was a period of extraordinary activity and development in Thomas's life: study abroad, the establishment and opening of Bryn Mawr College, the founding of the Bryn Mawr School, and the beginning of the Women's Fund for the benefit of the Johns Hopkins University Medical School. In the earliest letters, Thomas confided her idealization of the "thought life," her aspirations to travel and study in Europe, and her determination to pursue a career of scholarship with feminist overtones. During the four years she was abroad, Thomas wrote to Garrett fairly regularly, creating a body of letters which affords a description of her life as a student in Germany, her extensive holiday travels, and the evolution of her decision to live the life of an intellectual, a decision ultimately refined to focus on Bryn Mawr College. Her exhilaration at her new experiences and opportunities is explicit: "I have never been so happy." (November 5, 1879). These letters are studded with quotable phrases and sentences expressing her feminism, which was intensified by her observations and experience of the difficulties encountered by women seeking graduate education. The triumph of her own endeavor is expressed in her elated account of November 26, 1882, of her doctoral examination and her *summa cum laude* degree. The tone of Thomas's letters to Garrett at this time is warm, sympathetic, protective, ingratiating, and constantly reassuring of her affection. After she returned to the United States, Thomas continued to write very frequently to Mary Garrett, but compared with her earlier style, she now wrote in a more reportorial and less philosophical vein. Having accepted the deanship of Bryn Mawr College, Thomas became absorbed in the challenge of her work and caught up in off-campus interests, spending less time in contemplation and theorizing. A notable exception is to be found in her letters of 1884 in which she frequently wrote of women's education and her evolving personal commitment to excellence as the supreme ideal for Bryn Mawr College. Though the establishment of the Bryn Mawr School in Baltimore was frequently mentioned, it is not possible to trace the development of the school from the correspondence alone. Carey Thomas's great sense of loss when her mother died in 1888 is movingly conveyed. There are occasional slight references to the Jhu Medical School Fund at the end of the reel. (Typescripts, the product of an earlier abortive editorial project, occasionally accompany these letters. They have been microfilmed prior to the holographic copy.)

Reel: 15

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Outgoing
Correspondence: Mary Garrett.
January 1890-August 1892

The frequency of Thomas's letters to Mary Garrett during the first years of the 1890s increased steadily until it reached an almost daily rate, except for those times when one or the other was travelling abroad or when they were together in Baltimore, Bryn Mawr, or elsewhere. Although this correspondence covers a wide range of topics, the administration and day to day operation of the Bryn Mawr School and the organizational, tactical, and policy decisions of the Johns Hopkins Medical School Fund Committee are of greatest interest. Because of her father's membership on the Jhu Board of Trustees, Thomas wrote informatively of Hopkins internal politics, the specific needs of the Medical School, and the probable reaction of the university administration to the offer of a contribution accompanied by such restrictions as those contemplated by the Women's Committee. In October 1891 she wrote that she was convinced President Gilman would rather not open the Medical School than to do so with provision for the admission of women on a basis of equality with men. In December of the same year, she sent a draft of a letter to Garrett for the letter to Garrett for the latter to transmit to the Jhu Board of Trustees reaffirming her earlier offer of \$100,000 for the medical school. Although the growing strain and final rupture of the longstanding friendships of some of the women jointly engaged in the Medical School Fund and the Bryn Mawr School are evidenced, the actual disputes and differences of opinion can rarely be fully reconstructed from this correspondence. Some details are manifest. In March 1890 Thomas wrote to Garrett bitterly complaining that the latter's reliance on the legal advice of William Frick, father of Robert Garrett's wife, regarding the incorporation of the school was creating a serious threat to their friendship. More often, however, Thomas's attacks were directed against Bessie King or Julia Rogers, both of whom she accused of character defects as well as mistaken judgment regarding the school and the fund. Although it is clear that Thomas was gratified by Rogers's eventual resignation from the Bms committee, she did not regard with complacency the ill will between Mary Garrett and Mamie Gwinn which surfaced during committee meetings. She repeatedly urged Garrett to be friendlier and more fore-bearing in her relations with Gwinn. In addition to "business," i.e. Bms & Medical School Fund, Thomas commented on the music of Wagner and the acting of Sarah Bernhardt (March 1891); the writing of Byron and Shelley (January 1891), Emily Dickinson (January 1892), and Henry James (March 1892); and the art of Rosetti (April 1891). She reported, usually with little description or comment, her meetings with Dr. Mary Putnam-Jacobi (March 1890), Horace Howard Furness (February 1891), President James M. Taylor of Vassar (March 1891), Andrew White and H.W. Sage (June 1891), Lady Henry Somerset (November 1891), and President Charles W. Eliot of Harvard (January and March 1892). Her record of important events at the college includes reports of a meeting with Ume Tsuda and others in February 1891 resulting in the establishment of the Japanese Fellowship Committee, the organization of the Student Self-Government in December 1891, and the confidential announcement

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of Dr. Rhoads in March 1892 that he would resign in June of the following year. Thomas frequently expressed concern about Garrett's health, particularly during the latter's extended residence in Europe between June of 1891 and October 1892. Writing in April 1892, Thomas objected to the advice of Dr. Putnam-Jacobi and other doctors who had recommended marriage as a remedy for Garrett's health problems. She cited her own excellent health as proof that celibacy was not inimical to health.

Reel: 16

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Outgoing Correspondence: Mary Garrett.

September 1892-December 1893

The subject of transcendent importance in the correspondence on Reel 17 was the protracted debate within the Bryn Mawr College Board of Trustees about whether or not M. Carey Thomas should be named president of the college. Although she did not attend Trustees' meetings, Thomas learned the substance of their discussions from friends and relatives on the Board, and her letters to Garrett provide a running account of the deliberations along with commentary on the strategies and machinations of both her supporters and her enemies. She wrote of the objection of some members to her appointment solely on the ground of her being a woman. In response she warned that if a cipher were appointed over her in order to keep the presidency in male hands, she would sever her relationship with the college. In March she wrote a joyful and grateful acceptance when Garrett proposed to offer a gift to the college of \$10,000 annually conditional upon Thomas's appointment and payable during her tenure. On November 17, 1893 Thomas was able at last to notify Garrett that she had been elected president by the Trustees. She anticipated that at least two members of the Board would resign as result of her appointment, and she expected that she might be named to fill the seat of one of them. In the same month, Thomas reported the first important use to be made of the Garrett gift fund -- the purchase of the Sauppe Library, a collection of classics, from a German bookseller for \$5,000. The Hopkins Medical School fund, Thomas's administrative routine, and Garrett's ill health are subjects continuing from earlier correspondence. The Columbian World Exposition in Chicago and Thomas's health, which suffered under the strain of the long debate regarding her appointment, are new topics.

Reel: 17

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Outgoing Correspondence: Mary Garrett.

January 1894-March 1895

The recurrent theme of correspondence on Reel 18 is Carey Thomas's advice to Mary Garrett about her health, her business, and her family relations. Not only did she offer specific and general suggestions about regimens and treatments that Garrett should follow to improve her health, Thomas also advised her explicitly about business matters, suggesting that she should divest herself of her holdings in the B. & O. Railroad and in Robert Garrett & Sons. She responded sympathetically, moreover, to Garrett's confidences regarding the growing breach with her sisters-in-law, which seems to have arisen chiefly over financial matters. Thomas's election as president had not ended her suspense and frustration concerning her role at Bryn Mawr. Although she wanted to be elected to the Board of Trustees, she withdrew her name from consideration on the advice of friends who warned her that her candidacy would prove embarrassingly weak. Thomas complained to Garrett about the time-consuming nature of her supervision of construction of Pembroke dormitory and the frustrations of other aspects of college administration -- physical plant upkeep, budget, burglars on the campus (May and June 1894), and loss of faculty. In February 1895, she wrote of her tentative selection, upon the recommendation of William James, of a brilliant and charming young philosopher, Alfred Hodder.

Reel: 18

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Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Letters to
Mary Garrett.
April 1895-August 1896

Writing to Mary Garrett in May 1895, M. Carey Thomas reported that Alfred Hodder's dissertation had been turned down at Harvard University and his degree would be delayed, an exasperating development but one that did not alter her evaluation of his ability. As the year progressed, however, her comments about Hodder became cooler as she observed with apprehension Mamie Gwinn's growing attachment for the young philosopher and his wife. By December she had concluded: "...the Hodders were born to cause trouble." An even more persistent theme in the letters microfilmed on Reel 19 than the mutual attraction between Mamie Gwinn and the Hodders (particularly Alfred) was provided by the various personal and financial problems Mary Garrett was experiencing. The death of her brother Robert in July 1896, her own poor health, and her deteriorating relations with her sisters-in-law and nephews inspired sympathy and advice in roughly equal measures. Moreover, a new topic -- Garrett's determination to gain access to the financial records of her father's estate and ultimately to force a division of the property among the heirs -- is introduced on this reel. In this endeavor, she retained as legal counsel Robert deForest in New York City and Judge William Fisher in Baltimore. Thomas's letters are studded with comments on their advice and with her own recommendations, opinions, and admonitions. The breach with her nearest relatives was clearly painful to Garrett, and her anxieties about her financial situation were oppressive. In March 1896 Thomas found it necessary to pass on Judge Fisher's warning that, because of her extremely reduced style of living, Garrett was developing a reputation in Baltimore as being an eccentric with delusions of poverty. Thomas's pattern of writing Garrett fully about her thoughts and personal reactions to every sort of situation, as well as reporting to her the details of her daily routine and personal relations afford insight into the problems she encountered as president of Bryn Mawr College. Chief among these was the growing tension created by a conflict between her supreme goal of academic excellence and freedom and the Trustees' devotion to the ideal of the founder as expressed in his will -- an institution where Quaker students would find an environment and instruction compatible with the beliefs and practices of their sect. Furthermore, the dichotomy between the extreme conventionality imposed upon Carey Thomas as head of a nineteenth century women's college and her own more liberal views is illustrated by a series of letters of May 1895. In them she described her great alarm upon learning that students had been swimming nude in the college pool and her later satisfaction that they had voluntarily given up the practice through her persuasion and the intervention of the Student Self-Government. Her summary conclusion, in which both the college official and the private woman speak, captures the unresolved duality arising out of her duty and her personality: "If it (the nude bathing) were to become public knowledge it would do us more harm than anything I can think of but there is really no harm in it." Thomas travelled in Europe in the summer of 1895 from whence she wrote interesting letters comparing the artistry of Eleanor Duse and Sarah

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Bernhardt and describing visits with Hannah Whitall Smith, Lady Henry Mount Temple, and Vernon Lee. The following summer she was invalided by an operation for the removal of an ovarian tumor and convalesced in a cottage in Montauk, New York, rented by Mary Garrett.

Reel: 19

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Letters to Mary Garrett.

September 1896-December 1897

The time spanned by letters on Reel 20 was marked by controversies and frustrations for Carey Thomas in her administration of the college and by grief and strain in her personal life. Her continual disagreements with the Board of Trustees heated up in the fall of 1896 over the issues of the budget deficit and, more critically, the Trustees' determination to make the Christian commitment of the college more explicit in its publications and policies. In March 1897 Thomas reported that two members of the Board had "pitched into" her because she would not agree to censor and limit students' purchases of books. The wording of a statement on religion for the college program became a pivotal issue in the debate over the future direction of the college. After a great deal of fractiousness and personal criticism of Thomas by some of the Trustees, a compromise statement was adopted in April. A visit of Bertrand and Alys Smith Russell to the campus in December 1896 and their lectures to the student body provoked criticism from conservative parents, leaving Thomas with the difficult task of explaining and defending the "socialist" and "liberated" theories of her guests. The Student Self-Government created a problem in May 1897 when it proposed to expel fifteen students for smoking. Thomas's intervention resulted in softer penalties. The faculty contributed to President Thomas's season of discontent by its selections of European fellows in March 1897. According to Thomas's report of the matter, Georgianna G. King, the ablest candidate, was passed over because she had written an unpopular article for *The Fortnightly Philistine*, a college publication. It should be noted that, although Thomas rarely mentioned individual students in her letters to Garrett, she regularly announced fellowship awards, usually adding her opinion as to whether the faculty had made the "right" choice. The turmoil of the college year was complemented by distress in Thomas's personal life. Her sister Grace Worthington was divorced by her husband in 1896 and accepted a financial settlement which Carey Thomas thought was foolishly inadequate. Without Grace's knowledge and against her express wishes, Thomas consulted Garrett's Baltimore attorney, Judge William Fisher, about the matter. Out of the publicity surrounding the divorce came a new attack against President Thomas. It was asserted that if she shared an opinion imputed to Grace -- that frequent and numerous pregnancies were a "degradation" to women -- she could not be considered a suitable administrator for a women's college. The death of her father in November 1897 was a loss to Thomas professionally as well as personally, for he had been her loyal and active supporter in the Board of Trustees throughout her career at Bryn Mawr. To escape from her cares, Thomas spent the summer of 1897 travelling with Mamie Gwinn in Spain. Her letters to Mary Garrett contain reassurances of her good health and descriptions of the scenery, paintings, and architecture she was enjoying.

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Reel: 20

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Letters to Mary Garrett.

January 1898-March 1899

Correspondence on Reel 21 is a fruitful source of information about Carey Thomas's interaction with the student body and her attitudes toward their problems. In January 1898 she observed to Garrett that the Bryn Mawr students were over-worked and were becoming ill as a result. She decided in April 1898 to dismiss all of the mistresses of halls in response to students' complaints about food served in dormitory dining rooms. A quarrel between a pair of roommates, one Jewish and one Christian, resulted in Thomas's moving both, in order to resolve the problem without the appearance of favoritism (October 1898). During the same month she wrote that professors in charge of the entrance examinations had become too demanding and that she did not know how to check this tendency. In December 1898 President Thomas supported the Student Self-Government's authority to suspend students from classes against the express objections of the faculty. In March of the following year she seems once again to have sided with the student government against the faculty in the matter of whether or not residents of Low Buildings, a rooming house maintained on campus for women of the faculty and staff, should be forbidden to smoke. In other contexts Low Buildings appears frequently as a subject in the correspondence on this reel. Thomas noted briefly visits to the campus of Beatrice and Sidney Webb, William James, and George Santayana. She continued to advise Garrett about her private life, personal business, and health. At this time Thomas herself was suffering from pain and weakness in her leg, the delayed result of her childhood burn. This was treated with heat at Bryn Mawr Hospital and in August 1898 by baths at Hot Springs, Virginia. Among the many very routine topics which occur repeatedly in her letters to Garrett, Thomas's chronicles of the antics of her pet Maine coon cat, Governor Huff, are perhaps the most engaging. Although Thomas's letters to Garrett at this time rarely include reflective or introspective comments, she wrote in February 1898 that she had been "stirred to the depth by my women's rights reading. I feel as if I never could give up the struggle ... while these poor slaves were in chains."

Reel: 21

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Outgoing Correspondence: Mary Garrett.

April 1899-August 1900

To a marked degree, M. Carey Thomas's activities as a head of a college among her peers are documented in correspondence on Reel 22. In June she travelled to New England with Mamie Gwinn, describing for Mary Garrett a visit with President James Taylor at Vassar and a speech she made at Cornell University. In October, she attended the inauguration of President Arthur Twining Hadley at Yale University and took part in the ceremonies at the inauguration of Caroline Hazard as president of Wellesley. The repercussions of the latter event echo throughout this reel, for President Charles W. Eliot of Harvard, another of the speakers, used the occasion to assert that the success of the concept of higher education for women had not yet been proven and women's capacity for undertaking college work without harmful results had not been demonstrated. Commenting on these remarks, Thomas wrote to Garrett that Eliot had disgraced himself. On October 6 in her welcoming address to Bryn Mawr students, she answered Eliot's speech. Her colorful rebuttal attracted wide attention and the following month she confided that she was distressed at the national coverage her remarks were receiving. In a November letter she described the presentation to the college of her portrait by John Singer Sargent, which had been painted the previous summer. Scattered throughout her letters at this time are quotations of the praises which the portrait received. Beginning in November 1899 and continuing through the following March, Thomas frequently referred to a monograph on women's education which she was preparing as part of a series of studies of education in the United States under the editorship of Nicholas M. Butler. In addition she discussed preparations for a Bryn Mawr College exhibit at the Paris Exposition of 1900, the activities of the Naples Table, and personalities and undertakings of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae, particularly its efforts to publish a statistical report on the health of women college graduates. As always, she wrote repeatedly about faculty recruitment. In March and April she described the difficulties created by the decision not to grant any raises in salaries to the faculty which caused them, she reported, to behave "unreasonably." When economist Lindley M. Keasbey announced that he expected to be called to a more lucrative appointment in New York, she complained: "I am tired of being the nursing mother of the famous scholars of this country." Although Thomas in her letters to Mary Garrett did not fully confide the anxiety caused her by the liaison between Mamie Gwinn and Alfred Hodder, she noted in June 1900 that she had had several quarrels with Mamie. As a *modus vivendi*, Gwinn, who wanted only to continue the affair, promised to do so discretely. Though Thomas clearly would have been happy to see the attachment broken, she concluded, "I cannot possibly desert her." Routine accounts of daily activities, her health, entertainment, and diversions, etc., and comments on Garrett's business, moods, health, and activities continue.

Reel: 22

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Letters to Mary Garrett.

September 1900-March 1902

M. Carey Thomas's reports of college business on Reel 23 are a mixture of good and bad news, of trivial and sobering events, of future hopes and present losses. Personally she seems to have been often depressed and disgruntled. In October 1900 she reported that a speech she had made at Smith College went well, that enrollment at Bryn Mawr College was up, and that the finances of the college seemed in good shape. In the same month, however, the father of an expelled student appealed for a hearing before the Board of Trustees, posing a potential challenge to Thomas's authority. In December of that year the college was threatened with a typhoid epidemic, and in November 1901 two workmen on campus contracted smallpox, necessitating emergency vaccination of the faculty and student body. The following month brought new troubles: Thomas recorded with distress the insanity of a student and the outbreak of a series of thefts in Denbigh dormitory. The most costly loss experienced by the college to that date occurred in March 1902 when Denbigh was gutted by fire. Thomas related this occurrence and its aftermath in some detail. In spite of difficulties in matters of student health and safety, a major fund raising campaign was going well. This success was principally owing to John D. Rockefeller's pledge of funds to build a dormitory and power plant, a gift that was announced in December 1901. There is a grumbling tone in many of Thomas's personal messages to Mary Garrett at this time. She complained that Garrett gave too much time and energy to the care of her two spinster aunts and her invalid brother. Thomas's frequent references to the Bryn Mawr School reveal disagreements among the Managers on a number of issues, including the policy of non-admission of Jews. With obvious annoyance, Thomas scolded Garrett about her lack of sensible and regular care for her health. Repeatedly she apologized for having quarreled and been cross after they had visited together.

Reel: 23

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Letters to Mary Garrett.

April 1902-February 1904

The increasingly complex and vexing nature of the presidency of Bryn Mawr College is evidenced in correspondence on Reel 24. Although a major fund raising and building program was in progress, Thomas seems, judging from her letters to Mary Garrett, to have found herself embroiled at the same time in many petty concerns. On behalf of the building program drive she travelled to Chicago and Pittsburgh and undertook other fund raising. She reported to Garrett the substance of her consultations with Austin D. Houghton, John D. Rockefeller's representative who was overseeing the construction of the dormitory and power plant. When questions arose about the amount of his pledge and the way it was to be expended, she met with Rockefeller himself. Her relations with the Board of Trustees became strained anew as the budget deficit mounted, threatening a reduction of faculty salaries and the closing of departments. Individual members of the Board opposed her on a myriad of issues, objecting, for example to accepting money which had been raised by sponsorship of theatricals and to the singing of the "pagan" college hymn in chapel on Founder's Day. Among the Board of Trustees, Henry Tatnall appears as Thomas's most frequent and hostile opponent, along with John B. and Philip C. Garrett. At various times Thomas also mentioned problems with the faculty. In February 1904, a new concern developed: the alumnae, she wrote, were joined in battle over whether or not they should actively involve themselves in the administration of the college, an interference which she would by no means welcome. Because of a coal strike, the college faced a possible shortage of fuel for the winter. Although purely political comments are rather rare in her letters to Mary Garrett, Thomas denounced Theodore Roosevelt's action in trying to persuade the coal mine operators to meet with union leaders in this crisis. In April 1903, Thomas participated in a Southern Education Conference in Richmond, Virginia, recounting details of the trip and meetings to Garrett. In December 1903 she entertained William B. Yeats at the Deanery, characterizing his lectures as charming and the poet himself as "very nice & romantic & visionary." In January and February 1904, Mary and Bernard Berenson visited Thomas. Carey Thomas complained constantly that she was behind in her work and that she was tired. She was concerned also about her friend's financial situation, for the Maryland Trust Company, with which Mary Garrett had sizeable deposits, failed, and several of her rental properties were destroyed in the Baltimore fire of February 1904.

Reel: 24

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Letters to Mary Garrett.

March 1904-December 1912

The year 1904 brought a major change in M. Carey Thomas's personal life, resulting in the reduction of the flow of her correspondence to Mary Garrett to a trickle. In April of that year Thomas announced to Garrett that Mamie Gwinn, her housemate of twenty-five years, planned to marry Alfred Hodder. Of the engagement she wrote (May 31): "I believe that she is walking into such a disaster that it wrings my heart." Following Gwinn's marriage in June, Garrett moved into the Deanery. Thereafter she received letters from Thomas only on the infrequent occasions when they were apart. In scattered letters in February, March, and April 1905, Thomas described problems of renewed faculty demand for salary increases and of new interference by the alumnae in the policy of the college. Following his appointment as president of Princeton University, she wrote, "Of course, now Woodrow Wilson is after all our men. What shall we do?" (April 14, 1905) Although the background of the 1906 crisis with the Trustees is not set forth, Thomas wrote in May that the Board had behaved shockingly about the faculty report, announcing their intention to investigate every complaint. By June she was writing in a more positive vein of support for her cause expressed by certain Trustees, though she was still uncertain about whether or not she would remain at Bryn Mawr College. She reported in October that she had prepared a statement for the Board and that she had been assured by the Trustees that she would have a fair opportunity to defend herself. She concluded: "I am sure I am right." In the same month she announced that a bigamy suit had been brought against Hodder. She was determined, she added, that she would not under any circumstances testify against Mamie. Thomas attended the inauguration of President Abbott Lawrence Lowell of Harvard and an Association of American Alumnae convention in Cincinnati in October 1909. At the end of 1909 and the beginning of 1910 she made several "begging" (the term she used for fund raising) trips, which left her discouraged and depressed. There is quite a bit of correspondence from 1912. Mary Garrett was hospitalized at the Johns Hopkins hospital in April, and Thomas made several trips to New York, Boston, and Chicago later in the year. The women's movement and its leading personalities are the subject of much of this correspondence. Jane Addams and Anna Howard Shaw, two of Thomas's closest allies in the movement, figure prominently in her letters.

Reel: 25

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Letters to Mary Garrett.

1913 - Undated

Carey Thomas's letters to Mary E. Garrett are concluded on Reel 26. Undated items appear at the end of the dated correspondence. These, comprising approximately eighty-five undated telegrams and letters, are for the most part purely social in content. The most important subject of Thomas's letters to Garrett in 1913 and 1914 is the suffrage movement. Whenever Garrett or Thomas separately attended suffrage meetings or conventions, she commented to the other on the activities, debates, and personalities involved. In addition, Thomas wrote to Garrett about current suffrage affairs during the latter's hospitalizations and other absences from the Deanery. Because of this, the reel is a rich source of Thomas's opinions and observations about suffrage leaders and strategies. Garrett's deteriorating health, which rendered her practically an invalid and resulted in her hospitalization at the Johns Hopkins Hospital for rather lengthy terms, colors almost all of Thomas's letters at this time. Her sympathy, concern, and devotion, as well as her efforts to brighten her friend's days with hope and cheer, are manifest. To keep Garrett in touch with events at Bryn Mawr when she was absent, Thomas supplied news and gossip about college events, the faculty, her family and herself.

Reel: 26

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Outgoing Correspondence: Michael Garrett - Millicent Carey McIntosh.

Letters addressed to nearly a hundred different recipients touching on a number of highly important subjects appear on this reel. Carey Thomas's letters to several of these correspondents concern matters of feminist interest. She wrote to Virginia Gildersleeve regarding the Athens Hostel and to Elizabeth Kirkbride about the Association of Collegiate Alumnae. In a 1929 letter to Ida H. Harper, Thomas stated that she found the latter's manuscript biography of Anna H. Shaw unsatisfactory and advised her not to have it published. She couched the letter in tactful terms, however, and was evidently attempting to allay the friction which had arisen between Harper and Lucy Anthony about this undertaking. In 1912, on the other hand, Thomas was deeply and bitterly engaged as a principal in a controversy with Laura D. Gill, as her letters to Gill clearly demonstrate. Apparently some or all of Thomas's letters to William Halsted (thirteen letters) and Samuel Arthur King (fourteen letters), two men for whom she had a high regard and a warm personal attachment, were returned to her after their deaths. The letters to Halsted pertain to medical, suffrage, and personal matters; those to King regard May Day arrangements, his contracts with the college, elocution classes at the college as well as her personal lessons with him, and his critiques of public addresses, including Thomas's. Following her retirement, Thomas intermittently addressed to the president's secretary Dorothy MacDonald requests for data about the history of Bryn Mawr College, for information of the whereabouts of the college's archival records, and for the return of personal effects which had been left at the college. To Susan Kingsbury she communicated encouragement and advice about the Carola Woerishoffer Department of Social Research and the Summer School for Women Workers in Industry. In 1930 she invited Lou Henry Hoover to serve on the selection committee for the M. Carey Thomas Award and to make the presentation of the prize. The largest lot of letters on the reel, addressed to James B. Longacre, concern Thomas's personal insurance policies and claims and her will, of which he was named an executor. There are four letters to Mamie Gwinn Hodder, one written after her marriage seeking directions for the disposition of her personal property left at the Deanery. In a charming 1903 letter to William James, Thomas first disputes his evaluation of the worth of academic degrees as credentials for college professors, then praises his Varieties of Religious Experience, and finally invites him to speak at Commencement and to be her guest at the Deanery. The reel concludes with Thomas's letters to a favorite niece, Millicent Carey McIntosh regarding, most importantly, the younger woman's plans for and progress in her education and her career. These letters are of particular interest in revealing Thomas's relations with a young person of college and graduate school age. Although she devoted her career to the interests of these groups, the collection affords little documentation on which to evaluate her rapport with them.

Reel: 27

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Outgoing Correspondence: Isabel Maddison - Elizabeth Shepley Sargeant.

Microfilmed on Reel 28 are M. Carey Thomas's letters to the woman she would have liked to have made her protege and successor, Helen Taft Manning, and to the one who eventually was chosen to follow her as president of Bryn Mawr College, Marion Edwards Park. Her letters to both are informative and revealing. Her thirty-four letters to Manning (1917-1935) unite discussion of official college business - both before and after Thomas's retirement - with warm, unguarded personal messages. College matters treated most frequently and fully are the selection of the new president, college buildings and grounds, and Board of Directors' business. Personal topics include health, travel, religion, feminist interests, friendship, etc. The ornament of this group is a letter written on April 17, 1920, in response to Helen's announcement of her engagement. In a long, agitated, intensely personal letter, Thomas unveiled much of her own life, her attitude toward marriage, and her unwavering feminism. Her letters to Marion Park (177 items) by contrast are usually formal and business-like. Most regard college matters: the Olmsted Plan for the campus, and other buildings and grounds matters; the Summer School for Women Workers in Industry; Low Buildings; the College Inn; the Manship bust of Thomas; the Phebe Anna Thorne School; the M. Carey Thomas award; and the Fiftieth Anniversary celebration. In the early 1930s, under the pretext of putting her estate in order, Thomas withdrew her investments in college property and called in a \$15,000 loan, inherited from Mary Garrett, which the latter had advanced for the building of the infirmary. (Note: The Marion E. Park Papers in the BMC Archives have been searched for Thomas materials; numerous letters from that collection are included in this group. They have not been separately targeted since it is expected that the microfilm itself will be cited without reference to distinctive parent collections.) Elucidation of some of the crucial events in Carey Thomas's career may be found in her letters to James E. Rhoads and David Scull. To Rhoads she wrote a lengthy treatise in 1893 stating her intention to resign if she were not named president, citing her sacrifices for and contributions to the college, and arguing that the appointment of some one else as president would constitute a vote of lack of confidence in her leadership. This letter is accompanied by a rough draft almost entirely in the handwriting of Mamie Gwinn. Whether it was composed by Gwinn or dictated to her is impossible to determine. Writing to Scull in the same year, Thomas asserted that the faculty fully supported her candidacy. Some, she added, had threatened to resign if an unsatisfactory appointment were made. During the little-documented 1906 crisis Thomas requested of Scull that she be fully apprised of the charges of untruthfulness and poor administration which had been secretly brought against her and that she be allowed to appear before the Trustees to defend herself. Copies of some of Thomas's letters to John D. Rockefeller, Jr. regarding his father's contributions to the campus building program are present. There are a handful of letters to Alys Smith Russell and one to Edith Finch Russell. Interesting correspondence with Elizabeth Shepley Sargeant regarding a biographical

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

sketch of Thomas she proposed to write for Harper's magazine concludes the reel. Thomas provided Sargeant with information and corrected her draft before withdrawing her permission and cooperation because she feared a possible adverse effect on the sale of her projected autobiography. The reel begins with Thomas's correspondence with longtime assistant to the president, Isabel Maddison, with whom Thomas, when she moved from the Deanery, made plans for the destruction of the bulk of her personal papers (February 3, 1934).

Reel: 28

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Outgoing Correspondence: Anna Howard Shaw - Frederick A. Thayer.

M. Carey Thomas's correspondence on Reel 29 is highlighted by her letters to a girlhood friend, her favorite aunt, and her closest associates within the suffrage movement. Her sixty-three letters to Anna M. Shipley document her romantic attachments, her religious doubts and beliefs, her studies and ambitions. They are particularly rich in information about Cornell, where she reported co-education was a success with the co-eds living under rules and regulations of their own making. She confided to Anna her wish to change her name, adding that her choice, Miriam, had been vetoed by her father who suggested the use of "M. Carey" instead (August 11, 1875). Thomas's letters to her aunt Hannah Whitall Smith, whom she regarded as a mentor, are deferential, complimentary, and grateful in expression. She wrote to Smith of her ambitions for Bryn Mawr College and her unwavering devotion to the Cause, as she always referred to feminist concerns in her letters to her aunt. To her older cousin Frank Smith, Carey wrote (1868-1872) accounts of her studies, her activities, her amusements, etc., emphasizing her pleasure in outdoor sports and her ambition to acquire a first rate education. Thomas's three letters each to Anna Howard Shaw and Ray Strachey pertain to both suffrage matters and personal news. Additional letters to Shaw are to be found in Thomas's personal letterbooks. To Caroline Slade, Thomas wrote about the management of the Deanery and other Bryn Mawr College matters, occasionally asking Slade to interfere specifically in college administration and policy in support of Thomas's points of view. She wrote to both Slade and Hilda Worthington Smith about the Summer School for Women Workers in Industry, in which she retained a deep and active interest.

Reel: 29

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Outgoing Correspondence: Allen Thomas - Martha G. Thomas. M. Carey Thomas's letters to nineteen Thomases, almost all of them close relatives, are microfilmed on Reel 30. By far the largest groups are those addressed to Henry M. Thomas, Sr., Carey's brother, and to her father, James Carey Thomas. Carey wrote confidentially and informatively to Harry Thomas about matters which touched her most closely. There are, therefore, among her more than 150 letters to him (1901-1924) numerous uniquely personal revelations. As examples, she disclosed her mixed feelings regarding Mamie Gwinn's marriage (July 10, 1904), her regret at Dean Marion Reilly's resignation, the history of Evangeline Andrews's animosity toward Thomas (both February 21, 1916), and her awareness of Edith Hamilton's bitterness following her dismissal as headmistress at the Bryn Mawr School (Spring 1922). Thomas wrote to Harry also about her health, family matters, her travels, and current events. These letters embody a great deal of her egotism and an unconscious and blatant expression of her elitism: "I thought thee meant a real person not a maid when thee asked who was going with me" (July 7, 1922). Thomas's letters to her father, James Carey Thomas, are far fewer than to her mother, the principal recipient of her family letters. From Cornell and Germany, she described her friends, her classes, her professors, etc. She recounted the debate among German authorities regarding admission of women to University programs in a letter of February 29, 1880. In September 1883 she asked her father's advice about seeking appointment as president of Bryn Mawr College, admonishing him at the same time that if her candidacy were mentioned to him, he should not treat it as a whim but as worthy of serious consideration. Thomas's letters to her nephew Henry M. Thomas, Jr. about his studies and medical practice and her ailments and medications derive from the last dozen years of her life. She wrote to her brother Frank (37 items, 1901-1935) about family news and business, her private investments, the financial difficulties of various family members during the depression, and of her efforts to assist them as far as she could. Only a few items survive from each of the other recipients on this reel. One of Thomas's letters to her niece-in-law, Dr. Caroline Bedell Thomas, is notable because of the proud and characteristic phrase with which it begins: "In my role of feminist...".

Reel: 30

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Outgoing Correspondence: Mary Whitall Thomas. (1871-1881)

Carey Thomas's letters to her mother from a crowded, critical decade in her life appear on Reel 31. Beginning with the youthful, homesick vacation letters of a schoolgirl and concluding with the missives of a graduate student in a foreign university, this correspondence embodies the most voluminous and comprehensive recording of events and transitions in Carey Thomas's life at this time. In these letters, which are loving, respectful, and unguarded, Thomas appears to have been trying, through the powers of her descriptions and the fullness of her accounts, to enable her mother to share the studies and travels which she herself found so rewarding. Approximately the first two hundred derive from the years before Carey Thomas went abroad. Written for the most part from Howland and Cornell, they record Carey's courses, friendships, outings, etc. She often had to ask for additional money to meet her expenses for necessities and diversions. There are recurrent references from Cornell of her care to avoid mixed gatherings, a restriction which she referred to in one letter as a sacrifice (February 26, 1876). The length and volume of Carey's letters to her mother increased greatly when she departed Baltimore to study in Germany in 1879. (Note: Carey's 1879 letters to her mother recounting the trip to Europe and her early experiences there are preserved in a notebook in Mary Whitall Thomas's handwriting. The originals were probably circulated among other branches of the Thomas and Whitall families. Whether or not they are extant is not known.) Although there are a few scattered references to homesickness in Carey Thomas's letters from Germany, they are characterized much more pervasively by evidence of high spirits, the excitement of intellectual stimulation, exultation in the pleasures of art, scenery, travel, etc. She described in great detail all aspects of her life. From Leipzig she discussed her courses, her professors, her daily routine, her aspirations, her quarters, her meals. Having found herself living a life that seemed to satisfy all her wishes, she reiterated her longing to be personally and financially independent: "Thee & father will have to make up your minds to the fact of my old maidship ..." (February 15, 1880); "Want of money seems to me a most hopeless thing. I want it more than anything else in the world ..." (December 29, 1880), "I do long for every girl to have the choice of a free single life instead of being forced into matrimony as a livelihood" (February 19, 1881). Carey occasionally commented on American political events and on women's suffrage (November 21, 1880; October 8, 1881; December 4, 1881), but the overwhelming impression conveyed by these letters is that of happy, unregretful expatriation.

Reel: 31

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Outgoing Correspondence: Mary Whitall Thomas - Young People of the Bridesburg M.E. Church. (1882-1888)

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

The alphabetical sequence of M. Carey Thomas's personal outgoing mail is concluded on Reel 32. It begins with approximately 125 letters to Mary Whitall Thomas, 1882-1888, continuing Thomas's correspondence with her mother begun on the previous reel. Carey Thomas began the year 1882 ebulliently optimistic about her as yet uncharted career, writing to her mother on January 28, "I expect to shoot up like a rocket some day & cover thee with stars." Thereafter her moods vacillated as she contemplated the various possibilities for her future, fretting in particular about what Bryn Mawr College might become and whether or not she was likely to find it congenial (January 30, 1883; May 11, 1883; November 1, 1883). As are those on the preceding reel, these letters are replete with expressions of feminist commitment. On February 12, 1882, she wrote that she would be more useful to women's rights in her chosen field than she could be in suffrage work, since she considered intellectual rights even more important than political rights. In all of her letters to her mother from abroad Carey Thomas carefully accounted for her expenditures, often coupling statements of her expenses with requests for additional funds. In her desire to prolong her time in Europe, Carey took courses at the Sorbonne, studied languages, and travelled for a year after the successful completion of her doctorate. In her petitions to her mother for continued support abroad and in her delineation of the style in which she expected to be accommodated after returning home, she often seems self-centered and demanding. From her return to the United States until 1888, the year of her mother's death, Carey wrote to her infrequently, usually when she was travelling either on business or vacation. During the final year of Mary Whitall's life, when she was known to be terminally ill with cancer, Carey wrote more regularly, revealing, as in all her letters, her deep devotion to and limitless admiration for her mother. The reel concludes with letters to forty-five recipients. Among them are relatives: John Mickle Whitall, Mary Tatum Whitall, and Harold, Grace, and Mary Worthington; Bryn Mawr College Trustees: Thomas Raeburn White, Asa S. Wing, and James Wood; reformers and suffrage activists: Mary van Casteel, Mary van Kleek, Beatrice Potter Webb, Lilian Welsh, Emma Wold, and Mary Woolley; and a personal friend: Margaret Hicks Volkmann. Thomas's letters to her nephew and niece, Harold and Mary Worthington, numbering about forty altogether, show her friendship with, as well as guidance of, members of a younger generation. Her letters to Mary are supportive of her ambition for a medical career, informative about mutual interests, and, after her niece was stricken with a fatal illness while in medical school, sympathetic, cheering, and kind. Carey Thomas's letters to Harold are about rather routine matters except for one of June 29, 1923, in which she refused his request for financial backing in setting up a business. Warning him first of the economic hazards of attempting to operate an under-capitalized business, Thomas went on to suggest in untactful and even harsh terms that because of the weakness of his heredity, he might find himself unable to withstand the stresses of financial reverses. The letters to Margaret Hicks Volkmann

(erroneously identified by Edith Finch in her biography of Carey Thomas as Alice Hicks), cover Thomas's renunciation of religious faith and its effect on her mother, her study and travel abroad, and her disappointment (August 30, 1881) when she learned of her friend's plans to marry.

Reel: 32

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Outgoing Correspondence: Circular Letters. Microfilmed on Reel 33 are M. Carey Thomas's circular letters, which were passed about among her family and friends before eventually returning to her possession. They were probably written in part to provide Thomas with a permanent record of her most memorable trips and of her impressions and observations from remote and exotic places, and as a substitute of sorts for the lengthy personal journals she had ceased long ago to keep. The thirty-five letters, 1897-1930, are essentially travel reports written from Spain, France, Italy, England, Austria, Norway, Egypt, Northern Africa, the American West, and the Orient. Filed chronologically, they are rich in descriptions of scenery, cultural attractions, accommodations, and local color. Perhaps because they were intended for many eyes, they seem less personal than much of Thomas's correspondence. A few carry noteworthy observations or discuss unusually interesting matters. Writing from Montana in 1918 she commented on Janette Rankin's senatorial campaign and asserted that trousers were the only genuinely liberated dress for women. In 1922, writing from Bombay, she declared that she had been in love with four different men and could have married any of them. A 1927 letter from Bernard Berenson's residence, I Tatti, contained an account of her presentation to the Queen of England. Circulated with it as an enclosure was a letter Thomas had received from Hilda Worthington Smith depicting the eagerness and intensity of students in the Summer School for Women Workers in Industry.

Reel: 33

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Outgoing Correspondence: Personal Letterbooks.

October 25, 1929 - August 27, 1930

Surviving M. Carey Thomas personal letterbooks are microfilmed on Reels 34 and 35. It would appear that this is an incomplete series; there are gaps in the sequence, even from the 1930s, the years most fully covered by these volumes. Because of the varying lengths of these letterbooks, a strictly chronological arrangement was not feasible for the microfilm.

Therefore the earliest of the volumes appears at the end of Reel 35. Reel 34 is comprised of one volume only, consisting of copies of letters from October 25, 1929 to August 27, 1930. This letterbook may probably be regarded as typical in subject matter and volume of Thomas's correspondence during most of her retirement years. A sizeable amount of her mail dealt with personal business and social matters: ordering and returning goods; declining social invitations and requests to speak; managing her private investments and her mother's estate; engaging and instructing servants; and occasionally expressing her views on matters of current interest. In addition there is a great deal of correspondence about Bryn Mawr College, particularly the Board of Directors' composition and business, the College Inn, the Low Buildings, the Summer School for Women Workers in Industry, and fund raising. (Note: Many of these letters undoubtedly duplicate items filed elsewhere in the collection -- either additional carbons or recipient copies. Expending the staff time necessary to search out and withdraw such duplicates prior to microfilming was not feasible within the time and budget constraints of this project.).

Reel: 34

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Outgoing Correspondence: Personal Letterbooks.

1904-1908 and 1931-1935

Microfilm Reel 35 is composed of four personal letterbooks of M. Carey Thomas from the 1930s and one from the years 1904-1908. The technical quality of the 1930s letterbooks is generally very poor with faint carbon copies of handwritten letters comprising much of the content. These letterbooks consist almost entirely of personal business correspondence. The volume deriving from February 29, 1932 - July 19, 1932 discusses Carey Thomas's fear of bankruptcy and her concurrent unwillingness to give up the creature comforts (massage, automobiles, servants, etc.) to which she had become accustomed. A couple of individual items document her persisting interest in the international peace movement and the Bryn Mawr College campus. On January 4, 1932, she congratulated Mary Woolley on her appointment as a delegate to the Disarmament Conference, adding her advice that the Nine Powers ought to agree together not to sell arms to aggressive nations. Writing to Mrs. Edmund B. Wilson on November 11 of the previous year, she affirmed that no honor would please her more than having the Bryn Mawr library named for her. Perhaps the most potentially useful of the personal letterbooks is the one preserving correspondence dated March 7, 1904 - October 29, 1908. There are no clues as to why this isolated volume survives or indeed as to whether companion personal letterbooks from this period ever existed. If it is part of a series, it is perhaps fortunate that this one is the survivor for it contains substantive letters to numerous addressees about the suffrage movement. Thomas's activity in raising the Susan B. Anthony Guaranteed Fund is extensively documented. Other suffrage topics are the College Equal Suffrage League; Jane Addams's suffrage lectures; and constitutional policy, including Anna Howard Shaw's opinion that men should not be permitted to join the Equal Suffrage League (quoted to Susan Walker FitzGerald in a letter of December 12, 1907). A second important topic is the renovation of the Deanery, correspondence about which begins in late 1907 and continues in heavy volume through three-quarters of 1908. In addition there is a slight sprinkling of family correspondence, private business letters, and mail about college matters.

Reel: 35

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: C.A. Abbey - Brown, Shipley & Co.

Letters from M. Carey Thomas's personal correspondents filed alphabetically begin on Reel 36. Correspondents with surnames beginning with the letter A and most of those beginning with the letter B are microfilmed on this reel. In addition, letters from authors who could not be identified - either because the signature was missing or because the letter was unsigned or was signed only with initials or a nickname not identified with any known Thomas correspondent - have been grouped together under the rubric "author unknown" and filed and microfilmed in alphabetical sequence. There are several brief runs of interesting personal letters in this group. Almost fifty letters (1872-1879) from Howland friend, Libbie Conkey Arnes, survive, preserving her observations about her life and her friendship with Carey Thomas. Mary Snowden Thomas Braithwaite, Carey Thomas's aunt, is represented by ten letters spanning fifty-six years (1863-1919). These illustrate the enduring warmth and affection that existed in the extended Thomas family. There are, as well, some thirty-three letters (1866-1934) from Mary Smith Berenson to her cousin. Leavened by Mary's charming style and zest for life, these convey mostly family and personal news with a sprinkling of gossip about the Berensons' international set in the later years. Although the number of letters focused on women's concerns on this reel is not great, the variety of interests and issues represented is striking: Madeline Vaughan Abbott (Era); Jane Addams (suffrage rally); Mary C. Allison (the pointlessness of women's lives); Mary Anderson (Era and conditions of working women); Lucy E. Anthony (personal news of Susan B. Anthony and Anna Howard Shaw, memorials to the latter); Susan B. Anthony (autographed card and photograph); Vera A. Bailey (child labor legislation); Rachel Barrett (soliciting a contribution for a tribute to Emmeline Pankhurst); Harriot Stanton Blatch (the New York City women's suffrage parade); and Theodora Bosanquet (Ifuw). Among the notable individual items are a letter from Ada Hart Arlett, proposing to dedicate a book to Thomas, and one from Margaret Ayer Barnes, who featured President Thomas as a character in a novel set at Bryn Mawr College. A youthful friend, Edward P. Allinson, solicited from Thomas in 1879 an article on German education for publication in *The Alumnus*, a Quaker periodical whose collaborators included Bessie King, Francis Gummere, and Richard Cadbury, as well as Thomas and Allinson. The penultimate group of letters (about 125) on this reel is that of Lawrence E. Brown & Company regarding Thomas's personal finances, i.e. stock transactions, expenditures, accounts, taxes, loans, and investments. Five Brown, Shipley, and Company items dealing exclusively with banking business follow.

Reel: 36

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Eleanor Brownell - Julia H. Caverno.

The bulk of correspondence on Reel 37 is from various members of the Carey family, including M. Carey Thomas's sister, Margaret Thomas Carey. Represented by approximately 130 letters (1872-1935), Margaret found her subject matter in the daily lives of herself, her husband, her children, and her circle of Baltimore friends and relatives. Her letters from the 1910s and 1920s also provide information about the Bryn Mawr School, on whose Board of Managers she served. The most numerous group of letters on this reel (about 200 items, 1924-1933) derives from James Carey, 3rd, an attorney who acted for a time as agent and manager of his aunt's real estate investments. Notwithstanding a modicum of personal news, this is essentially business correspondence. In it the oscillations and eventual frustration of Carey Thomas's expectations of huge profits from her real estate holdings in Baltimore and Western Maryland can be traced. Other Carey relatives are typically represented by a few items, usually containing personal news and/or thanks for gifts or entertainment. Among the remaining correspondence the letters of Richard Cadbury, Helen Maxwell Campbell, Carrie Chapman Catt, and Edward Capps merit special attention. Confiding to her his literary aspirations and experimentations, Cadbury (12 letters, 1879-1881) challenged Thomas to develop her own creative spirit. In 1922 Campbell described the limited educational opportunities in Korea, where she was living, and the problems that Japanese rule had created for that country. Catt's five letters (1924-1931) concern the National Conference of Women's Organizations, the peace movement, and the award of the M. Carey Thomas prize to Jane Addams. There are approximately thirty-five letters from Edward Capps, all on the subject of the Athens Hostel, a primary interest of Thomas's during the first decade of her retirement.

Reel: 37

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Caroline Chadwick-Collins - Duval & Eagen.

The only considerable run of correspondence on Reel 38 is the nearly one hundred letters of Lucy M. Donnelly (1904-1935). Deferential in tone and gossipy in content, these letters chronicle personal and Bryn Mawr College events. Because Donnelly remained a close friend of Carey Thomas's sister, Helen Thomas Flexner, her letters occasionally carry Flexner family news. In a letter of April 8, 1922, Donnelly reported that Edith Hamilton, following her resignation as headmistress of the Bryn Mawr School, was openly hostile toward Thomas. Other correspondence of note is scattered among the small bodies of letters from a number of sources. In four letters (1879-1883) Eva Channing described conditions faced by women scholars studying in Leipzig and Paris. Ada Comstock (14 letters, 1914-1933) wrote of her career and personal activities, the Athens Hostel, her plans to speak at Bryn Mawr College and to visit Carey Thomas in the Deanery. There are letters from two leading nineteenth century women physicians, Emma B. Culbertson and Elizabeth M. Cushier. Caroline Chadwick-Collins's letters (1922-34) concern current BMC topics: the Summer School for Women Workers in Industry, the Alumnae Association, the college publicity office, Thomas's bust by Paulanship; plans for the M. Carey Thomas Award ceremony honoring Jane Addams; and the gift of the Deanery to the Alumnae Association. William C. Dennis's letters reveal that in the 1916 faculty crisis, he advised President Thomas not to file a libel suit against the Public Ledger, although it was his legal opinion that the newspaper had indeed been guilty of libel. Writing in 1935, George W. Corner paid tribute to the scientific work of Florence Sabin, a candidate for the M. Carey Thomas Award. Business correspondence includes Hugh R. Dent's letters regarding Thomas's efforts to sell a part of her art collection. Among the authors of unusually eloquent or penetrating letters written in appreciation of Thomas's leadership as an educator or of her generosity are the following: George W. Child, Edith B. Chipman, Anne Carey Thomas Clarke, Henry Collins, Ada Comstock, Margaret T. Corwin, Emma L. Davis, Helena S. Dudley, and Esther Claudman Dunn.

Reel: 38

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Mortimer Lamson Earle - D.K. Este Fisher.

Two very long runs of correspondence dominate the material microfilmed on Reel 39. The letters of Elizabeth "Bessie" King Ellicott, Carey Thomas's cousin, friend, and confidante, span more than twenty years (1870-1893) and comprise about seventy items. The swaggering, tomboyish quality of the earliest letters is converted in later correspondence into an emphasis on feminist concerns. Aspiring to a career as an artist, Bessie studied painting for several years in Baltimore, but her father's opposition and her own poor health thwarted her hopes to continue her studies abroad. During a period of personal crisis in the early 1880s, she discussed the agonizing conflict between marriage and a career for women. Congratulating Carey Thomas on winning her Ph.D. degree, Bessie concluded: "such a practical demonstration that women can triumph over difficulties and can have better brains than men clears up more difficulties than any amount of talk ..." (December 13, 1882). Because of her delicate health (she suffered from a lung disorder, probably tuberculosis, in her early twenties) Bessie spent several winters in the South to escape the harsh Baltimore weather. During one such exile, she recalled the pleasures of conversation over cigarettes with Carey and wished that they could again share such a diversion. Bessie King's last letters to Thomas concern the Johns Hopkins University Medical School fund drive, which eventually resulted in irreconcilable differences of opinion and finally in the total estrangement of the former companions. The letters of D.K. Este Fisher, 1908-1935, which occupy more than half the reel, relate to Carey Thomas's legal and financial affairs. Fisher succeeded his father, Judge William Fisher, as Mary Garrett's attorney. The earliest letters in this group concern Carey Thomas's and Mary Garrett's wills. The settlement of Garrett's estate and defense against a legal action brought by the Garrett interests generated a deluge of letters. After the resolution of the suit and the distribution of Mary Garrett's estate, Fisher continued to advise Thomas about her business interests, particularly her real estate holdings. In the 1930s these letters reveal the serious financial problems Thomas experienced as her expenses exceeded her income and her investments proved to be stubbornly illiquid. During her later years, the writing of her will was a perennial topic of correspondence between Thomas and her counsel. Of the minor correspondents whose letters also appear on this reel, only those of George M. Engler (regarding Thomas's real property investments) and of the Fidelity-Philadelphia Trust Company, exceed two items.

Reel: 39

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Irving Fisher - Helen Thomas Flexner. (1880-1924)

Except for the first fifty or so frames, Reel 40 is made up entirely of the letters of Helen Thomas Flexner, Carey Thomas's beloved and devoted youngest sister. Prior to her marriage in 1903, Helen's letters furnish information about Thomas family activities, personal news, especially her travels and studies at Bryn Mawr College and abroad, and the BMC English department (Helen was a reader in the essay section from 1896-1903). Letters from the years 1903-1924 record Helen and Simon Flexner's social life, Simon's career and honors, family vacations, their travels and health, the births and boyhoods of their sons, and Helen's progress with a novel she was writing. She was deeply solicitous about the health and welfare of her older sister. Among the correspondence at the beginning of the reel, the letters of William Fisher, which are about personal matters rather than legal business, and of Abraham Flexner (mostly about the Athens Hostel) are noteworthy.

Reel: 40

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Helen Thomas Flexner, - Hannah R. Garrett. 1925-35

The first five hundred frames of this reel conclude the letters of Helen Thomas Flexner (1925-1935). Helen's letters continue in the vein of those on the preceding reel, containing family and personal news, appreciations and criticisms of books and cultural events, political comment, and expressions of solicitude about Carey Thomas's health and well-being. In a letter of September 6, 1929, she acknowledged receipt of Lady Chatterley's Lover and other banned books, exulting in Carey's cleverness in having bound them in covers of scientific tomes. As an executor of her sister's will, Helen promised to carry out both its letter and its spirit. A second five hundred frames bears the correspondence of Helen's husband Simon, her sons William Welch and James Thomas, and a daughter-in-law, Magdalen Hupfel Flexner. Beginning with winsome childhood notes, William's and James's correspondence concludes with adult letters about their respective careers: teaching and writing. Simon Flexner's correspondence with Carey Thomas conveys his generosity, erudition, affection, and goodwill. His frequent subjects were the illness and treatment of Mary Worthington, who died in 1912 of a congenital heart problem, and Mary Garrett, whose leukemia was diagnosed at Rockefeller Institute and treated according to the recommendations of its staff. (Note: Simon Flexner's Rockefeller Institute Papers at the American Philosophical Society contain additional Carey Thomas correspondence with both Helen and Simon Flexner. A private collection of Thomas and Flexner family Papers remains in the hands of James C. Thomas Flexner.) Reel 41 concludes with letters of minor correspondents. Roger Fry wrote in 1905 of his plans to be in Philadelphia and of his hopes to call at the Deanery. John J. Foley, who served for many years as superintendent of the Bryn Mawr College buildings and grounds and who oversaw the maintenance of the Deanery, is represented by about twenty letters. Correspondence of Samuel T. Freeman & Co. with Thomas concerns the appraisal of the Deanery furnishings, its decorative and fine art, and arrangements for sale of her prints and engravings on a consignment basis.

Reel: 41

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming
Correspondence: Letters of Mary Garrett.
1876-1891

Correspondence on Reel 42 encompasses the first fifteen years of the friendship between Mary Garrett and M. Carey Thomas. Though very infrequent at the outset, the letters gradually become more numerous; but at no time during this period does the outflow reach the volume of later correspondence. In tone the letters often are marked by a formal reserve, but intermittently and increasingly they become highly personal, containing frank statements of Mary Garrett's despair over her health and the absence of a central commitment or productive work in her life. Garrett's personal situation changed drastically during these years. In the late 1870s and early 1880s she wrote often from Europe, from American resorts, and from the west where she travelled with her parents. In their company she met such luminaries as Herbert Spencer, Robert Browning, and California's Romualdo Pacheco. Although she enjoyed the opportunities it provided, she often complained about the restrictions of travelling with her parents. Their control over her life is shown by her father's demand in August 1879 that she give up any further efforts to prepare herself for study at the Harvard Annex in order to devote herself to his interests. This style of life with its mixed benefits and limitations came to an end for Mary Garrett in 1883 and 1884 when first her mother and then her father died. This was only the beginning of family tragedy for Mary Garrett. In 1888 her brother Harrison died in a boating accident. The same year Mary accompanied her eldest brother, Robert, and sister-in-law, Mary Frick Garrett, on a trip around the world which constituted the first stage of Robert's treatment for mental and emotional illness. From points on this trip some of Garrett's most interesting travel letters were written: the Flathead Indian Reservation in Idaho; San Francisco; Kobe, Japan; the Nile; and Berlin. Mary Garrett probably worked hard on her letters to Carey Thomas at this time, reporting incidents, impressions, cultural events (music and theatre, paintings and architecture), and the comforts, or lack thereof, of her accommodations and of the climate. The change in Mary Garrett's family situation was accompanied by changes in her own mental and physical well being. In her early letters, she exhibits a certain zest for the active life including canoeing and camping out (August 11, 1879), but as her health suffered from the strain of family tragedies and from the stress of her philanthropic and civic activities, her letters become crowded with details of her illnesses, ailments, and treatment. Although in her lifetime Garrett suffered from a trying series of genuine physical disorders, many of her symptoms -- fatigue, backache, insomnia, headaches, depression -- are clearly psychosomatic, and she recognized them as such. During the illness of Carey's mother (December, 1887) Garrett suggested that Carey was fortunate to have work to occupy her: "I am sure that the reason women break down more rapidly than men under great troubles is because they have no absorbing occupation to take their minds from their sorrows and cares." Garrett made two attempts at creating for herself absorbing occupations in this period. In financial support and time devoted to the enterprise, she was the leading member of the group that founded the Bryn Mawr School in Baltimore. Her

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

letters at this time are laden with comment, information, and anxiety, manifesting unstinting pursuit of the school's welfare. A later undertaking, revealed less in detail, was the organization of women on a national basis to raise a fund to endow the Medical School of the Johns Hopkins University.

Reel: 42

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Letters of Mary Garrett. 1892-April, 1894

The twenty-eight months covered by correspondence on Reel 43 were busy, and in many ways, pivotal ones in Mary Garrett's life. Perhaps because of the activity and tension involved, she seems to have suffered from very poor health which she treated by cures at a European spa and by a self-imposed and -directed "rest cure" in New York City. During this period Mary Garrett developed her technique of influencing, through the offer of virtually irresistible gifts, the policies of educational institutions. After a great deal of introspection and financial calculation, she determined that she would personally make up the difference between the funds raised by the Women's Committee for the Johns Hopkins University Medical School and the full amount required for the endowment of the school. On December 9, 1892, she reported to Thomas that she had presented her offer and her conditions to a representative of the Board of Trustees of the University. During the following two months negotiations between the two sides progressed irregularly to an eventual agreement, and the Jhums ceased to be a primary topic of correspondence. It was swiftly replaced by another protracted and absorbing concern: the candidacy of M. Carey Thomas for the presidency of Bryn Mawr College and the opposition of a substantial number of the Board of Trustees to her appointment. When Thomas thought the fight might not be worth the effort, Garrett encouraged her to remain steadfast in her ambition (August 30, 1892): "I am not unsympathetic about yr. college reluctances, and I recognize how much you are giving up, but that chained woman does so sorely need the helping hand -- the very strongest -- & needs it now at once, and you can do so much where you are, that I can not help feeling as if you ought to stay there a few years longer." The following March, Garrett, wishing to add to her moral encouragement an offer of tangible support, consulted with Carey Thomas about her desire to tender the BMC Board of Trustees an annual gift to the college of \$10,000 throughout her life if Thomas were president of the college. She was elated when Thomas acquiesced in her plan, and was even more gratified when she finally received word that the appointment had been made. Congratulating Thomas on the appointment she noted, "It will mean so much ... to have the power and opportunities of such a position and I am so happy that you will be much more able to help things as we want them helped..." Garrett continued to support Thomas with wholehearted approval of her policies and by defending her against all criticism. She scornfully dismissed, for example, David Scull's advice that Carey should cultivate meekness, self-conquest, and gentleness (January 23, 1894).

Reel: 43

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Letters of Mary Garrett. May 1894-April 1895
Mary E. Garrett's letters to M. Carey Thomas, by 1894 of daily frequency, characteristically contain full recapitulations of her daily routine, social engagements, health, travels, and reading. In addition, their content is augmented by Garrett's reactions to Thomas's letters. Although sometimes cryptic when read in isolation, when associated with Carey Thomas's letters, they provide insight into Garrett's particular contribution -- as advisor, confidante, and steadfast supporter -- to Thomas's career. These letters abound with responses to Thomas's reports of Bryn Mawr College matters. Garrett also comments frequently on Bryn Mawr School business and policy. A typewritten letter of February 6, 1895, addressed to "Dear Girls" (Thomas and Mamie Gwinn) furnishes an example of the "business" or "school" letters which Garrett often mentions having written and of which only a few survive. Garrett's emerging commitment to women's suffrage (a cause she seems to have adopted with a greater early fervor than Thomas) is expressed in a letter of May 1, 1894: "I am more and more convicted and conscience-stricken over doing absolutely nothing in connection with Woman Suffrage, when it is so absolutely essential to the accomplishment of everything we have most at heart -- I wish I could think of some way --". Reel 44 is rife with allusions to personal conflicts, as the network of Baltimore friendships, which had provided so much intellectual stimulation to its members and ultimately produced the Bryn Mawr School as a tangible symbol of its value, was wrecked by the pressures of personal rivalries, personality conflicts, and differences of opinion. Garrett wrote on May 21, 1894 that she was glad Julia Rogers was no longer in Baltimore; two months later (July 31) she warned Thomas and Gwinn against reconciling with Bessie King. She also spoke of her difficulties in getting along with Mamie and even to quarrels with Thomas (March 1895). A developing breach with her sister-in-law, Alice Garrett, was mentioned in October 1894 and again the following April.

Reel: 44

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Letters of Mary Garrett. May 1895-September 1896
Burdensome personal and financial problems converged in Mary E. Garrett's life in the span of time covered by correspondence on Reel 45. Relations with her family, which had already begun to deteriorate, were further inflamed by her decision to press for an investigation of the financial records of her father's estate and to force a division of its holdings among the heirs. To accomplish this, she retained the legal services of Robert deForest and Judge William Fisher, relaying their advice to Thomas and consulting with her about various questions that arose. Garrett's action in this matter was provoked in part by the poor performance of the B & O Railroad under the managers who followed her father and brothers and in part by her own uncertain financial situation. She occasionally wrote of her indebtedness (apparently created by ready cash-flow difficulties rather than a basic failure of income to match outflow) and her efforts to curb her personal expenses. In spite of the cooling of her relations with her family, her letters bear evidence of the vestiges of her strong attachment to them. When she heard a report that the Princeton glee club, with which one of her nephews was travelling, had been captured by Indians, she telegraphed the Secretary of War and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to ascertain that the group was safe (July 1895). The death of her brother Robert in July 1896 affected her deeply. During this stressful period, Garrett apparently relied heavily on Thomas for emotional support. She frequently chided her friend for failure to write regularly or for disappointing her with letters that were hurried and brief.

Reel: 45

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Letters of Mary Garrett. October 1896 - 1897

In addition to recording her health problems and treatment, her daily routine, her social engagements and cultural interests, Mary Garrett wrote extensively at this time about her own and Carey Thomas's personal financial situations. Fearing that knowledge of a Garrett sell-out would drive down the price, she secretly divested herself of B & O Railroad stock, in order to raise money to meet her pledge to the Johns Hopkins University Medical School and to cover her other expenses. At this time, she assumed the responsibility of balancing and rectifying Thomas's personal account books, an undertaking which she frequently alluded to in her letters. Although her correspondence remains remarkably discreet about any allowance or financial gifts she may have made to Thomas, Garrett asserted in a July 18, 1897 letter: "I do not want to put any definite limit to the amount for you to use. It is clear that while you stay at the college you will need at least \$5000 in addition to your present income." Several matters which arose during this period indicate a growing tendency for the two women to act jointly whenever circumstances permitted. Garrett financed and supervised an extensive renovation of the Deanery under the artistic guidance of Lockwood deForest. She further exercised her penchant for interior design by furnishing an apartment she had rented in New York City, which she referred to in her letters as "our flat." Moreover she actively abetted Thomas's unsolicited and unwanted interference in the divorce of her sister Grace Thomas Worthington by contributing the services of an office employee and soliciting the legal advice of her attorney, William Fisher. The bitter upshot of this episode for Garrett and Thomas was a harsh criticism of Thomas's principles extrapolated from testimony used against Grace. Garrett forwarded to Thomas a letter of Henry K. Douglas to William Fisher, in which this charge was repeated, as an enclosure to an October 10, 1896 letter. Garrett's rising resentment against the demands Mamie Gwinn made on Thomas's time, such as their summer travel together in 1897, was increasingly being made manifest. Garrett's letters from November 1896 document an unusual degree of absorption in political events, as she explicitly acknowledged her frustration at being disenfranchised and implicitly reflected the dread with which she contemplated a possible William Jennings Bryan victory. She confided that she had influenced her servants to vote for William McKinley. Thomas's letters to Garrett, informal and often hastily written, bear numerous examples of her life-long weakness in spelling. In her replies, Garrett listed the misspelled words, often with charming messages excusing her friend from fault in the errors.

Reel: 46

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Letters of Mary Garrett. 1898 - October 1899

As in all of Mary Garrett's letters to Carey Thomas, health is a subject of copious comment in the correspondence on Reel 47. Garrett fretted about Thomas's well being, and also recounted her own complaints and treatments, which may have included an operation in the spring of 1899. (This was possibly a mastectomy; Garrett was unusually cryptic in writing of this problem, which she said she referred to publicly as a shoulder inflammation.) Along with her more or less chronic poor health, Garrett suffered from loneliness, longing to spend more time with Thomas. When a group of Bryn Mawr alumnae decided to commission a portrait of President Thomas as a gift to the college, Garrett offered her assessment of the most highly regarded active portraitists, suggesting that Cecilia Beaux would be the "safest" choice but that either John S. Sargent or James Whistler would be "infinitely nicer" if he were to do his best work. After Sargent had been decided upon, Garrett accompanied Thomas on a trip to England to sit for the portrait in the summer of 1899. Garrett's observations on such issues as the war with Spain, Theodore Roosevelt's election, and the danger of the nation's embarking on an imperialist course (November 19, 1898), although infrequent are trenchant.

Reel: 47

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Letters of Mary Garrett. November 1899 - April 1901

Judging from her letters to Carey Thomas, this was a period of discontent for Mary E. Garrett. She spent much of the time covered by correspondence on Reel 48 in Europe. She lived in Italy during the final months of 1899, returning to Baltimore in the middle of January 1900. By the end of February she was en route to Europe once again, this time with Sarah Jewett, the novelist, and Mrs. James Fields as companions. Their travels, which took them to Italy, Greece, Turkey, and France, failed to dispel Garrett's depression. After visiting the Paris Exposition where she saw Thomas's portrait by Sargent on exhibit (May 21, 1900), she returned to the United States in June. Thereafter she divided her time between Baltimore and New York. Although Garrett was not often explicit about the causes of her low spirits (except for recurrent bouts of poor health), it seems likely that the dispute over the settlement of her father's estate was a contributing factor. In fact, the hope that the matter might be more expeditiously settled if she were not on the scene was one of her stated motives for going abroad. Moreover, she was short of money pending the settlement, a situation that was made worse by expensive renovations of her Baltimore residence and by the heavy legal fees she incurred. Garrett's civic interest was aroused by the possibility that she might be named to the Baltimore Board of Education (January 1900), and she was probably more disappointed than she revealed when the appointment fell through (apparently because of a failure of Baltimore women to unite behind her candidacy). However, her continuing interest in education had a ready outlet in the Bryn Mawr School, and its business and policies are never long absent from her correspondence. In February 1901, Garrett and Thomas disagreed about an unspecified BMS matter, provoking Garrett to charge her friend with resorting to unconstitutional tactics. In spite of her generally depressed spirits, Garrett was capable of being diverted by new experiences. On February 12, 1900, she described an automobile trip: "I assure you the turning around and still more the backing of the thing is a most uncanny experience but while you are going straight ahead it is very nice."

Reel: 48

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Letters of Mary Garrett. May 1901 - 1902

Much of the contents of Mary E. Garrett's letters to Carey Thomas during this time are a chronicle of the events of her daily life and a register of her reactions to Thomas's own letters. The Bryn Mawr School was, as always, an important interest. More than ever, Garrett commented on Bryn Mawr College matters, particularly the major fund drive which occupied much of Thomas's time and attention from the fall of 1901 through the spring of 1902. On November 14, 1901, Garrett sympathized, "It is dreadful to me to see you wearing yourself out and using all your talents and power without the larger opportunities that great endowments give..." On April 29, 1902, she related her private effort to induce Andrew Carnegie to make a contribution to the Bryn Mawr College building program, an appeal which he turned down. Later she wrote of her distress at not being able to contribute to the drive (May 20, 1902) and of her joy when it was successfully completed (June 1, 1902). Garrett conceived the idea of having John Singer Sargent paint the "great group of doctors -- Welch, Osler, Halsted, and Kelly" of the Johns Hopkins Hospital at this time (December 8, 1902). Comments on current events, her reading, social activities, diversions, etc. occur throughout her letters.

Reel: 49

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Letters of Mary Garrett. 1903-1904

A number of Mary Garrett's most absorbing avocations are represented in her correspondence on Reel 40. Her activities as a Baltimore hostess, a role often combined with her other interests, are documented. In a letter of February 17, 1903, she described a luncheon she had given for Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., repeating salient bits of conversation. On December 6 of the same year, she hosted a dinner arranged for the purpose of introducing Robert deForest to leaders of the Baltimore reform movement. Her plans to entertain Carey Thomas's cousins, Bernard and Mary Berenson, in February 1904 miscarried because of a major fire in downtown Baltimore which resulted in extensive damages to Garrett's rental properties. During this emergency, she lamented (February 8, 1904): "It is a time when having no man to even hear news from - much less to expect help or advice from, is hard." Her personal business is, as always, frequently mentioned, though rarely with substantive information about her holdings or her own management of her property and investments. Scattered throughout the reel are observations about the Bryn Mawr School and its headmistress, Edith Hamilton. Garrett wrote on February 12, 1903, that she had discouraged an idea of Hamilton's which might have led to the admission of Jews to the school. She later criticized Hamilton's administration of the business side of the school (March 21, 1904) and even her character (May 26, 1904). Pursuing her idea of a John S. Sargent group portrait of four Johns Hopkins physicians, Garrett secured the artist's commitment to the project (March 10, 1903). However, when she met him at the mansion of Mrs. Jack Gardner of Boston (April 6, 1903), he protested that he was over-scheduled and requested a postponement. (Garrett described Mrs. Gardner's mansion in a letter of March 21, 1903.) To Mary Garrett's disappointment, the portrait was not painted during the time span covered by this reel. Garrett's recreational reading included Henry James and Edith Wharton, and she often expressed her appraisal and appreciation of their work. Asked in April 1904 to accept the nomination of the presidency of the Baltimore Good Government Club, she declined after a few days consideration. Although she did not say so, it seems likely that her decision was based in part on her plans to move into the Deanery following the departure of Mamie Gwinn.

Reel: 50

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Letters of Mary Garrett. July 1904 - Undated

Reel 51 carries all of Mary Garrett's letters written to M. Carey Thomas between the time she moved into the Deanery following Mamie Gwinn's marriage in June of 1904 and her death in April 1915. Undated letters and fragments conclude the reel. Although the amount of correspondence is light because the two women were infrequently apart during this time, this is an interesting lot of documents. Garrett's letters concern Bryn Mawr College business (Garrett, when Thomas was away from the Deanery, apparently went through her mail forwarding those letters requiring immediate attention and retaining others pending her return); the health of both women; suffrage matters; Garrett's personal business; news of the Thomas extended family, with whom Garrett developed a warm, quasi-familial relationship, and of her own family; current events; cultural interests; and social events. Although Garrett's health deteriorated steadily during this time, she rarely complained of her ailments. When she was hospitalized in January 1913 for complications arising from a seriously infected thumb, she was distressed by the sensational tone of newspaper reports about her illness, including an obituary. Garrett's correspondence after she moved into the Deanery is markedly more cheerful than her earlier letters, probably indicating that congenial companionship had relieved her tendency toward depression. There is evidence, however, that the household was not uniformly harmonious and that Thomas exploded from time to time in fits of temper directed against her housemate. Writing on September 3, 1909, of such an outburst, Garrett likened it to "demonic possession." The undated items, of which there are more than one hundred, are generally letters sent by messenger and telegrams. Some of the subjects of this correspondence are the Johns Hopkins University Medical School fund drive, the Bryn Mawr School, social activities, and holiday greetings.

Reel: 51

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: John B. Garrett - Irma Hochstein. Although no correspondent on Reel 52 is represented by a lengthy run of letters (the longest consisting of about 80 items), several groups merit special note. The letters of Carolyn Ladd Hall (1873-1890), Francis B. Gummere (1876-1880), and Mathilde Gruneisen (1879-1886) derive from M. Carey Thomas's student days in boarding school and in Germany. Hall's letters, beginning with their friendship at Howland, cover their respective advanced educations and conclude with her plans to serve as the first physical education instructor at Bryn Mawr College. Gummere's five letters, for the most part about books, professors, and other intellectual interests, include his announcement on August 3, 1879, of his engagement to Amelia Mott. The fourteen letters of Mathilde Gruneisen, most of which are in German, contain advice as to how Thomas should approach German educational authorities and about living conditions in Germany. The letters of Virginia Gildersleeve (1919-1935) regard the London and Paris clubhouses of the International Federation of University Women and the Athens Hostel. Josephine Goldmark discussed the need to reorganize the Summer School for Women Workers in Industry in 1926, and Frances Hand similarly wrote about the Summer School and also about the decisions, debates, and policies of the Bryn Mawr College Board of Directors. Laura D. Gill's four 1912 letters present her version of her conflict with Carey Thomas over the reorganization of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae. Ida Husted Harper (1919-1930) enclosed for Thomas a copy of her memorial leaflet in honor of Anna Howard Shaw. Later letters pertain to her aborted effort to write a full scale biography of Shaw. Dr. William S. Halsted, whose letters are the most numerous on this reel, wrote mostly about the health and treatment of Thomas and other patients. In 1899, referring to his treatment of Mary Garrett's tumor, he stated that French physicians were absurdly uninformed about this field of medical science. Rather frequently he mentioned his treatment of members of the Bryn Mawr College community. Writing of Nettie Stevens's illness in May 1912, he asserted that he would never accept a fee from a college professor. Halsted's letters, warm and personal even when confined to professional matters, often convey his appreciation for invitations and gifts from Garrett and/or Thomas. The reel begins with the letters of members of several Garrett families. John B. and Philip C. Garrett, brothers and members of the Bryn Mawr College Board of Trustees, are represented by letters of condolence following the death of James C. Thomas. Robert Garrett, Mary Garrett's nephew, wrote after her death about financial support for her aunt and brother. Michael Garrett and William C. Garrett, both of whom had been Mary Garrett's retainers, corresponded with Thomas about the care and upkeep of Montebello and the Garrett mansion at 101 West Monument Street in Baltimore.

Reel: 52

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Mamie Gwinn Hodder - Katherine Bell Lewis. Reel 53 begins with the letters of Mary Mackall (Mamie) Gwinn Hodder, M. Carey Thomas's friend and housemate for twenty-five years both in Germany and at Bryn Mawr College. Because they were so rarely apart during that time, Gwinn's letters comprise only about 150 frames. The letters are most numerous from the year 1882 when Gwinn apparently travelled while Thomas prepared herself for her doctoral examinations and completed work on her dissertation and other required papers. From Berlin, Venice, and Florence, Gwinn wrote of her sightseeing, her reading, her accommodations and expenses. Occasionally complaining of loneliness and longing for Thomas's company, she carried on by mail what seems to have been her accustomed role of advisor to Thomas about her studies and her writing. Regarding the latter, she warned in the fall of 1882, "I am seized by anxiety as to your punctuation and terror as to your spelling." Following their return to the United States, her letters reveal her wide ranging and apposite advice regarding the academic program at Bryn Mawr College extending to entrance requirements, methods of instruction, the organization of various departments, the requirements and facilities for gymnasium and music, etc. Gwinn's letters, usually affectionate and often playful, are, however, sometimes biting critical of Thomas. Letters to Thomas about women's suffrage from Edith Houghton, Julia Ward Howe, and Ethel Puffer Howes are microfilmed on this reel. The campaign for the entry of the United States into the League of Nations is the subject of correspondence from Ellen Gowen Hood, Helen B. Jastrow, and the League of Nations Non-Partisan Association. Dolly Kirk and Georgianna Goddard King, both of whom Thomas singled out in their undergraduate days and assisted and sponsored in their careers, reiterated their continuing gratitude. King's correspondence pertains, as well, to her scholarship and publications. Susan M. Kingsbury, professor in the Carola Woerishoffer Department of Social Research, discussed problems in the Summer School for Women Workers in Industry, expressed her appreciation for Thomas's advice and assistance, and in a letter of February 3, 1924, announced her opposition to the Equal Rights Amendment. William James's letters recommending candidates for the Bryn Mawr College faculty, including George Santayana (March 22, 1889), are outstanding examples of the genre. The letters of BMC comptroller Sandy L. Hurst (1923-1935) document Thomas's considerable business with the college following her retirement. John G. Johnson provided legal advice about personal and college matters.

Reel: 53

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Liberty & Co. - M. Mauriac. Nearly half of Reel 54 is composed of the letters of Millicent Carey McIntosh, Carey Thomas's favorite niece. In more than one hundred letters (1915-1934) Millicent recorded for her aunt's information her impressions, activities, aspirations, and progress through Bryn Mawr College, graduate work, a career, and marriage. In her fresh and spirited epistolary style, as a Bryn Mawr College undergraduate (1916-1920), Millicent wrote of her courses, recreations, May Day, the Christian Association, Student Self-Government, and her numerous other interests. Millicent perceived herself as being less scholarly and more concerned with the welfare of individuals, especially the underprivileged, than Carey Thomas wished her to be. Tactfully and respectfully, Millicent conveyed to her aunt her plans and decisions while in college and upon graduation, apparently accommodating them whenever possible to Thomas's ideals. Thus she undertook graduate study at Newnham in accordance with Thomas's advice, but only after allowing herself a postgraduate year in Baltimore doing Ywca work. Her letters from Newnham provide a full account of her courses, friends, living quarters, and her observations about English society and social conditions. The series concludes with letters regarding her tenure as headmistress of the Brearley School, her marriage to Dr. Rustin McIntosh, and the birth of her twins. (McIntosh was careless in dating letters. In order to achieve chronological sequence, dates have been supplied whenever possible on the basis of content.) The second largest group of materials (about 150 items, 1916-1935) on this reel is the correspondence of James Barton Longacre, who handled Thomas's personal insurance business and shared with her an interest in etchings and other fine and decorative arts. The nine letters of Helen Taft Manning (1929-1934) provide a scant amount of Bryn Mawr College news, along with somewhat more personal information concerning her household, her travels, and her academic work.

Reel: 54

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Lucia Ames Mead - Virginia Roderick.

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Letters to M. Carey Thomas from some 165 correspondents are microfilmed on Reel 55. Most are represented by one or a few letters of personal business, sympathy, appreciation, etc. There are, nonetheless, a number of interesting groups and individual items. The letters of Thomas's predecessor in the presidency of Bryn Mawr College, James E. Rhoads, and her successors as dean (Marion Reilly) and president (Marion Edwards Park) are present. Rhoads's seven letters (1883-1894) are highlighted by two items. First, his response (fragmentary) to Thomas's application for the presidency in 1883 in which he expressed his appreciation of her strong credentials but confessed to having reservations about her youth and inexperience. Secondly, a confidential 1893 letter reporting the machinations of the nominating committee of the Board of Trustees as it tried to find another candidate for the office, and counselling patience on Thomas's part. Reilly's letters (1913-1927) pertain to Bryn Mawr College and Bryn Mawr School business, the College Inn, and the League of Nations Non-Partisan Association. Over one hundred of Marion E. Park's letters (1922-1935) to her predecessor are preserved. Courteous and informative, these concern college news and business, Thomas's personal business with the college, and Bryn Mawr's Fiftieth Anniversary celebration. (Note: The Marion E. Park Papers in the BMC Archives have been searched for Thomas materials; numerous letters from that collection are included in this group. They have not been separately targeted since it is assumed that the microfilm itself will be cited without reference to distinctive parent collections.) John D. Rockefeller, Jr.'s letters, (1902-1910) chiefly regarding his family's gifts to the college, appear on this reel as do two letters of the Carnegie Foundation's Henry S. Pritchett. In a 1928 letter Pritchett accused Woodrow Wilson of having, in order to support his political ambitions, applied for a Carnegie pension prior to the time when he would have been properly eligible. Among the women with whom Thomas became acquainted through membership in various women's organizations, Alice Upton Pearmain, whom she apparently met through the Association of Collegiate Alumnae, became one of her closest personal friends. Pearmain's letters provide personal news and social pleasantries along with information about A.C.A. (later The Association of American University Women) affairs. Correspondence from Virginia Newcomb, Ellen Pendleton, and Alice Parsons pertains to support of the education of women on an international scale, particularly the Athens Hostel and the Paris Club House of the International Federation of Women. Seven letters from Emmeline Pankhurst (1911-1927) record news of her private life, her public activities, and her impressions of Carey Thomas. Writing on September 13, 1921, she said to Thomas: "...you who are by temperament a benevolent autocrat..." Striking correspondence from Carey Thomas's childhood and student days includes the letters of her Nicholson relatives, of Ruth Putnam (1876-1882), and of Gertrude Mead (1879-1883). Thomas's resignation from the Society of Friends in 1927 is documented in a letter from J. Hollowell Park.

Reel: 55

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Julia R. Rogers - Eugene F. Saxton. Reel 56 begins with the letters of Julia Rebecca Rogers (about 50 items, 1879-1888), one of the circle of Baltimore women who referred to themselves as the "Friday Evening." Unreserved, probing, and occasionally caustic, Rogers analyzed the probability of marriage for each of the five friends, the dilemma of deciding between marriage and a career, the demands of passion, and the devotion of women to one another. Her warm friendship with Mary Garrett and her concern for Garrett's health and well being are explicit in her letters. She confided her hopes for travel abroad and her design for private study, including rather elaborate plans for joint engagement of tutors with Mary Garrett. Rogers's letters from 1885-1888 to a large extent pertain to the operation of the Bryn Mawr School. Although these refer obliquely to the dissension within the Board of Managers, which eventually culminated in Rogers's resignation and estrangement from the rest of the committee, they remain friendly for the most part. A second important group of letters are those of the Russells: Alys Smith Russell, Bertrand Russell, and Edith Finch Russell. Alys's letters (approximately 200, 1880-1934) are sparse prior to 1900 and most frequent in the 1920s and 1930s. All convey personal and family news; the later ones discuss as well Ifuw matters (a major interest of Alys's), plans for travel with Thomas, and British politics. Bertrand's three letters (1897-1903) pertain to his publications and Thomas's friendly criticisms of one of his articles. Edith Finch reported her progress on her dissertation and on cataloguing the Deanery library. A third major body of correspondence is that of the Safe Deposit and Trust Company (1915-1935). Numbering about 235, these letters regard Carey Thomas's real estate holdings in Maryland. They reveal conditions and characteristics of her property, taxes, purchase offers, etc. Between October 1922 and December 1929, when James Carey 3rd was agent for this property, there is no correspondence.

Reel: 56

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: J. Henry Scattergood - Anna Howard Shaw.

More than 250 letters of Anna Howard Shaw to M. Carey Thomas constitute almost the entire body of material on Reel 57. Written between 1906 and 1919, this correspondence relates importantly and informatively to suffrage matters, including the financial and personal contributions of Thomas and Mary E. Garrett to the movement. Shaw reported her calendar of activities and travels, laid out her tactics and programs, and revealed conflicts and power struggles within the association. Pervading her letters is her admiration for and appreciation of Thomas's support, her executive ability, and her clear-sightedness; she cited particularly Thomas's "splendid personal presence" (November 24, 1911) and her influence exerted on Shaw's behalf at the Nashville convention (February 14, 1915). Shaw denounced as opponents of the suffrage cause the Catholic church (September 1, 1912) and the liquor industry (April 11, 1913). This valuable group of papers is concluded by approximately fifty undated items, some of them fragmentary. Although undated letters often tend to be of low quality, this lot contains substantive material. In addition to Shaw's correspondence, the letters of sixteen other individuals are microfilmed on Reel 57. Among these are ten letters of David Scull (1893-1906), all of which are interwoven with a pattern of recurring advice to Thomas to moderate her demands and practise tact in her dealings with the Board of Trustees. Elizabeth Shepley Sargeant's six letters (1922-1928) concerning an article she hoped to write about Thomas and the possibility of expanding it into a full scale biography terminate with her gracious acquiescence in Thomas's decision not to let her story be told in advance of her autobiography.

Reel: 57

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Edna Aston Shearer - Hannah Whitall Smith.

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Reel 58 offers rich veins of information from several sources about early influences on M. Carey Thomas's development. The more than eighty letters of Anna M. Shipley (1872-1882) preserve a record of a friendship which was for a time intense and confidential. Passionate relationships, between men and women and between women, appear to have greatly interested Shipley. She knew Francis Gummere and Richard Cadbury and was aware of Thomas's attraction to the former. Her letters were often very religious and, when she was ill, rather morbid. As she matured Shipley's interests diverged from Thomas's, and her later letters reflect her not unwilling reconciliation to the typical life style of the nineteenth century woman. The letters of a correspondent who never became reconciled to the conventional restriction on women's lives, Hannah Whitall Smith, conclude this reel. From first to last, her writings (84 items, 1861-1911) are a fascinating lot. Following a childhood accident which left Carey Thomas severely burned, Smith wrote her beloved niece a series of remarkable letters to amuse her during her long convalescence. Illustrated with caricatures and pictures cut from magazines, they embodied imaginative stories in which family members appear thinly disguised in real life and fantastic situations. Her husband, Carey's Uncle Robert, often is seen as a buffoon in these anecdotes. Hannah's letters are affectionate, even doting, highly religious, and intensely feminist -- characteristics which persisted in her correspondence with Carey throughout her life. Smith, whose example and advice were undoubtedly important influences on Carey's life and career, intervened directly on her behalf at the time of the establishment of Bryn Mawr College with a recommendation to the Board of Trustees that they should appoint Carey to the presidency. She then wrote to Thomas (January 15, 1884) urging her not to reject the offer of a lesser position if she was not appointed president. Smith was convinced, she added, that her niece would become so invaluable to the operation of the college that the "old dears" would have no choice but to name her president whenever the office should become vacant. All of her later letters are full of admiration and affection for Thomas and praise for her accomplishments. Hannah Smith's letters are preceded by about fifty letters (1864-1872) from her son Frank. Two and a half years older than Carey, Frank was obviously a favorite playmate, dear friend, and intellectual companion. His early letters are loving, teasing, jocular. In their correspondence, Frank and Carey called one another by such nicknames as Jo and Laurie or Hiawatha and Minnehaha. In later letters Frank wrote of his ambitions and his education and confided his crushes on girls with whom they were mutually acquainted. Praising Carey's spirit and intelligence, he encouraged her to extend the range of her interests and aspirations. A pocket diary he kept between January and September 1871 is microfilmed with his letters. The letters of Howland teacher, Jane M. Slocum, though few, were directed toward subjects that were crucial in Carey Thomas's life. Advocating her attendance at Cornell University, Slocum inspired Thomas to think of a career as a scholar: "I have been thinking lately that you are the

woman who must fit herself for a chair in some University. That is the next thing to be done." (February 23, 1877). Additional correspondence on this reel includes the letters of Caroline McCormick Slade about alumnae business, the Deanery, etc. and of Eva Sikelianos about her efforts to qualify for a Federal Theatre Project grant for her work.

Reel: 58

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Hilda Worthington Smith - Henry M. Thomas, Sr. (1872-1919)

The letters of a legion of M. Carey Thomas's relatives -- Logan Pearsall Smith, Karen Costelloe Stephen and her daughters, Ray and Christopher Strachey, Anne Tatum, and Rebecca Nicholson Taylor, in addition to a dozen Thomases -- are microfilmed on Reel 59. Although many of them are represented by single or a few items of purely family concerns, the letters of several are of wider interest. Logan Pearsall Smith's ten letters, 1889-1935, comment on his writing, his activities, and his reading. In 1908 he sent Thomas a pamphlet of his sonnets, and on April 25 of that year he credited her advice with having shattered his "prison walls," freeing him to pursue a literary career. The correspondence of Rachel Costelloe Strachey (63 items, 1904-1934) records her suffrage work including, most notably a 1908-1909 tour of the United States with Anna Howard Shaw. She related the progress at Smith College toward the establishment of a suffrage society, and from Vassar she reported President Taylor's ban on suffrage meetings (March 1909). Her later letters chiefly regard her political and literary work. Rebecca (Bessie) Nicholson Taylor's letters, scattered between 1862 and 1934, begin with early childhood missives and conclude with information about the family genealogy to assist Thomas in her work on her autobiography. The letters of Carey Thomas's youngest brother Frank (1876-1935) are concentrated most heavily in her retirement years and principally concern her investments in securities with Frank serving as her advisor and broker. His letters reveal the severity of Carey Thomas's financial problems after the depression had eroded the value of her investments. The final groups of letters on this reel are those of Henry M. Thomas, Jr. (Hal) and Henry M. Thomas, Sr. (Harry) (1872-1929), Carey Thomas's brother and nephew. Both were doctors and their letters contain personal medical advice and general medical news. The letters of both are loving and appreciative, for Carey Thomas was particularly generous toward this family upon whom she relied for companionship, affection, and health care. The letters of Henry, Sr. are concluded on Reel 60. Among the non-family letters, those of Hilda Worthington Smith dealing with the Summer School for Women Workers in Industry, some of which provide moving descriptions of the students and their appreciation of the opportunities offered by the school, are an invaluable lot.

Reel: 59

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Henry M. Thomas S. - Mary Clark Nicholson Thomas. (1920-1924)

Reel 60 is dominated by the letters of Carey Thomas's brother Harry and his wife and of her father James Carey Thomas. The letters of Henry M. Thomas, are continued from the preceding reel. As in his earlier letters, Harry chatted about his career, his family, his health, the Johns Hopkins Hospital and Medical School, his avocations and recreation, and other matters of personal interest. In addition, there are intermittent comments on politics, world events, and books. In 1923, he mentioned in a few letters his collaboration with Carey on a peace plan which they entered in the Bok competition. The letters of Harry's wife, Josephine Carey Thomas (Zoe), number more than one hundred and fifty spanning the years 1899-1934. These are generally concerned with news of her family, health, activities, travel, etc. The upkeep and rental of Coombe Edge (the family summer cottage), the Bryn Mawr School, and the Mary E. Garrett Memorial Room at the Johns Hopkins Medical School were matters of mutual interest to the sisters-in-law. Carey Thomas was evidently very generous to Harry and Zoe, and the latter's correspondence teems with thanks for gifts, trips, and after Harry's death, for a monthly "allowance." James Carey Thomas's letters to his daughter (94 items, 1861-1897) are warmly affectionate, sometimes eloquent, and uniformly supportive. His early letters, which are loving and religious in expression, chiefly concern family matters. However, beginning with a letter of March 24, 1874, describing the background of the establishment of the Johns Hopkins University, higher education becomes perhaps the most important topic of his correspondence. On March 22, 1880, he recounted a debate among the Hopkins trustees over the possible admission of women. In June 1889 and thereafter he informed and advised his daughter about progress toward founding a medical school under the auspices of the University. His letters from 1893 reflect the particular blend of pain and pride he felt during the discussions within the Bryn Mawr College Board of Trustees, of which he was a charter member, regarding his daughter's candidacy for the office of president. On March 21, 1893, he promised her, "I may be depended upon to help thee the best I can and to stand by thee..."

Reel: 60

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Mary Whitall Thomas - Charles B. Vibbert.

The first thousand frames of correspondence on Reel 61 contain the letters Carey Thomas received from her mother, Mary Whitall Thomas, from childhood into adulthood (1861-1887). From first to last Mary Thomas's letters to her eldest child express maternal love, indulgence, and dedication to her daughter's well being. At the same time, and with perhaps greater emphasis and reiteration, she filled her letters with admonitions regarding Carey's conduct, temperament, and character, and with exhortations urging piety and religious commitment. In her earliest letters Mary Thomas warned her daughter against being boisterous and entreated her to be polite and good. At Howland she adjured her not to take the lead in pranks (January 27, 1873), to treat all men and boys with "supreme indifference" (May 1873), and not to study too hard (recurrent). In keeping with Quaker teaching, she opposed her daughter's having a class ring, and when she learned that Carey had dressed as a man to take part in a school activity, she professed herself to be surprised and mortified (February 18, 1874). When Carey went to Cornell, Mary Thomas kept up much the same type of advice and admonition about her personal conduct and religious duties. In addition, she consistently reported family and local news, including her own temperance activities. The establishment of the Johns Hopkins University was a matter of great interest to Mary Thomas, and it was her early judgment (June 10, 1874) that it ought not be co-educational. She later modified this concept, at least as regards the graduate school and suggested that Carey might apply for a University fellowship (April 3, 1876). Her imagination seems to have been completely captured by the prospect of a Quaker college, a "Haverford for girls." On May 2, 1877, she informed Carey of Dr. Taylor's plans to endow such an institution, and thereafter she reported news of the prospective college and encouraged Carey to think of seeking a position there. (See for example letters of January 30, 1880; April 6, 1880; October 5, 1880; February 14, 1881; March 7, 1881; November 16, 1881; and December 27, 1881.) While Carey Thomas was abroad, her mother wrote to her regularly, reporting family news, particularly of the youngest members, her own activities, and local Baltimore events. Although she wanted Carey to spend money as needed to dress well and be comfortable, she related the family's financial strictures to her daughter and counseled economy. There are very few letters after Carey returned to the United States. Seventeen letters of Mary Van Kleeck (1924-1925) carry her side of what seems to have been an entirely friendly debate about the Equal Rights Amendment and legislation to protect women workers. Letters of a number of other minor correspondents, including Carey's elementary school teacher, Rebecca Marble Thomas (12 items, 1871-1899) are microfilmed at the end of the reel.

Reel: 61

Papers of M. Carey Thomas

Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Incoming Correspondence: Margaret Hicks Volkmann - Helen Jane Zillman.

Among the letters of more than ninety correspondents on the final reel of Carey Thomas's personal mail are a number conveying advice, gratitude and affection which were bestowed upon her from diverse sources. The letters of Margaret Hicks Volkmann, a Cornell friend who signed herself "Clytie," are a small but interesting group (8 items, 1879-1882). The early letters pertain to her thoughts and ideals, her ambition for a career in architecture and her admiration for Carey. In a lengthy 1880 letter, Hicks announced her engagement and defended her decision against the adverse reaction she obviously expected from Thomas. Her fiance, she noted, shared her belief in the importance of women's equal work outside of the home. Such a union, she hoped, would help to transform the institution of marriage. The correspondence of Carey's uncle, James Whitall (35 letters, 1883-1894) is pertinent not only to Thomas's personal life but also to her career and to the early history of Bryn Mawr College. As a member of the original Board of Trustees named in Joseph Taylor's will, Whitall advised his niece regarding whom she should address and in what terms she should couch her application for the presidency prior to the opening of the college. A decade later he again counseled her on tactics in seeking appointment as president. Urging patience, tact, and silence, he provided, in addition to advice, his solid support for Thomas personally and for her candidacy. The letters of Carey's sister, Grace Thomas Worthington, and her nephew, Harold Worthington, both sizeable lots, chronicle the ups and downs of intra-family relations. Grace's divorce in 1896 created a major crisis in the Thomas family. In a letter of September 14, 1896, Grace announced with dignity and without rancor her impending divorce. She requested her family to accept the decision and not to create problems for her estranged husband. Grace's later letters concern her personal life and her children's health, activities, and education (which Thomas and Mary Garrett helped to finance). Harold Worthington's letters recount his studies, travel, recreation, interests, etc. He was inducted into the army in 1917 and sent to France the following year. His several letters from abroad describe the serviceman's life and his own reactions to his situation. Most are accompanied by typescripts which were probably made by Carey Thomas for circulation among family and friends. On June 18, 1918, Harold wrote to his aunt: "I think you would enjoy being a Brigade or Division commander and I think you would be a very good one too ... it requires those qualities of organization and executive ability which you have ..." Following Mary Garrett's death, Harold accompanied Carey Thomas on a trip around the world. Later reminiscing about the experience, he asserted, "Never shall I forget the reception you received in Japan and the difficulty you had in escaping admirers." (June 4, 1927) Although represented by only one letter each, Beatrice Potter Webb and Frances Willard both communicated interesting feminist principles. Writing in 1888 Willard urged Thomas to influence Mary Garrett to assume the presidency of the B & O Railroad in order to demonstrate concretely women's capacity for executive and business leadership. Webb explained in 1924 why she supported legislative protection of the

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

rights of women workers, in apparent opposition to the principle of equality of the sexes.

Reel: 62

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Family Letters: Author Unknown - Sarah Whitall Nicholson. Correspondence of thirty Whitall and Thomas family members is filmed on Reel 63; most of them are represented by only an item or two. Letters of the minor correspondents are typically from American and English members of the Society of Friends, most of whom were related by blood as well as by sect, exchanging personal news and information about Quaker activities and doctrine. The letters of Elizabeth King and three items relating to health and medicine are exceptions to the pattern. The latter include a letter of Dr. Elizabeth M. Cushier reporting on her examination of M. Carey Thomas in 1896 and two pamphlets advertising a clover blossom cure for cancer. The letters of Elizabeth (Bessie) King (Ellicott) depict the experiences and observations of a contemporary and close friend of Carey Thomas's when Bessie was a student at Howland and later a private art student in Baltimore. Her ambivalence about her future and her opinion that for a woman marriage was incompatible with a serious career as an artist are explicit and implicit in her letters to Mamie Gwinn. Two thirds of the reel consists of the letters of Sarah Whitall Nicholson, 1852-1869; the remainder of her letters, 1871-1885, are filmed on Reel 64. Following her marriage to William H. Nicholson in 1855, Sarah lived on a farm in Linden, N.J., and her letters portray the pleasures and restrictions of life in the country. Sarah's letters are addressed to her sisters, her parents, and other relatives; occasionally they bear messages in her husband's hand. She wrote of housework and household management, books, Quaker Meetings and private devotions, births, illness, deaths, marriages, visits, and other local news. In 1852 she visited a Friends school in Providence, R.I. and described it in some detail. Three years later she wrote a tourist's account of Washington, D.C. where she and William honey-mooned. Her letters from January through April 1856, written during her first pregnancy, show that she was apprehensive about the dangers of childbirth. Beginning in 1859, religion -- theological reading, devotions, church meetings, doubts, convictions, sermons, missionary work, personal testimony -- became a recurring and preponderant theme in Nicholson's letters, particularly those addressed to her sister, Mary. Occasional references to the horrors of the Civil War and concern about the Thomases' situation in Baltimore appear in the 1860s. Sarah commented from time to time about Minnie Thomas's childhood activities and developing personality. At the end of the 1860s Nicholson returned to Rhode Island for a visit and attended a service in a Newport synogogue. On the same trip she saw President Grant who impressed her as "almost too democratic" in his appearance and accoutrements.

Reel: 63

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Family Letters: Sarah Whitall Nicholson - Robert Pearsall Smith.

Reel 64 begins with the remaining correspondence of Sarah Whitall Nicholson (continued from Reel 63) and concludes with the letters of Hannah Whitall Smith and her son. Between the sisters' letters is filmed the correspondence of eight other individuals including, most notably, Ann Whitall Scattergood and Joseph Scattergood. These letters of Whitall forebearers, 1814-1822, are among the earliest in the collection. They regard family news, Quaker Meetings, schisms within the Society of Friends, and household matters. The letters of Sarah Whitall Nicholson, 1871-1885 and undated, are similar in content to those on Reel 63, being directed chiefly to family matters and religion. As she grew older, Nicholson wrote increasingly of health and medical treatment. In a letter in the early 1870s she asserted that she considered herself to be as capable as a doctor in treating her children. In the 1880s she became absorbed in the study of faith healing and undertook a personal "mind cure" as her own health began to fail. Sarah Nicholson's correspondence is followed by two of her husband's letters, in one of which he expresses his attitude toward the Civil War, declaring he would not want to see it end at the price of union. The letters of Hannah Whitall Smith, addressed to her sisters, her parents, and her husband, report her daily life in Millville, N.J., Germantown, Pa., and England. They are enlivened by her often reiterated joy in children, including the young Minnie Thomas, whom she singled out as enjoying a special place in the family circle. In interesting scattered remarks she reflects her own and Quaker attitudes toward the Civil War, the draft, and the welfare of Confederate prisoners (apparently a favorite charity of her husband, Robert). A fragment from 1857-59 gives an account of the release of a prisoner (probably a Negro), who was freed as result of the testimony of a Negro. Quaker opinion had supported the right of the Negro to testify in Court. Many of Hannah's letters are devoted to religious and temperance matters, including occasional reports of responses to her published writings and to her husband's preaching. In a letter of September 28, 1876, she reported with distaste a visit to her parents by Catherine Beecher who was trying to arouse sympathy for her brother in the Victoria Woodhull scandal. The missionary activities of the Smiths are frequently alluded to but are not fully documented in Hannah's correspondence.

Reel: 64

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Family Letters: Abraham Taber - James Carey Thomas. Correspondence of Tatum ancestors and Thomas relatives of M. Carey Thomas is filmed on Reel 65. The Tatum letters, 1816-1859, several of which were addressed to Mary Tatum when she was in boarding school, convey contemporary attitudes toward education of young women, as well as family, local, and church news. The letters of James Carey Thomas, 1848-1865, make up the last part of the reel. Most of Thomas's letters are addressed to Mary Whitall, his fiancée and later his wife. Prior to their marriage in 1855, James wrote Mary at length about his thoughts and emotions generally, and his longing for her, but included only minimal information about local events and his practice. After their marriage, when Mary typically made two or more trips a year to visit her parents in Philadelphia, Atlantic City, or at their summer place near Haddonfield, N.J., he continued to write chiefly about his affection and concern for his wife and their growing family. His letters from the 1860s report, although usually not in detail, events in Baltimore during the Civil War. Thomas's love for all his children, and particularly his solicitude for Minnie when she was recuperating from her burn in 1864 and 1865, is well manifested in his letters. In addition to his wife, James wrote to Sarah Whitall Nicholson, James Whitall, John Mickle Whitall, and Mary Tatum Whitall. These letters related not only family news but also give considerable information about Quaker services, activities, etc. Although Thomas usually wrote of positive developments, there is an interesting report of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting in a letter of April 20, 1852, in which he describes the factionalism that marred the meeting.

Reel: 65

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Family Letters: James Carey Thomas - Mary Whitall Thomas. Most of James Carey Thomas's letters, 1866-1896, addressed to his wife and his in-laws, relate to family matters and to the Society of Friends. Even when he addressed secular issues, it was often in the context of church involvement. In April 1869 he wrote of a Friends Meeting in Philadelphia on the "Indian Matter," and the following year he characterized the treatment of Indians as a "sad, sad history of wrong and outrage." In 1881 and again in the 1890's, he travelled to Europe. From there he wrote to his children not only about sightseeing but also about Quaker functions he had attended and leading Quakers with whom he had become acquainted or re-acquainted. There is a small amount of information about Thomas's medical practice and civic activities in his correspondence. The letters of Mary Whitall Thomas, which comprise nearly 3,000 frames, begin on Reel 66 with her letters of 1854-1867. Mary Thomas's letters are addressed to her parents, her sisters, her husband, and her brother, with those to her parents being the most numerous. In her early letters, she wrote almost exclusively about her family and household routine. Her letters describe Carey Thomas's infancy and childhood years: her health, her education, her relations with her parents and siblings, and her developing personality. Mary Thomas's letters express her deep affection for all of her family and occasionally betray the home-sickness of the first years in Baltimore. In addition, she occasionally wrote of her charitable work and frequently of Quaker meetings and of her own doctrinal questions and convictions. There are rare evidences of an un-Quakerlike interest in fashionable clothes.

Reel: 66

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Family Letters: Mary Whitall Thomas. Mary Whitall Thomas's letters to her family, 1868-1877, regard the health, temperament, interests, and activities of Carey Thomas and her siblings. The addressees, as in her earlier letters, were her parents, her sisters, and her husband. After 1874 there are a few letters to her son John, who was a student at Haverford. Several interesting letters describe incidents in Carey Thomas's formative years. On February 19, 1872, Mary wrote to Hannah Smith of Minnie's rebellion against the ideas expressed in a sermon on the theme, "the head of the woman is the man." Later in the same year she commented on the effect Frank Smith's death had on his cousin Minnie. In letters written in the fall of 1872, Mary described a journey to Howland Institute where Carey was enrolled and related her impressions of the school. Thereafter, she remarked from time to time about Carey's letters and her activities during vacations. In addition to the ever present family news, Mary frequently wrote to her sisters about religion and temperance.

Reel: 67

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Family Letters: Mary Whitall Thomas - James Whitall. Mary Whitall Thomas's letters are concluded on Reel 68. Her letters, addressed to her parents, husband, siblings, and children, continue to pertain chiefly to her household, her family, her church, and her civic activities. At the end of the 1870s she described Carey Thomas's preparations for her departure for Germany, and in 1881 she wrote a first hand report of Carey's situation after visiting her in the course of a European tour with her husband and two of her children. Mary Thomas served as president of the Maryland Women's Christian Temperance Union in the early 1880s, and although none of her official correspondence is present, she wrote to her sisters in some detail about W.C.T.U. organization, activities, and policies. There are interesting letters in 1882 and thereafter about Thomas's conviction that the temperance cause would be weakened by any linkage with the women's suffrage movement, a position in which Frances Willard did not concur. In contrast with her conservative position on suffrage, Thomas wrote forcefully in 1887 that women would not accept inferior roles within the church. Near the end of her life Mary Thomas, like her sister Sarah, became a believer in faith healing. After she had become terminally ill with cancer, she attempted to cure herself through faith, and, for a while at least, was convinced that her health would be restored. The letters of James Whitall, 1855-1887, portray him as a loyal and generous brother. His monetary gifts to Mary Thomas after their father's death in 1877, with accompanying letters admonishing economy and repayment of debts, indicate that Carey Thomas's family was rather heavily in debt at the time she was studying abroad. Although James wrote mostly of family and church matters, in an exceptional letter of November 7, 1887, he discussed the electoral strength of the Prohibition ticket and speculated about the probable effects of a court test on the issue of whether or not brewers and distillers should be compensated for losses they might incur as result of prohibition.

Reel: 68

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Family Letters: John Mickle Whitall - Thomas K. Worthington.

The most numerous and interesting letters on the final reel of family correspondence in the M. Carey Thomas personal papers are those of M. Carey Thomas's maternal grandparents, John Mickle Whitall and Mary Tatum Whitall. John Mickle Whitall's letters, 1830-1873, include fourteen love letters written to Mary Tatum during their engagement in 1830. The remainder of his letters date from the period after the marriage of his daughter Mary, to whom most of them are addressed. The letters convey local and family news and give glimpses of the Whitall's personal life and private concerns. The general business climate is occasionally mentioned but details of Whitall's business enterprises do not appear. In letters of May and April 1863, Whitall recounts a visit to an insane asylum, a prison, and a military hospital in Harrisburg, Pa., to distribute pamphlets. The letters of Mary Tatum Whitall fall into two groups: approximately 126 written before her marriage in 1830 addressed to girl friends, relatives, and her fiance and 143 letters, 1856-1880, to her children, especially Mary Thomas. The early letters to her friends, Catherine Wistar and Lydia Lippincott, reflect her pleasure in reading, her appreciation of the beauties of nature and music, and her attitude toward marriage and death. "Girl talk" about friendship, clothes, suitors, visits, etc. predominates. Her later letters regard household matters, servants, visits, charity work, gifts and invitations to her children, and the health, growth, and characters of her grandchildren. There are two fragmentary journals, 1829-1835 and 1848-1849, which are essentially records of her religious devotions.

Reel: 69

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Third Party
Correspondence: Author unknown - Edith Heiser.

Third party correspondence (except for family letters) in the M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers is microfilmed on Reels 70, 71, and 72. Some of these letters undoubtedly were given or forwarded to Thomas by the recipient and retained by her with her own records. The bulk of these papers, however, are Mary E. Garrett's personal correspondence and came into Thomas's possession as part of Garrett's estate. The letters of Julia Rogers to and from Garrett and Mamie Gwinn Hodder's letters to Garrett make up the largest and most significant groups of correspondence. Other authors, who are listed at the end of each reel note, are typically represented by very few items. (Note: Mary Garrett's personal correspondence which is not relevant in any way to the principal themes of the Thomas papers -- for example, Garrett intra-family correspondence, personal business papers, letters from her physicians, attorneys, etc. -- has not been microfilmed but is available to qualified researchers in the Bryn Mawr College archives.) Microfilmed on Reel 70 are Mary E. Garrett's letters to correspondents other than Carey Thomas. The largest lot (more than 100 letters, 1876-1888) of these are to Julia R. Rogers with whom Garrett had an exceedingly close and unreserved friendship. Garrett sent Rogers very detailed accounts of her travels with her family in the American West (1876) and Europe (1880, 1883). In addition she recounted her reading, discussed her cultural interests, and described her social activities. In 1885 and thereafter she frequently alluded to the Bryn Mawr School and its operations. On September 28, 1885, writing about the school's admission policies, Garrett asserted that of the five members of the Board of Managers, only Mamie Gwinn had consistently opposed admittance of Jewesses. (Note: In accordance with an agreement dated June 17, 1889 (filed with Julia Rogers's letters to Mary Garrett), Rogers and Garrett reviewed both sides of their mutual correspondence, each expurgating and destroying whatever she chose. There are, therefore, many fragmentary items on both sides of this correspondence. Because they are so numerous, they have not been individually targeted as are fragmentary letters elsewhere in this series. Since dates are often missing, a high percentage of these letters have been filed according to postmarks or docketts which appear on the accompanying envelopes. Although there is no information available about the types of comments which were considered sensitive and removed from this correspondence, it is worth noting that relatively few references to M. Carey Thomas occur in this expurgated correspondence.) Ten letters from Mary Garrett to Mamie Gwinn Hodder (1879-1894) and a like amount to miscellaneous addressees are interspersed with Garrett's letters to Rogers. Other correspondence of particular interest on this reel includes Julia B. DeForest's letters regarding, among other things, her interest in medical education for women, and Andrew Carnegie's letters explaining his refusal to contribute to Bryn Mawr College. In a letter to J.J. McCook he denounced the great extravagance of Bryn Mawr's library. To Mary Garrett he communicated a more general objection: "I am not impressed with the advantages of advanced learning for women. The

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

violet not the Sun Flower, or the American Beauty, is the true type."

Reel: 70

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Third Party Correspondence: Mary Mackall Gwinn Hodder - Julia Rebecca Rogers. (1870-1883)

Third party correspondence (except for family letters) in the M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers is microfilmed on Reels 70, 71, and 72. Some of these letters undoubtedly were given or forwarded to Thomas by the recipient and retained by her with her own records. The bulk of these papers, however, are Mary E. Garrett's personal correspondence and came into Thomas's possession as part of Garrett's estate. The letters of Julia Rogers to and from Garrett and Mamie Gwinn Hodder's letters to Garrett make up the largest and most significant groups of correspondence. Other authors, who are listed at the end of each reel note, are typically represented by very few items. Reel 71 begins and ends with lengthy runs of correspondence addressed primarily to Mary E. Garrett. Beginning with the letters of Mamie Gwinn Hodder, it encompasses thirty-seven minor correspondents (only two - Mary Gertrude Mead and Ella Mench - have more than ten letters), and concludes with letters of Julia Rogers written prior to 1884. Mamie Gwinn Hodder's letters to Garrett (about 100 items dated 1887-1904) are a fortunate adjunct to the Thomas collection, for her personality is more fully revealed in these letters than in any other part of the collection. Literate, usually cordial, and occasionally touched with whimsy, her letters to Garrett are characterized by felicity of style, a gift for description, and impeccable use of the subjective. She is revealed as more introspective, probing, and philosophical than Carey Thomas. Prior to her final decision to accompany Thomas to Europe, Mamie's letters reflect her hesitation and uncertainty, which persisted up to the day she embarked. Once in Europe, however, she described enthusiastically her pleasure in the intellectual society that existed among professors and students and joyfully related novel experiences in Germany and elsewhere on the continent. After her return to the United States, her letters concern for the most part Bryn Mawr School business, social engagements, and Garrett's invitations and gifts. Rogers's letters to Garrett, which are far more numerous than Hodder's, are likewise informative about the circle of Baltimore friends who were influential in Carey Thomas's and one another's lives. Rogers wrote very fully about the events of her daily life, her intellectual interests, her literary ambitions, her charitable activities, etc. Often gossiping about friends and beaux in the 1870s, she appears to have been somewhat frivolous. By the early 1880s, however, the focus of her attention had shifted to a deep concern for intellectual training. In 1882 she studied for a term at Newnham, recording her experiences and impressions in her letters to Garrett.

Reel: 71

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Third Party Correspondence: Julia Rebecca Rogers - D.W. Wheeler.

(1884-1895)

Third party correspondence (except for family letters) in the M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers is microfilmed on Reels 70, 71, and 72. Some of these letters undoubtedly were given or forwarded to Thomas by the recipient and retained by her as part of her records. The bulk of these papers, however, are Mary E. Garrett's personal correspondence and came into Thomas's possession as part of Garrett's estate. The letters of Julia Rogers to and from Garrett and Mamie Gwinn Hodder's letters to Garrett make up the largest and most significant groups of correspondence. Other authors, who are listed at the end of each reel note, are typically represented by very few items. Julia R. Roger's letters to Mary E. Garrett and others conclude on Reel 72. Although the period of the greatest friendship between Rogers and Garrett had probably ended by 1884, Rogers continued to write warm and interesting letters to Garrett for another decade. Typically, Rogers letters contain recapitulations of her reading, social engagements, moods, health, diversions, and travels. She wrote also of fiction and book reviews which she submitted to Harpers, the Century, and the Nation; of her longings for religious belief (see particularly letters in the last months of 1888); of the furnishing and decorating of her residence in Baltimore (1884 and again in 1889); of the Bryn Mawr School; and of their mutual friends. After a visit to Bryn Mawr College she wrote of M. Carey Thomas (September 18, 1885): "She was friendly and very sweet ... All of her attractions come out there as they would not in society -- her head for business is clear and reasonable." Outstanding among the remaining correspondence on this reel are letters to and from William Welch. In 1922, William Howard Taft complimented Welch on his speech on the occasion of M. Carey Thomas's retirement, adding: "Miss Thomas is a real Builder." It would appear that Charles W. Eliot also wrote to Welch about this address. Instead of writing to praise Thomas, however, he apparently reiterated his old thesis that higher education disinclined women toward marriage and large families. A carbon copy of a letter from Welch to Eliot, disagreeing with these contentions but noting that reliable data to support final judgments on this matter was not yet available, is present.

Reel: 72

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers;
Autobiographical Materials.

From the time of her retirement in 1922 until her death in 1935, Carey Thomas ostensibly was engaged in work on her autobiography. Although no actual draft, or even any very sizeable fragments of a draft, survives, the project attracted the attention of a number of publishers (see their letters among the Incoming Personal Correspondence) and employed scores of hours of Thomas's time. The product is thousands of pages of documents collected by Thomas to serve as resource materials, rough sketches of early chapters, and a plethora of notes, many of which consist of a cryptic word or phrase scribbled on a half sheet of paper and squirrelled away for the time when it would evoke memories or recall ideas that Thomas wished to include in her memoirs. For the microfilm publication, this material has been arranged topically, with printed items (Reel 73) separated from manuscripts (Reels 74-76). Under some headings, specific and personal notes have been merged with general or theoretical material. Reel 73 is comprised of such printed materials as memorial leaflets and volumes, genealogies, and family-related ephemera. A list of titles follows the reel note on the microfilm. Reels 74, 75, and 76 are made up of a miscellany of manuscript materials: Thomas's autobiographical drafts (the integrity and continuity of some of these were difficult to establish and may be faulty), notes, memorabilia, excerpts from letters and books, memoranda, articles, documents, photographs, etc. The general headings on each reel are as follows: Reel 74 - Heredity and Ancestors Family and Childhood Intellectual Development and Religion Reel 75 - Career Friends and Friendship Famous People Known and Entertained Causes Reel 76 - Honors and Appreciations Health and Personality Avocations Biography and Autobiography Important Documents Photographs A list of the sub-topics under each general heading is microfilmed at the beginning of the reel. (Note: Thomas's cache of autobiographical materials also included a considerable number of letters. These have been interfiled with other correspondence in the appropriate series. Before being dispersed, however, each was marked in the upper right hand corner of the first page with a capital "A" lightly pencilled in, to indicate that it had been considered by Thomas to have relevance to her autobiography. Many of them also are annotated "Autobio" in Thomas's large, sprawling handwriting. A number of items in this group bear other markings, usually marginal linings in blue pencil, perhaps intended to set off extracts to be copied by a typist. Presumably these are Thomas's, although they may be the work of Edith Finch or someone else.)

Reel: 73-76

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Speeches,
Articles, and Resource Material.

Reels 77 and 78 consist of manuscripts of drafts, a few galley proofs and printed copies, etc. of M. Carey Thomas's speeches and articles, plus items presumably collected for use as resource material in preparation of her public addresses. Many of the speeches exist in the form of small pages of notes from which Thomas spoke, so that the risk that accidental loss or undetected disorder may have occurred is great. Moreover, Thomas cannibalized her speeches for re-use, resulting in numerous incomplete items. In some cases it might be possible to piece together portions from other speeches on the same or related topics to reconstruct an entire speech. When more than one version is present, the finished article or address precedes the draft or drafts. Any notes and source materials are filed last. A list of topics on each reel follows the reel note. (Note: See also a much larger group of Thomas's speeches among her Official Papers, Reels 181-185).

Reel: 77-78

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Travel Notes,
Records, etc.

An avid traveller throughout her life, Carey Thomas collected and retained guidebooks, itineraries, and records of her observations, accommodations, travel arrangements, etc. These have been divided by country or area visited and microfilmed on Reels 79 and 80. Generally, materials on Reel 79 pertain to Thomas's travel arrangements (including some correspondence relating solely to travel schedules and accommodations) or to her impressions of the places she visited, etc. Items on Reel 80 consist of guidebooks, railroad schedules, maps, articles, and pamphlets. There is also a sizable lot of postcards and photographs, the majority of which bear annotations in Thomas's handwriting; some of these probably accompanied Thomas's circular letters to her family (Reel 33).

Reel: 79-80

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Personal Business Papers.
Microfilmed on Reels 81 through 85 are M. Carey Thomas's extant personal business records (except for correspondence and bound records). Because of her inheritance of the bulk of Mary E. Garrett's property, certain of Garrett's business papers, such as her will, inventories of her personal property, and legal documents pertinent to the settlement of her estate, are included. In addition, there are accounts and other records relative to the estates of Mary Whitall Thomas and Edith Lowber, to Grace Thomas Worthington's investments, and to the Thomas family summer cottage, Coombe Edge. Reels 81 and 82 consist of general business papers arranged topically; Reel 83 contains inventories, auction lists, etc.; and Reels 84 and 85 are made up of bills and receipts (most of them from foreign travel). A list of materials microfilmed on each reel follows the reel note. (Note: Portions of Thomas's personal correspondence and volumes also concern her personal business. Consult the reel notes and reel lists to locate related material.)

Reel: 81-85

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Personal Papers; Miscellaneous Papers.
Reels 86-88 are made up of miscellaneous personal papers filed by subject or by genre. Materials on topics of interest to Thomas during her retirement - the Athens Hostel, the League of Nations Non-Partisan Association, the International Federation of University Women, Bryn Mawr College's buildings and grounds, Carola Woerishoffer Department of Social Economy and Social Research, and Summer School for Women Workers in Industry, and fine and decorative art objects which she purchased or sold - are microfilmed on Reel 86. Such miscellaneous groups of materials as business and personal calling cards, calculations, form letters and advertisements, invitations, lists, schedules for servants, notes, scraps, and fragments, etc. comprise Reel 87. Reel 88 is made up of printed and other materials collected by Thomas concerning health statistics and sundry other subjects and newspaper clippings.

Reel: 86-88

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 13.
December 23, 1897-May 12, 1898
Extant school-term letterbooks of M. Carey Thomas as president of Bryn Mawr College begin with volume number thirteen. There is no clue in existing records as to the exact nature of the twelve missing letterbooks. Certainly some of them must have contained Thomas's earlier presidential correspondence beginning in the fall of 1894 when she assumed office. It is most probable that the series began with James C. Rhoads' presidential records, although it is also possible that it was comprised of Thomas's correspondence from her term as dean of the college. With the first letter dated December 12, 1897, the volume encompasses slightly less than six months' correspondence. Thomas's letters are addressed to, among others, trustees, parents of BMC students, administrators of girls' preparatory schools, Bryn Mawr faculty members, the architectural firm of Cope & Stewardson (then engaged in the planning and construction of Pembroke dormitories), and members and officers of the Naples Table Association. This Association, created by several Eastern women's colleges, supported a research institute for women scholars at the Naples Zoological Station and was instrumental in developing an important group of women scientists through its other programs. Among the topics covered in the letterbook are faculty salaries, the organization and staffing of various academic departments, the search for a gymnasium director, the college budget, establishment of a program of BMC scholarships for Philadelphia public school graduates, the possible purchase by the college of the Bryn Mawr Hotel as an investment, efforts by the college and community to prevent a local tea house, the Red Rose Inn, from acquiring a liquor license, and the finances and policies of the Japanese Scholarship Committee, which supported Japanese students at BMC, and the Association for Maintaining the American Women's Table at the Zoological Station at Naples (usually shortened to the Naples Table Association).

Reel: 89

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 14.
May 12, 1898-September 5, 1898
M. Carey Thomas's presidential correspondence in Letterbook no. 14 concerns the summer business of the college. There are letters to trustees, particularly Henry Tatnall, David Scull, and Howard Comfort; letters to faculty members about curriculum changes and their courses; and letters about appropriations for library acquisitions. There is correspondence with Cope and Stewardson about plans for an apartment house for unmarried members of the faculty, an idea which was first broached by Thomas in a letter of May 13 to John G. Johnson, the college's legal counsel. On August 13, Thomas wrote to Ume Tsuda, a Japanese alumna, regarding Japanese students at Bryn Mawr.

Reel: 90

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 15.

September 5, 1898-December 14, 1898

Thomas's letters during the fall of 1898 are characterized by frequent references to her concern about budgetary and financial matters. Accounts of various college funds, as well as letters to trustees and faculty members regarding the extremely tight budget under which the college was operating are present. In addition the varied problems and duties the president handled are reflected in her correspondence. A letter of October 11 related an unpleasant situation which developed as result of the anti-Semitism of a student who had been assigned to room with a Jewish girl. On November 19, Thomas wrote to the college physician expressing her displeasure in learning that a reporter from the New York Times had copied records of student measurements, including height, weight, and other statistics which were kept on file. The opening of Low Buildings (an apartment house for unmarried women faculty), entrance examinations (discussed in letters to faculty and parents), and concern for preventing students from being over-worked were other topics of correspondence.

Reel: 91

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 16.

December 15, 1898-April 6, 1899

Along with routine correspondence about the day-to-day administration of the college, there are a number of letters on Reel 92 which manifest Thomas's activities and attitudes in respect to the broader concerns of women's education and educated women. In a letter of January 6 to Lucy Davis, Thomas declined to support a plan to raise money for a National University because, among other reasons, she was convinced that women would not be admitted to such an institution on equal grounds with men. Thomas wrote several letters to Kate Holladay Claghorn and Alice Upton Pearmain about the Association of Collegiate Alumnae (A.C.A.) affairs, including her own undertaking of the preparation of a statistical study intended to show that the health of college educated women was equal or superior to that of non-college women. On March 24, she promised Nicholas Murray Butler to write a monograph on women's education for a multi-volume study of education in America under his editorship. Thomas summarized what she believed to be the attitude of BMC faculty toward teaching women in a letter of March 17 to Elmer P. Kohler.

Reel: 92

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 17.

April 6, 1899-October 26, 1899

Routine correspondence in Letterbook no. 17 includes letters pertainint to the following: announcements of re-appointments of faculty and staff for the following year, scholarships available at Bryn Mawr College, discussion of Naples Table affairs, recommendations and evaluation of students and alumnae for employment, mostly as teachers. The letters of evaluation and recommendation which Thomas wrote were carefully done, containing specific relevant information about the academic record and character of the applicant. In an interesting letter of May 4, Thomas sent Caroline Bullock her assessment of the potential of women as college professors.

Reel: 93

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 18.

October 26, 1899-January 26, 1900

Letters reflecting M. Carey Thomas's interest in the national and international opportunities for, and attitudes toward, the higher education and employment of women highlight correspondence on Reel 94. There are letters to the presidents of other colleges and universities soliciting information and statistical data for her monograph on the higher education of women, correspondence regarding the Naples Table, and letters concerning plans for an exhibit on women's education at the Paris Exposition of 1900. In a letter to Mary A. Jordan written on November 4, Thomas urged that the Association of Collegiate Alumnae should continue to emphasize the health of college women, stating that charges of the debilitating effect of higher education on women were by no means dead. Concerning conditions and opportunities of employment, Thomas wrote to Jacob J. Seeds that women and men on the BMC faculty were paid equally for equal work. In her letter of December 19 to James Wood, she thanked him for an announcement of an opening at the New York State Reformatory for Women, expressing the hope that college women would begin to enter other professions than teaching.

Reel: 94

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 19.

January 26, 1900-May 9, 1900

Among President Thomas's routine administrative correspondence on Reel 95 are frequent letters to the trustees regarding faculty recruitment and salaries, college financial accounts, and building construction and upkeep. In addition, there are letters to Nicholas Murray Butler and others about the publication of Thomas's monograph on the higher education of women and to Alice U. Pearmain and others regarding her efforts to collect and collate statistics on the health of college women. The first Bryn Mawr College May Day fete was held in 1900, and on May 2 Thomas recorded the reaction of several members of the board of trustees to the celebration, including the express disapproval of John B. Garrett. In the spring of 1900, as at the times of other local elections in which issues important to the college were under consideration, Thomas wrote to male faculty members urging them to vote for candidates who favored the interests of the college. Among other items of special note are the following: a letter to Mrs. Gerard Fountain providing information about the plans for the library -- size, space utilization, costs, etc. -- to be used in soliciting a contribution from Andrew Carnegie; a letter of April 4 to Hugo Munsterberg acknowledging Bryn Mawr College's debt to German graduate study organization; and a letter to Evangeline W. Andrews (Mrs. Charles McLean Andrew) stating that as a mother of young children, she would not be eligible for a teaching position at Bryn Mawr College because her reliability could not be counted on.

Reel: 95

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 20.

May 10, 1900-December 11, 1900

There is heavy and substantive correspondence about the Association of Collegiate Alumnae, treating its publications, leadership, budget, and internal conflicts, in Letterbook no. 20. Correspondence about college affairs includes a letter to David Scull written on May 22 in which Thomas stated that as a matter of policy the college did not permit any Quaker minister to address the student body if he or she claimed to have felt a "concern" (a term used to denote a direct instruction from God). A pamphlet of Rules of the Faculty, printed in 1899 and bearing handwritten corrections updating it to January 28, 1901, which was tucked into the front of the volume, has been microfilmed where it was found.

Reel: 96

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 21.

December 11, 1900-February 27, 1901

Prompted by the first student death since the opening of the college, there is informative correspondence in this letterbook regarding the health care provided to the Bryn Mawr College student body. In reassuring frightened parents, Thomas listed anti-epidemic measures routinely taken at the college and described the nursing care given to sick students. Loss of faculty to larger and better endowed institutions was a recurring problem at Bryn Mawr. On January 21 Thomas announced to the Board of Trustees that Herbert Weir Smyth had been called to a Greek professorship at Harvard, a resignation which she deeply regretted. As a member of the College Entrance Examination Board, Thomas corresponded with Nicholas Murray Butler, Lucy P. Salmon, Herbert Weir Smyth and others about meetings and policies of the Board.

Reel: 97

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 22.

February 27, 1901-June 13, 1901

Among the topics of general correspondence on Reel 98 are faculty recruitment, fund raising, secondary education, and students' preparation for college. Thomas's correspondence about College Entrance Examination Board continues. In late February and March Thomas wrote accounts of a fire at the house of Professor Charlotte Angas Scott, with praise for the efficient and effective action of the student fire brigade and criticism of the poor response of the Ardmore Fire Company. A problem arising out of faculty housing resulted in considerable correspondence: the Board of Trustees maintained that \$12,000 which had been expended from the college endowment for construction of faculty houses must be repaid to the invested endowment fund of the College. Thomas argued that the money was safely and wisely invested and that to require its repayment out of the operating budget of the college would seriously and unnecessarily unbalance the budget.

Reel: 98

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 23.

June 13, 1901-January 6, 1902

The consequences, good and bad, arising from the growth in Bryn Mawr College's enrollment and physical plant are reflected in Thomas's correspondence in this letterbook. Preparations for the opening of the school year including student registration, assignments of students to faculty advisors, and arrangements for over-flow housing are discussed in September and October correspondence. Thomas communicated with John D. Rockefeller and others about his pledge of a matching gift of \$250,000 if she could raise an equal amount for construction of a dormitory, library, and heating plant. She continued to protest to the Trustees against their requirement of the repayment of a \$12,000 "loan" to principal. This, she argued, would prevent necessary redecoration and upkeep of the dormitories from being undertaken and the faculty from being enlarged. Among other matters of interest was a proposed visit to the college by Susan B. Anthony, about which Thomas wrote to Ida Husted Harper and Carrier Chapman Catt. Letters to and about Constance Applebee reflect Thomas's enthusiasm for introducing field hockey into the United States. Crises in the president's office were created by an outbreak of small pox among the grounds crew and by a student suicide. There are also letters about provision by Thomas -- and others whose aid she had enlisted -- for the payment of the tuition at Cornell University of Jessie Fauset, a Negro. This step apparently was taken in order to forestall an application by Fauset for admission to Bryn Mawr College.

Reel: 99

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 24.

January 7, 1902-April 7, 1902

M. Carey Thomas's responsibilities as president of a growing college and her attitudes as a feminist educator are recurrent themes in her correspondence in the first months of 1902. In a letter of January 9 to John G. Johnson, Thomas disclosed her plans for raising \$250,000 for the college building program. Accompanying this letter is a report of the college income and expenditures for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1901, a rare instance of comprehensive financial data in the letterbooks. A letter of March 18 contains an account of the burning of a dormitory, Denbigh Hall. Recurring correspondence includes: letters about college buildings and construction addressed to Cope & Stewardson, A.D. Houghton, and others; replies to requests for the loan of her portrait by Sargeant for exhibit in Philadelphia and other cities; and responses to requests that she speak to alumnae and other groups. As a feminist, she raised vigorous and cogent objections to the use of only masculine pronouns in communications of the college Entrance Examinations Board. To a fellow college president, James M. Taylor, she expounded the advantages of regular exercise and gymnasium courses for women students. She argued in a letter of February 7 to David Scull, that Bryn Mawr college faculty should not be permitted to accept outside part-time teaching offers because the experience of teaching men sometimes had an adverse effect on the morale of male faculty members when they returned to the teaching of women.

Reel: 100

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 25.

April 9, 1902-September 15, 1902

Correspondence about the college physical plant is unusually heavy in Letterbook no. 25. It includes letters about the insurance settlement and reconstruction of Denbigh Hall, which had been heavily damaged by fire, and about plans for and construction of several buildings including a power plant and a double dormitory. Along with letters concerning the \$250,000 construction fund drive, there is a list on pages 211-214 of pledges to the Library Building Fund. Thomas's letters to John D. Rockefeller's engineer, A.D. Houghton, reveal a lack of precise understanding about the exact terms and amount to Rockefeller's pledge to the building program. Both Thomas and Houghton shared the hope that Rockefeller might be willing to underwrite cost overruns occurring in the construction of the power plant and dormitories. Revealing an aspect of her attitude toward student social life, Thomas protested to Haverford president Isaac Sharpless against the serenading of Bryn Mawr women by Haverfordians.

Reel: 101

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 26.

September 15, 1902-December 15, 1902

In the final months of 1902 the construction, furnishing, and upkeep of college buildings continued as the dominant subjects of President Thomas's official correspondence. She wrote numerous and detailed letters about these matters to Lockwood deForest, A.D. Houghton, and Cope and Stewardson. On November 24, she proposed to J.D. Rockefeller, Jr. that Houghton, an engineer in his employ, be engaged to oversee the construction of the buildings under-written by Rockefeller with the understanding that the college would pay him a commission for his services. Following the death of Walter Cope, who had been the college's primary architect, Thomas wrote eloquently of her sense of loss and dismay. Thomas wrote intermittently to various addressees about the activities, policies, and personalities of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae and the Public Education Association of Philadelphia, two organizations in which she played an active role. She repeatedly urged her own election to the college Board of Trustees, continuing a campaign which she had embarked upon even prior to her elevation to the presidency. In a letter of September 25 to Ida Porter-Boyer, President Thomas declined to write a paragraph for a woman's suffrage leaflet on the ground that conservative parents of students and potential students might object to her stand.

Reel: 102

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 27.

December 16, 1902-April 7, 1903

Publications and other activities of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae emerge as important topics of President Thomas's correspondence on Reel 103. Also included are responses to speaking invitations, which she usually declined, and correspondence about her travel arrangements for a trip to San Francisco as well as for passage to Europe in the summer. Letters about building plans and construction, principally to Cope and Stewardson and A.D. Houghton, continue. Thomas offered Samuel Arthur King a position teaching elocution at the college and engaged him to give her private lessons. She wrote to the faculty about examination schedules, curriculum requirements, and other academic matters, and to male members asking them to support the interests of the college with their votes on a local referendum. In another rare political action, she wrote to Representative C.A. Ambler urging passage of a Pennsylvania Civil Service Reform Bill and a Ballot Reform Bill.

Reel: 103

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 28.

April 7, 1903-January 9, 1904

The heaviest correspondence on Reel 104 concerns work on Rockefeller dormitory, plans for the library, and other building construction matters. In her letters to individual trustees, Thomas reveals a growing conflict of opinion between herself and certain members of the Board about the location, materials, and decoration of the library. In a letter of September 25 to Henry Tatnall, Thomas reported that J.D. Rockefeller had erroneously sent the college a check for \$50,000 more than he had pledged, a mistake which was eventually corrected. There are a number of letters renewing staff and faculty appointments and announcing the recipients of scholarships and fellowships. Scattered data on college finances include a faculty salary list (p. 229). The first letters regarding the design of the college seal, commissioned and approved by President Thomas, appear in this letterbook.

Reel: 104

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 29.

January 11, 1904-May 20, 1904

Among a number of letters recruiting faculty replacements and additions in Letterbook no. 29 is President Thomas's letter to Constance Applebee offering her a post as director of out-of-door sports at Bryn Mawr College, contingent upon her learning to teach basketball. On April 12, Thomas wrote to Trustee Howard Comfort reporting that Woodrow Wilson had offered Latin professor Arthur H. Wheeler a position at Princeton if he would break his contract with Bryn Mawr. This action of Wilson's, Thomas commented, recalled his previous base conduct toward the college. In a later letter to Comfort, Thomas strongly urged that faculty salaries must be raised. Other correspondence covers such additional topics as preparations for a BMC exhibit at the St. Louis World's Fair; health data regarding college women which she was collecting for publication by the Association of Collegiate Alumnae; and opportunities for women physicians in the United States (January 27 letter to Dr. W.E. Thompson). In a letter to Nicholas M. Butler on April 1, Thomas declined to answer Dr. Vander Walder's "Women's Fitness for Higher Education," characterizing it an unworthy of notice.

Reel: 105

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 30.

May 27, 1904-November 11, 1904

In addition to routine administrative correspondence, M. Carey Thomas's letters from the summer and fall of 1904 deal with a number of vexing problems which emerged as the campus was expanded and the student body enlarged. Unexpected bills for construction of Rockefeller dormitory and other financial difficulties of the college created recurring crises. Tedious negotiations were undertaken with the township in an effort to modify plans for installation of a drainage system which would cut across the campus in an unsatisfactory way. With a new merit system in effect, President Thomas was obliged to notify the parents of some rising seniors that their daughters were not likely to have sufficient credits to graduate. Thomas's conservative attitude toward curriculum is evidenced by several early August letters in which she wrote that she wished to encourage students to elect the classics rather than what they regarded as more modern subjects such as history, economics, and modern languages. There are also letters about faculty housing, administrative staff recruitment, and Thomas's speech at the Congress of Arts and Sciences at St. Louis. President Thomas routinely responded to parents' inquiries about the college's entrance requirements and recommended private schools which had successfully prepared students for Bryn Mawr's entrance examinations. On August 3, in a matter-of-fact letter addressed to Howard Comfort and the Board of Trustees Carey Thomas announced the resignation as English professor and marriage of her long-time roommate and friend Mamie Gwinn.

Reel: 106

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 31.

November 12, 1904-April 5, 1905

Apart from a number of interesting letters regarding the College Entrance Examination Board, of which she was a member, and the Association of Collegiate Alumnae's study of college women's health statistics, which she had undertaken to compile and prepare for publication, M. Carey Thomas's correspondence in Letterbook no. 31 for most part concerns administrative matters -- great and small -- of Bryn Mawr College. In a long letter of December 2 to David Scull, Thomas summarized recent developments at the college and recounted transactions of the Board of Trustees. As part of her ongoing effort to have Bryn Mawr included in the Carnegie Foundation faculty pension program, she requested of college legal counsel John G. Johnson clarification of requirements governing the selection of trustees under the will Joseph Taylor and the charter of the college. An unsuccessful effort to persuade Andrew Carnegie to contribute to the college building program was related in detail to Henry Tatnall in a letter of February 15. Thomas's letters to faculty members proffering contract renewals reflect the stringent budget under which the college was operating. Subsequent correspondence shows that some of the original offers were increased. Rental of college property to faculty and the general public as a source of income is a persistent subject. The development of the college sports program is indicated in Thomas's letters to Constance Applebee directing that lacrosse and water polo should be added to those sports offered by the college. Regulations concerning the basketball program appear on page 419. Thomas wrote a revealing letter on January 18 to Ella Gordon Stuart in which she stated that an ideal BMC student was one whose traditions of culture and previous opportunities made her excellent material for the college to work on. Writing to Helen Rutgers Sturgis on March 16, Thomas analyzed the benefits of the May Day fete, a major feature of Bryn Mawr's cultural traditions. Another aspect of student life was discussed in her letter of December 2, 1904, to George A. Coe summarizing religious activities at the college.

Reel: 107

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 32.

April 5, 1905-October 5, 1905

President Thomas's correspondence in Letterbook no. 32 foreshadows serious problems for her administration that would grow out of her ambitious building program which included the construction of a double dormitory, a power plant, and a library. On May 1, apparently as result of pressure from the Trustees, she wrote that she planned to economize as much as possible in the construction of the library, specifically stating that ornamental features would be omitted. However, her subsequent letters to Lockwood deForest reveal that she had by no means renounced plans for expensive interior decorations. Various financial difficulties encountered in the construction of Rockefeller dormitory and the library are outlined and explained in a long letter of June 13 to Justus Strawbridge. Other topics of importance in this letterbook include the management of Low Buildings, the organization of essay sections in the English Department, Henry James's visit to the campus, fire and other casualty insurance, and the college sports and physical education program. Thomas's disappointment with the academic performance of the student body is suggested in her complaint that a new wave of materialism among the students had resulted in a lack of strenuousness in their study habits. In addition to Bryn Mawr matters, there is also significant correspondence regarding feminist concerns. Thomas's letters indicate that she was serving as president of the Naples Table Association at this time. Writing on April 7 to Alice Stone Blackwell, she denounced Stanley Hall's misuse of statistical data regarding the health of college women. At the same time she alluded to the findings of her own longstanding effort to collect health statistics and prepare them for publication by the Association of Collegiate Alumnae, an undertaking which she was apparently unable to bring to a timely completion or to share with a co-author. On May 26, she wrote to Susan B. Anthony evaluating the quality of, and opportunities for, women candidates seeking teaching positions at the college level.

Reel: 108

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 33.

October 5, 1905-February 20, 1906

Correspondence on Reel 109 is highlighted by substantive and illuminating letters regarding the women's suffrage movement. In an exceptional letter of December 21 to Mary Woolley and other women college presidents, M. Carey Thomas related a history of her encounters with Susan B. Anthony and expressed deep admiration for her leadership and accomplishments. She went on to suggest that college women should sponsor a program honoring Anthony at the 1906 Convention of the National Women's Suffrage Association in Baltimore. In the same letter, she listed both the persons she believed would support and assist in the undertaking and those she anticipated would be hostile or unhelpful. In later letters she reported her plans for a College Evening at the convention to Anna H. Shaw and Carrie Chapman Catt. Earlier she had written to Mrs. Charles M. Andrews confirming her ardent support for Bryn Mawr College's affiliation with the College Equal Suffrage League. College matters were dominated by the problem of cost overruns in the construction of the library. On October 17, she sent a handwritten letter to John D. Rockefeller, Jr. providing additional explanations of figures she had previously submitted to him. A full account of the expenditure of Rockefeller's donations appears on pages 139-142. Thomas's efforts to convince Rockefeller that the college should be given further help was rewarded, for on December 30 she wrote thanking him for a gift of \$80,000 to cover the construction deficit. Along with the other functions of her office, Thomas undertook compilation of faculty statistics, including age, term of service, etc. These were prepared for the Carnegie Foundation pension program, although Bryn Mawr College was excluded from participation therein on the ground that it was a sectarian college. Partly to overcome this disqualification, Thomas advocated the addition to the Board of Directors of alumnae members chosen without reference to religious affiliation and urged the election of Mary E. Garrett, a non-Quaker, to the Board. Thomas's difficulty in keeping accurate books and a smoothly functioning administration at this critical time is reflected in numerous letters apologizing for slip-ups, delays, and little mistakes. Harbingers of future problems with the faculty appear in two letters. On November 14, Thomas wrote to L.P. Wood stating that it was Bryn Mawr's policy to permit faculty communications with the Board of Trustees only through the president and recommending this practice as necessary to sound college administration. Writing to Gonzalez Lodge on February 19, she stated that she had heard reports from Columbia University that Richard T. Holbrook, a candidate for a position at Bryn Mawr, was "always in hot water, always quarreling" and that his teaching was unsatisfactory. She added that the quarrelsomeness would not bar him from a position at Bryn Mawr, but that the reservations about his teaching were serious. Both of these judgments were important in the faculty dispute of 1916.

Reel: 109

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 34.
February 6, 1906-June 5, 1906
Informative letters on diverse subjects appear in Letterbook no. 34. Although there are no substantive letters regarding proceedings at the Women's Suffrage Convention in Baltimore, Thomas wrote to May A. Bookstaver and others about publishing a report of the convention and other suffrage matters. Numerous letters concerning the construction of the library include one of February 27 to Lockwood deForest describing problems with the teak wood which was being used for interior paneling. Misunderstandings relating to his salary, courses, etc. are reflected in Thomas's letters to Richard T. Holbrook prior to his coming to Bryn Mawr. In a lengthy letter written on May 26 to Howard Comfort, Thomas expounded the reasons Bryn Mawr College had been so singularly successful in attracting a highly qualified faculty. In the same letter she acknowledged that hostility had developed among some faculty members whose contracts had not been renewed. President Thomas addressed a form letter to women on the faculty and staff in March announcing a college policy of not employing women who smoked. There are several letters regarding plans for the May day fete, including one of March 18 to Mrs. Charles M. Andrews listing women who should be asked to serve as patronesses because of their social prominence. On May 2, Thomas wrote to Georgianna R. Simpson asserting that Bryn Mawr College had no policy regarding the admission of Negro students, but adding that she felt they would not find the atmosphere at the college congenial.

Reel: 110

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 35.
June 8, 1906-December 30, 1906
The second half of 1906 was a stormy period in M. Carey Thomas's presidency at Bryn Mawr College. Controversies which had germinated as result of her extensive building program grew to a climax, testing her ability to retain her office in the face of intense opposition from some members of the Board of Trustees. Although her problems with the Trustees cannot be reconstructed completely from this correspondence, certain aspects of the difficulties are illuminated by her letters. Her serious misunderstandings and disagreements with Henry Tatnall about many aspects of the construction of the library, including its very location, are reflected in scattered letters. In a letter of June 11 to Edward Bettie, Thomas acknowledged that teak wood had been purchased for interior paneling under authority of an order she had signed; she had previously denied to the Board that she was personally responsible for the purchase of teak, instead of oak, in defiance of their instructions. More fully documented is the controversy with Cope and Stewardson over their fees. This imbroglio arose in part as result of the employment of A.D. Houghton to oversee the construction of the library, normally the responsibility of the architects. Thomas sent Bettie an interesting statistical breakdown of Bryn Mawr College graduates by occupation (November 9). She continued to supply letters of recommendation for former students, with an increasing number being addressed to foreign universities. There are also letters about individual students' courses, dissertations, etc. Letters written by President Thomas on September 26 and 27 are enlightening in that they serve to reveal the degree of anti-Semitism in faculty recruitment. In one of them she wrote, "I have written to Dr. Barnett to find out if he (Editorial note: a candidate for a faculty position) is a Jew, because this would greatly interfere with his influence among the students -- although of course it ought not to be the case." References to the problems of smoking by women faculty and staff members in Low Buildings appear in several letters. There are letters to Maud M. Park, Mary E. Woolley, and Jane Addams regarding plans for suffrage lectures at Eastern women's colleges and about the Bryn Mawr chapter of the College Equal Suffrage League.

Reel: 111

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 36.

December 21, 1906-May 4, 1907

Although correspondence about the controversy with Cope and Stewardson over their fees continues, letters about construction problems yield their former preponderance in M. Carey Thomas's official correspondence in this letterbook. Her time was spent instead in writing about a variety of transitory and routine administrative matters. She wrote to parents about their daughters' health, grades, etc. In order, she said, that she might squelch a current rumor, she asked Elizabeth Blanchard to specifically deny that she had organized a secret socialist society at Bryn Mawr College. In January she oversaw funeral arrangements for David Irons, a Scottish professor without relatives in America, who had died at the college. Thomas's letters show that she was seeking professors for the philosophy, economics, and history departments during this time. On April 16, she wrote to Regina Crandall hoping that the latter would not carry out her intention to resign because she had been passed over for promotion. Writing on March 22, President Thomas complained to Ira Remsen about excessive pirating of the Bryn Mawr faculty by the Johns Hopkins University. Although Thomas generally gave little of her time to off-campus causes, she was active in defending traditional spelling against spokesmen for modernization and simplification. In addition, in a letter of January 17 to Helen W. Cadbury, she urged the organization of a protest against militarism at the Jamestown exhibition.

Reel: 112

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 37.

May 4, 1907-November 21, 1907

M. Carey Thomas's 1907 letters illuminate certain aspects of the reorganization of the college administration which had been instituted as result of the 1906 crisis. Marion Reilly was appointed dean, the first incumbent since Thomas vacated the office when she became president. There is considerable correspondence with two other new officers, the comptroller and the business manager. Perhaps reflecting a further delegation of responsibility by President Thomas, this letterbook incorporates a number of letters written and signed by her secretary, Elizabeth McKeen. An interesting letter of October 17 to Edward Bettle provides a history of Bryn Mawr College's Student Self-Government. Demonstrating her popularity as a speaker, Thomas continued to respond to numerous invitations to address various groups and meetings. The college's relations with the township was the subject of correspondence with Trustees and the college counsel. Thomas wrote to Jane Addams several times trying to work out arrangements for Addams's tour of women's colleges in the East to speak on women's suffrage.

Reel: 113

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 38.

November 21, 1907-April 8, 1908

In addition to mirroring the routine administrative responsibilities of her office, President Thomas's letters also document her active interest in problems affecting the higher education of women beyond the limits of the Bryn Mawr campus during the opening months of 1908. Writing on January 7 to president James M. Taylor, she renewed her plea that he permit Jane Addams to speak at Vassar College on women's suffrage. On the following day, she wrote to United States Education Commissioner Elmer Ellsworth Brown criticizing the classification of women's colleges in the Commission's annual report and adding her recommendations for improvement. Various letters express her concern that the alumni trustees of Cornell University should be individuals who strongly favored the principle of co-education. An important item of Bryn Mawr College business is covered in her letters to individual trustees explaining the legal implications of the establishment of a Board of Directors which would assume many of the functions and responsibilities of the Trustees.

Reel: 114

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 39.

April 8, 1908-July 13, 1908

President Thomas's correspondence in the spring and early summer of 1908 covers a variety of college business. Campus planning and expansion reappear as topics of correspondence. Her letters to Frederick Law Olmsted, engaging him to come to Bryn Mawr to consult about grading and plantings, and to Lockwood deForest and George Archer, regarding plans for rebuilding the gymnasium and constructing additional faculty housing and a residence for Dean Marion Reilly, indicate that the campus was not to remain static. Thomas recommended that the comptroller appointed as result of the 1906 reorganization of the administration should be fired for incompetence. The Board overruled her in this matter. In faculty recruitment endeavors, Thomas wrote to John Dewey (April 20) seeking advice for appointments in philosophy and education, and to Charles A. Beard (June 25) asking if he would be a candidate for a position in history. There is continuing correspondence demonstrating Thomas's efforts to qualify the Bryn Mawr faculty for Carnegie Foundation pensions. Writing to Mary Vaux in May, President Thomas attempted to mollify the Vaux family's hostility toward Bryn Mawr College students which had been provoked by unauthorized daisy picking on their property. In addition, there is correspondence concerning a suit brought against the college by William Goode, a Negro who had been arrested in 1906 for trespassing on the campus. Thomas was compelled to request of Laura D. Gill additional time to organize health data, which she had been working on for several years, into final form for publication by the Association of Collegiate Alumnae.

Reel: 115

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 40.

July 13, 1908-October 29, 1908

President Thomas's correspondence in Letterbook no. 40 is for most part routine in subject matter. She wrote to architects, contractors, trustees, and others regarding the new gymnasium, the dean's house, and the decoration of the ceiling of the great hall in the library. She searched for a geologist, a historian, and a philosopher to fill faculty openings. She notified students of their appointments to such campus jobs as delivering mail, serving as dormitory fire captains, and checking to assure that lights were not left needlessly burning. Marianne C. Moore was among those receiving appointments as a "light lieutenant," a position that paid \$10 per semester. In addition, there are scattered letters addressed to Kate Gordon regarding suffrage matters.

Reel: 116

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 41.

Letterbook no. 41 does not exist. Since Letterbook no. 42 begins with the date of the final entry in Letterbook no. 40, it appears that this is the result of misnumbering and does not indicate a lost volume.

Reel: 116

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 42.

October 29, 1908-March 4, 1909

Letter providing summations of M. Carey Thomas's views on a number of topics of on-going interest appear on Reel 117. Writing to Asa S. Wing on October 30, she recounted the provisions of the settlement with Cope and Stewardson of a long controversy over their fees for architectural services. She demonstrated the benefits of women's votes by analyzing legislation protecting women and children in equal suffrage states and extolled the importance of the College Equal Suffrage League in a letter to Norman Hapgood the following month. On November 18 she congratulated Joseph Swain on the decision of the Swarthmore College Board of Managers to end its denominational requirements, thereby reflecting her strong preference for non-sectarian education. Her letters to Grace H. Dodge and others explain the standing of the YWCA and other religious organizations on campus. For the information of Anton H. Classen, she evaluated college architects with whom she had had direct experience. In February 1909, she wrote several letters detailing her proposals for revision of the Pennsylvania State School Code. On March 1, in a letter to Lillian M. Hollister, she listed and rated women speakers who might be available to address the National Council of Women in the United States. In addition to these items, there is the usual mix of letters to trustees, faculty, parents, students, and staff.

Reel: 117

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 43.

March 5-June 16, 1909

Several subjects introduced in earlier correspondence continue to run through M. Carey Thomas's letters on Reel 118. She vigorously pursued her campaign to persuade the Carnegie Foundation to extend coverage under its retirement program to the Bryn Mawr College faculty. Numerous letters about the organization and staffing of the English Department reconfirm President Thomas's particular interest in that area. Her vigilance in protecting its reputation is demonstrated by a letter to Mrs. Charles M. Andrews insisting that Professor Richard Holbrook's article espousing the Baconian theory of Shakespearean authorship, which was to be published in the *Alumnae Quarterly*, be prefaced by a notice that he was not a member of the English faculty. Standard announcements to faculty and staff of their reappointments, sent out annually in the spring, are frequently followed by letters clarifying misunderstandings about the terms of their contracts. As do earlier volumes, this letterbook contains President Thomas's replies to an influx of invitations to speak before college groups, suffrage organizations, women's clubs, etc. On May 25, Thomas protested at length to President Isaac Sharpless against the increase in social intercourse between Bryn Mawr and Haverford students. Among the new topics of presidential correspondence are her plans for the construction of an infirmary, her ambition to establish a practice school as an adjunct to the Department of Education (see letter of April 14 to Charles E. Pugh), and her interest in the National Council of Women's Club's Department of Education which occasioned letters to Lillian M. Hollister. On April 6, she appealed to State Senator Thomas B. Harper to support a child labor bill protecting girls under eighteen years of age. She exhorted Mary Coes on May 10 to insist upon being appointed dean of Radcliffe under threat of resignation. Thomas promised Coes employment at Bryn Mawr should the deanship be denied her.

Reel: 118

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 44.

September 24, 1909-January 6, 1910

The preponderance of letters on Reel 119 deal with fund raising and with internal college administration. President M. Carey Thomas, in a host of letters, recorded her efforts to raise \$500,000 for the endowment fund in order to qualify for a matching grant of \$250,000 from the General Education Board. Her letter to Mrs. Russell Sage soliciting a contribution to the drive embodies a carefully worded and thoughtful statement of Bryn Mawr College's special claims for support. Other letters treat such subjects as student health, scholarships, the organization of the English Department, construction of the gymnasium, and acquisition of books on marriage, social disease, and sex for the library (letter of January 3 to Mary L. Jones). Much of the correspondence is in the form of letters and notices to college personnel: the deans, the comptroller, the college engineer, the librarian, the wardens, etc.

Reel: 119

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 45.

January 7-April 25, 1910

A striking example of Carey Thomas's progressive attitude toward sex education is recorded in her correspondence on Reel 120. Writing to the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Social Disease, she requested that its literature be sent to members of the Bryn Mawr College senior class. She added the caveat that her name should not be linked with the mailing, explaining that she was employed by a very conservative institution. In the early months of 1910 she was engaged in efforts to recruit a new business manager, conflicting with the Committee on Buildings and Grounds in her preference to fill the post with a woman. She referred frequently to a "begging" campaign to add to the college's endowment, occasionally acknowledging that the results were discouraging. Several letters reveal that Thomas was experiencing strained relations with the important New York Alumnae Club, and her letters to members and officers of that group are tactful and conciliatory. The increasingly structured nature of the relationship between faculty and administration is manifested in a letter of February 21 to Latinist Tenney Frank, in which Thomas quoted a newly adopted Trustees' resolution regarding sabbatical leave. Some of her own concepts regarding the professorial profession emerge in several January letters documenting her perception that while scholarship and teaching are compatible and indeed mutually beneficial, administrative responsibilities assigned to the faculty hamper the development of both. In a letter of March 19, President Carey Thomas invited President William Howard Taft to speak at commencement.

Reel: 120

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 46.
April 25-November 21, 1910
Bryn Mawr College celebrated its Twenty-fifth Anniversary on October 22, 1910. The first reference to the occasion is the invitation to attend and/or participate sent to presidents of leading Eastern colleges on April 26. As part of the celebration, the college sponsored debates on the effects of college entrance examinations on secondary schools, liberal arts education vs. specialized college training, and lay criticism vs. college teaching. A copy of a nine page handwritten letter to Anna Rhoads (inserted in the letterbook following page 385) marks the end of material regarding the anniversary observation. In it, Carey Thomas apologized for her speech at the ceremony which over-emphasized her own role in the foundation of the college and failed to give due recognition to the part played by President James E. Rhoads. She omitted her intended tribute to her predecessor, Thomas explained, because time limitations forced her to delete a portion of her address. Entries regarding a year and a half long fund raising campaign conclude with a partial list of donors and a form letter to Philadelphia newspapers thanking them for their contributions to its success. Dissension within the leadership of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae is alluded to in a number of letters, but the details of the divergent positions do not emerge. Carey Thomas wrote to William Howard Taft on June 3 expressing her gratitude for his appropriate address at the Bryn Mawr College commencement.

Reel: 121

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 47.
November 21, 1910-October 18, 1911
Plans for the Phebe Anna Thorne Model School, established at Bryn Mawr College through a memorial gift from Samuel and Jonathan Thorne, took shape during the period covered by Letterbook no. 47. Casting about for a project which would interest the Thornes, President Thomas sent them a prospectus for an experimental practice school to be operated as a laboratory for the Department of Education (letter of November 28). Shortly thereafter she announced the Thornes's gift of \$150,000 to endow such a school. In May of the following year she requested John Dewey to recommend candidates for the positions of professor in the Department of Education and principal of the model school. Other items of college business include arranging (November 28, 1910 letter) for Dr. Lillian Welsh to give a lecture on hygiene, specifically covering adolescence and sex, at the college; construction of the infirmary; reorganization of the Business Office; and appointment of Marion Park to serve as acting dean during Marion Reilly's leave of absence. Correspondence on non-BMC matters encompasses Thomas's recommendation that Ellen Pendleton be appointed president of Wellesley College (letters to Bishop William Lawrence); Naples Table business; Carey Thomas's plans to attend conventions of the National American Woman Suffrage Association and the Association of Collegiate Alumnae. At the latter meeting she proposed to introduce and champion a reorganization plan which she had been instrumental in developing (see her letter of June 9 to Mary Woolley). Incorporating material from an eleven month period, Letterbook no. 47 covers an exceptionally long time span. Thomas took a four month leave of absence from her official duties to travel to Egypt with Mary Garrett in the winter months of 1911. A few of her letters from Egypt appear in this volume, as do some letters written by Isabel Maddison on her behalf during her absence.

Reel: 122

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 48.

October 18, 1911-April 1, 1912

Two major controversies appear as subjects of correspondence in Letterbook no. 48. The first was a tempest within the Association of Collegiate Alumnae; the second, merely foreshadowed at this time, eventually resulted in the 1916 faculty rebellion. An A.C.A. committee, on which Carey Thomas served, was charged with developing a scheme to reorganize the association with a view toward making it a more effective force. The committee adopted a plan which Thomas had apparently authored and strongly advocated (letter of December 22 to W.W. Schermerhorn). When it was introduced to the organization as a whole, opposition, spearheaded by Laura Gill, developed. The conflict became deeply personal, with Gill accusing Thomas of deception and "sharp practices." Thomas countered with a flurry of letters. Some, directed to Gill, are threatening and hostile; others addressed to Mrs. Alexander F. Morrison, Alice Pearmain, Sophonisba Breckinridge, Mary Coes, and Lucy Salmon, are defensive and self-serving. The bitterness and spleen of this correspondence exceed that exhibited by Thomas anywhere else in her official papers. Carola Woerishoffer's munificent legacy to the college is mentioned in correspondence scattered throughout the letterbook, with Thomas consistently implying that the income derived from it would be used to increase faculty salaries and for the general operation of the college. Her subsequent departure from this position undoubtedly exacerbated faculty discontent. Another 1916 grievance was presaged in a February 29 letter to Howard Comfort in which President Thomas expressed her judgment that the contract of Richard Holbrook should not be renewed. In addition, correspondence about dissension within the English Department persists through the reel. Thomas rarely had occasion to expound her philosophy of education in her correspondence. A letter to Abraham Flexner written on November 23 is a noteworthy exception, expressing Thomas's belief in the continuing viability of a classical curriculum in the face of developing trends toward modernization. Her essential pragmatism as an educator, on the other hand, is illustrated by an excerpt from a letter to Dr. George Barnett: "... we in common with all other colleges at present have a number of students who are very much interested in socialism, trades unionism and (are) very radical in their views. Our thought is that if we can have such courses given from a liberal but wisely conservative point of view we shall be able to guide our students and not have them fall prey to the first agitator after they have graduated from college."

Reel: 123

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 49.

April 1-July 17, 1912

Fundamental differences of opinion and petty feuds, festering between individuals and within organizations both on and off campus, are exposed in M. Carey Thomas's letters from April through July of 1912. As she informed Dean Marion Reilly (letter of March 19), the New York Alumnae were espousing an increasing alumnae involvement in the management of the college, in accordance with what they perceived to be the modern trend in administration. Thomas's letters to Regina Crandall are replete with criticisms of the latter's management of the essay work of the English Department, reflecting the President's mode of dealing with a situation in which her judgment was at odds with that of an experienced faculty member. Divisive personal conflicts and internal political factions within the National American Woman Suffrage Association were discussed in letters to Anna Howard Shaw and Mesdames McCormick, Laidlow, and Park. In her exasperation, Thomas went so far as to characterize the behavior of a member of the organization as unbalanced. Vestiges of a very old resentment emerged in a letter of May 3 to James Wood, in which Thomas charged that Francis Gummere remained hostile to her because she had been appointed to a position (i.e. professor of literature) at Bryn Mawr College which he had believed was being held for him. In most of the disputes in which she was involved at this time, Thomas's positions seem to have been personal and pragmatic rather than ideological. However she was clearly more liberal than many contemporaries in her appeal to Mary Woolley (letter of May 14) not to join with those who wanted, because of an unsubstantiated rumor accusing Madame Marie Curie of having been implicated in the break-up of a colleague's marriage, to withdraw a collective invitation to her to visit American women's colleges. There is useful subsequent correspondence on this subject, notably a letter to Dr. Albert Schinz asking him to investigate the matter during his visit to Paris.

Reel: 124

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 50.

July 17, 1912-January 18, 1913

Correspondence on Reel 125 is, for the most part, diverse in content and moderate in tone. Although there are a few noteworthy letters on national political matters, college business is clearly the predominant concern. During this time, President Thomas was engaged in a search for an economist and an archaeologist, generating as faculty recruitment always did, letters to college presidents, placement bureaus, and candidates. She was occupied, in addition, with staff appointments, faculty housing, the construction of the infirmary, plans for the model school, student health and work loads, and building repairs. On October 22 she wrote that she would welcome an opportunity to have lectures on eugenics presented at the college if a well qualified speaker could be found. As chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, Thomas recorded her efforts to pay off the deficits of its operating budget and of the Woman's Journal. She wrote to Jane Addams on November 4 that she wished to confer with her before the National Convention, adding in the same letter that she had been stirred by the Progressive campaign. In the following January, however, she declined with regret the invitation of Samuel McCune Lindsay to associate herself formally with the Progressive Party. Writing to Bishop William Lawrence about Wellesley's presidential search, Thomas pleaded the case for selecting a woman, using as an argument the students' need to have women in positions of authority to serve as models.

Reel: 125

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 51.

January 20-April 24, 1913

Although President M. Carey Thomas's correspondence during the first months of 1913 is heavy, it is not characterized by references to subjects of lasting consequence or general relevance. Among the topics discussed were the College Inn Association (which was organized to operate a boarding house and tea room on campus); plans to revise and upgrade PhD requirements; the Olmsted Brothers' plans for an outdoor theatre on campus; the organization, staffing and budget of the model school; and completion of the infirmary. In February Thomas was alarmed by the prospect of an increase of tax liability on college property from \$1,000 to \$5,000 annually and took steps to forestall the threatened reassessment. On January 29, she informed Talcott Williams that, because scholarship was not the sole criterion for selection, Bryn Mawr College would not apply for a Phi Beta Kappa chapter. Scattered letters to Regina Crandall charging that she was attempting to obstruct Thomas's decision to effect a minor reorganization of the essay department presage a very long and difficult conflict over this issue.

Reel: 126

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 52.

April 24-September 19, 1913

Although all of the correspondence in this Series is informative about the complexities of the responsibilities of college administration, little that is critical to the history of Bryn Mawr College or exceptional in the span of M. Carey Thomas's career is to be found in Letterbook no. 52. In a joint letter with four other presidents of women's colleges, Thomas protested to James B. Wheeler over the failure of the American School of Classical Study at Athens to make suitable provision for women students, although it received annual contributions from the five institutions. Writing to Charles A. Terry on May 26, she defended the college's requirement of German and French oral examinations, which had come under attack from several sources. On April 24 and again on June 19, President Thomas discussed the support of Japanese scholars at Bryn Mawr College, a subject which surfaced intermittently throughout her administration.

Reel: 127

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 53.

September 18, 1913-February 20, 1914

The absence of crucial issues and controversial topics which characterizes President Thomas's official correspondence during the first years of the 1910s continues in Letterbook no. 53. From late October through mid-December Thomas was a patient at Johns Hopkins Hospital for surgery to repair the scar tissue on her leg. From there she addressed to attorney John G. Johnson the question of whether the Pennsylvania Labor Law for Women Act would apply to Bryn Mawr College, protesting that if the hours of work of dormitory maids were limited to fifty-four per week, the college would have to increase its staff of domestic employees by twenty-five per cent. On January 10, 1914, she disputed the conclusion of Walter Heape that college education decreased the fertility rate of women, asserting that the health of the husband was the most important factor in the trend he had reported. Faculty recruitment focused on filling positions in archaeology, English literature, and French. In addition, Thomas corresponded with Placido de Montoliu arranging for the introduction of his Dalcroze system at the Phebe Anna Thorne School. On October 7, she addressed a form letter to unmarried faculty men apprising them of a Student Self-Government rule which forbade them to extend invitations of any sort to students. In response to his inquiry, Thomas wrote Murray McGuire that she would recommend that the state of Virginia establish an affiliated women's college at the University of Virginia rather than construct a separate women's college.

Reel: 128

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 54.

February 23-May 16, 1914

During the winter of 1914, Carey Thomas looked forward to entertaining her relatives, Bernard and Mary Berenson, at the Deanery. At the same time, she made clear her unwillingness to welcome her cousin Alys Russell's ex-husband, Bertrand, to the campus, explicitly directing Lucy Donnelly not to go forward with arrangements for him to meet students. Thomas was actively interested in the Association of Collegiate Alumnae presidential election, but her attention was even more forcefully captured by the activities of the suffrage movement. Writing of the post of executive secretary of the National College Equal Suffrage League (letter of May 9 to Mrs. B.H. Howes), she averred: "If I were not tied hand and foot in Bryn Mawr College there is nothing that I personally should more enjoy doing and I can think of nothing that would bring a greater reward in immediate and important results." Earlier she had complimented Alice Stone Blackwell on her article in the *Woman's Journal* analyzing the case for a suffrage amendment to the Constitution.

Reel: 129

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 55.

May 18-September 13, 1914

Letters which typify and illuminate M. Carey Thomas's active, and sometimes autocratic, involvement in educational institutions and policy at all levels are microfilmed on Reel 130. In a letter of May 20 to Edith Hamilton, headmistress of the Bryn Mawr School, she vetoed the idea of adding a "baby class" to the school's elementary and secondary programs. Writing to her sister, Margaret Thomas Carey, three days later, she expressed a lack of confidence in Miss Hamilton's leadership. Inserted at the beginning of the volume is a copy of a Bryn Mawr College Board of Directors' resolution adopted on March 20, 1914, changing the college's fiscal year and revising the payment schedule of the faculty and staff. This modification, regarded by some of the faculty as disadvantageous to their interests, provoked a run of explanatory correspondence as Thomas tried to induce them to acquiesce to the change. In a May 18 letter to James W. Bright, Thomas justified another administration policy which was unpopular with the faculty, that of not permitting them to give courses at other colleges and universities. She contended that outside appointments resulted in faculty overwork, thereby damaging a scholar's career. She cited the Harvard faculty and those of English universities as examples of this deleterious effect. In another college matter, Thomas notified Charlotte A. Scott that it would be necessary for the faculty to tighten the examination proctoring system. Thomas wrote a number of strongly worded letters at this time protesting the discrimination against women practiced by the American schools for classical studies in Athens and Rome. She notified recipients of Bryn Mawr's European fellowships that their awards would be held for them until after the war. On June 25, apparently in response to his request, Thomas sent Frederic H. Strawbridge suggestions for replying to an anti-suffrage form letter addressed to trustees of women's colleges. Carey Thomas repeatedly alluded to Mary Garrett's illness in her correspondence in this letterbook. Perhaps because of this distraction, there appear to be more than the usual number of apologies for correspondence answered late or incorrectly. Letters written by Thomas's secretary, Ellen Hill, are sprinkled through the volume.

Reel: 130

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 56.

September 15, 1914-January 2, 1915

The first semester of the 1914-1915 academic year is marked by the focus of M. Carey Thomas's attention on matters directly concerning student academic programs. Beginning with letters about student registration, Thomas went on to discuss efforts to move doctoral candidates more quickly into work on their dissertations, the need to stiffen the morale of the student body in general, and the necessity to formulate a method of eliminating non-studious types. A new cut rule adopted by the faculty provoked a storm of protest from the student body. To clarify the issue and garner support for the authority of the faculty to control class attendance, President Thomas wrote to members of the influential Alumnae Academic Committee (November 23), to other college presidents, and to the Philadelphia newspapers, to whom the aggrieved students had already presented their side of the issue. Thomas's opinions about the relative value of coeducation and single sex colleges are to be found on pages 440 and 441 and in a letter of November 17 to Murray M. McGuire. On December 7, she informed Virginia Gildersleeve that Bryn Mawr College intended to take a stand against separation of men and women scholars at the annual meetings of learned societies. Thomas commented briefly on the Nashville Convention of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, which she attended in November. There are, in addition, continuing references to the National College Equal Suffrage League, of which she was president.

Reel: 131

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 57.

January 2-March 19, 1915

Although the volume of President Thomas's correspondence in the first months of 1915 remained heavy, the terminal illness of her friend and housemate, Mary E. Garrett, caused her to withdraw from many outside activities, including suffrage work. A higher than usual percentage of letters in this volume is addressed to faculty members regarding such subjects as curriculum, course schedules, examination procedures, etc. A distinguished addition to the faculty was made with the appointment of Susan M. Kingsbury to head the Carola Woerishoffer Department of Social Research. Routine office matters crop up in every letterbook: at this time, for example, Thomas was engaged in hiring a stenographer and an assistant business manager for the college. In February, Carey Thomas wrote to Jane Addams and Thomas Raeburn White criticizing as "very foolish" a peace plan developed by the Emergency Federation of Peace Forces, of which Miss Addams was chairman. Both letters, however, are endorsed "not sent."

Reel: 132

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 58.

April 1-October 19, 1915

Mary Garrett died on April 3, 1915, in the midst of the spring college term. Carey Thomas's official correspondence bears little evidence of the loss of her longtime friend and companion; she continued to conduct business as usual from the presidential office in the spring and fall of 1915. Throughout the period, however, Thomas observed deep mourning, declining all social invitations. Immediately after her inheritance of Garrett's estate was publicized, there appear letters refusing charitable contributions to individual and institutional solicitors. Partly as result of the European war, several important changes occurred in the Bryn Mawr College faculty at this time. Karl Jessen, a German professor, was granted a year's leave of absence. Thomas personally wrote to Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan on behalf of another professor of German extraction, Agatha Lasch, who wanted to spend the summer in Berlin. Throughout the succeeding years, when Lasch proved to be ambivalent about her own future, Thomas remained solicitous and supportive in her letters, encouraging Lasch to return to Bryn Mawr whenever she chose to do so. At the same time Thomas was preparing to make a highly significant addition to the English Department. On April 5, she wrote to Howard J. Savage setting forth the secret terms of his appointment which would eventually lead to a professorship with authority to reorganize the department's essay work. The College Entrance Examination Board is the subject of fairly heavy correspondence, with Thomas acknowledging in a letter of May 21 that Bryn Mawr College would have to accept the Board's examinations as an alternative to its own. Foreshadowing a major future interest, Thomas accepted in mid-October appointment as a Vice President of the League to Enforce Peace.

Reel: 133

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 59.

October 23, 1915-March 8, 1916

The most notorious crisis of M. Carey Thomas's career at Bryn Mawr College occurred in the spring of 1916 when faculty dissatisfaction over its lack of authority in staffing decisions and work rules combined with the failure to renew the contract of an assertive professor and the reorganization of the English Department to erupt in a personal attack on Thomas in the Philadelphia press. Although the outbreak in the press did not occur during the period covered by Letterbook no. 59, it is rife with documentation of the antecedents of the crisis. Thomas's letters to presidents of other colleges as well as those addressed to Bryn Mawr professors indicate that she was fully aware of the implications of the movement to expand the faculty role in college administration then under discussion in the American Association of University Professors. She was prepared, moreover, to accommodate many of the new directions (see for example her letter of January 11 to George A. Barton). At the same time, however, she was putting into effect policy and personnel changes which enflamed faculty resentment toward her administration. In a letter of November 26 to Arthur Wheeler, she reaffirmed the Trustees' decision that daughters of faculty members would not be granted a tuition reduction. More ominously, she notified Richard Holbrook that his repeated demands to be promoted to full professor would not be granted. Thereafter, acting on his ultimatum that he would resign unless promoted, she began to correspond with possible replacements for his position as professor of Italian and French literature. She proceeded at the same time to plan with Howard Savage the reorganization of the essay, or composition, work in the English Department, although this implied a technical demotion of the head of the unit, Regina Crandall. Thomas anticipated a storm of protest against this move (December 13 letter to Rufus Jones) and on December 11, she wrote a conciliatory letter to Crandall. As she had foreseen, the alumnae rallied to Crandall's defense; Thomas responded to their importunities with a form letter. In a long letter of January 29 to Lucy Donnelly, who was on sabbatical leave, she recapitulated the whole episode. Other letters relate to college finances and departmental responsibility for placing PhDs (letters to de Laguna and Leuba). Apparently responding to a request from Irving Fisher to allow her name to be used to support a national prohibition amendment, Thomas stated that she sympathized with the cause but could not allow herself to be identified with it because of her prominence in the suffrage movement. She added that women's suffrage already had provoked underground opposition from the liquor interests.

Reel: 134

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 60.

March 7-June 22, 1916

A number of M. Carey Thomas's letters on this reel help to clarify her public response and private reaction to the attack on her administration carried out in the columns of the Philadelphia Public Ledger. Writing to Elizabeth Shepley Sergeant on March 7, Thomas disclosed her anticipation that an appeal might be made in the local press to influence her to renew Richard Holbrook's contract. On April 18, Thomas informed Anna Bell Lawther that she had been warned of the Ledger attack in advance and also assured that it would be called off if Holbrook were appointed a full professor. On May 17, she summarized in a letter to James Wood the expressions of support she had received from alumnae and the administrative staff. Near the end of May, Thomas forwarded to Nicholas Murray Butler and six other college presidents a copy of the so-called New Plan of Government, a scheme of reorganization adopted by the Trustees to give the faculty a much expanded role in the government of the college. She added that the reporter who conducted the "investigation" of her administration in the Ledger had earlier been involved in a similar attack on Woodrow Wilson at Princeton. Other correspondence in this letterbook pertains to the John Masefield literary prize, modification of Bryn Mawr College entrance examinations, the College Entrance Examination Board, and the applications of former readers in the English department for positions elsewhere.

Reel: 135

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 61.

February 3, 1916-February 17, 1917

As indicated by a note inside the front cover, more than 250 letters have been removed from Letterbook no. 61. This was done by Mary Louise Terrien in 1950 when she was employed to organize the records of M. Carey Thomas's administration. As Miss Terrien states, letters "bearing directly on the History of Bryn Mawr College" were stripped from the volume and interfiled with other materials in a subject file she had created. Working with the index to the letterbook, an effort has been made to restore these missing items. Unfortunately, Terrien often cropped off page numbers as she cut out the letters, and she almost certainly destroyed letters mounted on the backs of items "bearing directly on the history of the college" but not themselves considered pertinent to the record. The reader will therefore find Letterbook no. 61 seriously mutilated and incomplete. Because of the great number of pages missing, individual targets have not been provided as has been done in other volumes in this series. It should be pointed out that Terrien's selection of material bearing directly on the history of the college was, in this context, limited to items pertaining to the faculty uprising in the spring of 1916. Happily her search for relevant documents did not extend backward into Letterbook no. 60, which contains a sizable number of letters on this subject. In addition to the correspondence on the faculty crisis and the Public Ledger attack on M. Carey Thomas which has been restored to this letterbook, it includes material on a number of subjects pertaining to more routine college business. On July 20, 1916, Thomas mentioned in a letter to Susan M. Kingsbury that her office had been flooded with applications from German professors who were out of work. Thanking Ida H. Hyde for an offer to bequeath a fellowship to Bryn Mawr College, Thomas stressed that the support of women who care for scholarship and pure science was vital to the college. The desire of the student body to hold mock elections with guest speakers representing Democrats, Republicans, Socialists, and Labor was communicated to Thomas Raeburn White on October 23. Letters about the Alumnae Quarterly, the election of a member-at-large to the Board of Directors, faculty committee appointments and business, and fund raising for the college endowment occur throughout. In a letter of January 15, 1917, to Edith M. Alden, Thomas indicated that she was searching for documents from President James E. Rhoads's administration. "Wherever they are," she added, "they are probably all together in a pile." In numerous letters, President Thomas referred to the success of the "New Plan of Government" (which had been adopted as result of the faculty uprising) and her own satisfaction with it. There is little in this volume that is not directly pertinent to Bryn Mawr College perhaps because, as Thomas informed Margaret T. Corwin on January 2, 1917, she found her work so exacting that she was not accepting any speaking engagements and was giving up all suffrage and other outside work.

Reel: 136

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 62.

February 17, 1917-January 3, 1918

Indications of the successful implementation of the New Plan of Government, which gave the faculty a voice in appointments and representation on the Board of Directors, permeate this letterbook. (On page 338 there is a printed copy of the new plan.) On February 17, M. Carey Thomas wrote to Carleton F. Brown acclaiming the success of the reorganization. She announced to Pauline Goldmark on May 4 that the faculty had voted to discontinue oral language examinations, a requirement which students had long objected to. The resolution of another lingering problem from previous years is suggested in a letter of April 27 to Margaret Haskell concerning her plan to endow a chair in the English Department -- a chair which was to be expressly reserved by the terms of the gift for Regina Crandall. Most noteworthy of all, perhaps, is the beginning of heavier correspondence regarding meetings, actions, decisions, etc. of various faculty committees. A more dramatic topic than the New Plan of Government was the impact of the European War on the college. The presidents of the Seven Sisters colleges sent a joint letter to President Woodrow Wilson on March 28, 1917, offering support in the war effort; Thomas added that Bryn Mawr undergraduates had voted to mobilize for preparedness work. Effects on the college apparently were most immediately felt in the pressures of inflation on personal and institutional budgets. A second direct impact on the college resulted from the enlistments of faculty members in the armed services, requiring the establishment of policies regarding their salaries and benefits, and the recruitment of temporary substitutes. The increased demand for qualified women affected both the recruitment of staff and the placement of graduates. Other war related topics include the activities of the BMC War Council made up of faculty, staff, alumnae, and students; President Thomas's patriotic speeches; her efforts to assure that German propaganda be banned from the campus; the investigation of Karl D. Jessen, head of the German Department, by the Secret Service; and a patriotic farm operated by Martha G. Thomas and other Bryn Mawr staff members and students. Important internal college matters continued to demand a share of president Thomas's attention. She explicated her policy regarding censorship of Tipyn o'Bob, a college periodical, and defined the limits of its editorial freedom in a letter to Janet Randolph Grace. She wrote to Helen H. Taft asking if she would be a candidate for the deanship. In a letter to Asa S. Wing, she listed the benefits and expenses of the Carola Woerishoffer Department, and in March she complained to several correspondents about the financial difficulties being experienced by the Model School.

Reel: 137

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 63.

January 2-October 7, 1918

Correspondence in the first ten months of 1918 predictably is dominated by the effects of the war. The central subjects are those introduced in the preceding letterbook: a plethora of patriotic speeches by President M. Carey Thomas and others; civil defense work; the operation of a patriotic farm by members of the college community; and the induction of faculty and staff into the armed forces. The war emergency fostered the introduction of a new, short course in the Carola Woerishoffer Department to prepare women to fill supervisory positions. Apparently in response to questions from concerned patriots, Thomas offered assurances that German had been dropped as a requirement for admission to or graduation from Bryn Mawr College. Using arguments drawn in part from the experiences of the war emergency, Thomas petitioned Congressman Henry W. Watson to vote for the suffrage amendment. Letters about the financial problems of the college, particularly the critical situation of the Model School, persist (see for example Thomas's letter of February 18 to Asa S. Wing). Thomas solicited a contribution to Bryn Mawr's endowment from the General Education Board in a January 29 letter to Abraham Flexner. In a long letter to Henry S. Pritchett of the Carnegie Foundation, she renewed an application for coverage of the BMC faculty under its pension program, emphasizing that the college had been non-denominational in policy and practice from the outset. Various letters suggest that students' attitudes and mores were in transition, modifying both academic standards and social behavior. Thomas refers to continuing student opposition to the cut rule and to new complaints against the lecture format of classroom instruction. Faced with the largest enrollment in the college's history, with resulting dormitory overcrowding, Thomas queried other college presidents to ascertain if they selected among qualified applicants on any other grounds than priority of application. Students provoked the outrage of the Vaux family, owners of property adjacent to the campus, by allegedly trespassing on their family cemetery. On July 6, President Thomas reported to Dean Helen H. Taft rumors that BMC students had been spending nights with servicemen lovers. A victory for student civil rights is marked by a letter to Louise Watson limiting the methods which students and staff could employ in entrapping suspected thieves.

Reel: 138

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 64.

October 7, 1918-June 22, 1919

There is a cluster of letters at the beginning of Letterbook no. 64 bearing upon the effects of the influenza epidemic on Bryn Mawr College; quarantine policy, care of ill students, and emergency preparations for operation of the college with a reduced staff are covered. The medical history of an individual case of influenza is to be found in President Carey Thomas's letters to William Howard Taft which provide a running account of the symptoms, treatment, and recovery of his daughter Helen (October 1919). Thomas's correspondence documents her appreciation of the necessity of increasing salaries of faculty and staff to offset the effects of inflation and to counter more lucrative offers from government and business. Other college business involved such matters as pensions, renewals of faculty contracts, and appointments of substitutes for professors on sabbatical leave. Plans for a student building and an outdoor theatre were discussed in letters to Lockwood DeForest and others. On November 1, Thomas invited Carrie Chapman Catt to address the student body on the subject of the federal suffrage amendment. However, President Thomas's attention was not entirely absorbed in immediate college business. She must have been thinking in part of her own retirement when, in writing to Asa S. Wing, she strongly supported the college policy of compulsory retirement at age sixty-five. In March and April she was away from her office undergoing an operation at Johns Hopkins Hospital to repair the scar tissue on her leg. Looking forward to an even longer absence from the campus, she formulated plans for a trip around the world during the 1919-1920 academic year; it would be the first sabbatical leave of her career.

Reel: 139

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 65.
(May 26, 1917) June 23, 1919-April 29, 1920
As she completed arrangements for a sabbatical year of foreign travel, M. Carey Thomas apparently viewed her trip as an opportunity to act as an ambassador to women's educational institutions and organizations abroad. She apprised Mrs. Henry W. Peabody in a letter written on June 26 of her intention to visit foreign schools and colleges "to try to envision" what American colleges could do to help women's education on an international scale. On the same day she requested of Ada Wing Mead that she be furnished with credentials from the Naples Table Association authorizing her to invite Madame Marie Curie to give a series of lectures in the United States. Beginning in August, Thomas's letters are replaced by those of Acting President Helen H. Taft; scattered letters written by Dorothy Macdonald, the secretary to the president, occur throughout. On September 5, Taft extended through Mrs. Woodrow Wilson an invitation to the Queen of Belgium to visit Bryn Mawr College during her goodwill tour in the United States. This is followed by a spate of agitated letters preparatory to the visit. A more important and persisting topic of correspondence was the major endowment fund raising campaign on which Helen Taft worked strenuously and successfully. A number of letters to her father, William Howard Taft, demonstrate that she enlisted the ex-President's help in this college drive. In periodic, lengthy letters to Thomas, Taft summarized the administrative operations of the college providing valuable records of the workings of the president's office during Carey Thomas's absence. Conflicts between Edith Hamilton and Carey Thomas over the operations of the Bryn Mawr School resurface in this letterbook. Beginning with a copy of a letter from Hamilton to Thomas (filed out of sequence on page 108), there are numerous items about this confrontation. At one point Thomas, as Mary E. Garrett's executor, threatened to revoke Garrett's legacy to the school if Hamilton persisted in instituting unilateral policy changes. In letters copied on pages 416-419, Thomas discussed at length the college's building program, including a description of comprehensive plans for "completion" of the campus. (Note: the first fifteen pages of this letterbook consist of stray 1917 items.).

Reel: 140

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 66.
April 11-November 4, 1920
Letterbook no. 66 incorporates letters written by Acting President Helen H. Taft, President M. Carey Thomas, and the president's secretary, Dorothy Macdonald. Helen Taft's correspondence is concentrated at the front of the volume. Along with routine college business, her letters chiefly concern the fund raising campaign. On May 31, Helen Taft sent an announcement to the Associated Press of her engagement to Frederick J. Manning. Thereafter her letters are spiced occasionally by ebullient references to her imminent wedding. In a letter of June 24 to Elizabeth Upham Yates, Taft stated that Bryn Mawr College would be honored to receive a portrait of Susan B. Anthony. A letter to Sarah J. Eddy of September 24 (copied out of sequence on page 367) acknowledges receipt of the portrait and requests additional information about its history. M. Carey Thomas's letters supercede Taft's in mid-September. A highly informative discussion of her vision of the potential and orientation of the Carola Woerishoffer Department of Social Research occurs at the beginning of the volume. In her letter of April 10 to Susan Kingsbury (pp. 51-52) Thomas insisted that an opening in the department must be filled by a woman and that the department should concentrate on the study of women's problems. She continued by outlining her ideas about the qualifications for the position and her evaluation of prospective candidates. Later letters, notably one to Frances Hand written on October 9, refer to the development and policies of the department. Other letters to Mrs. Hand, to whom Thomas wrote unusually full and confidential accounts of college policy matters at this time, have a high level of interest. Thomas's pro-League of Nations activities are reflected in her October correspondence which includes letters to the editors of several newspapers asserting that women should vote against Warren G. Harding because he represented the opponents of the League. A letter to Hilda W. Smith at the beginning of November, detailing arrangements for an address to the student body by Mary McLeod Bethune, is pregnant with implications regarding Thomas's persisting racism and the more liberal attitudes which appear to have been emerging among other members of the administration. Stating that she would not attend, Thomas stipulated that Bethune should be taken directly to the chapel from the train and depart the campus immediately after the conclusion of her talk.

Reel: 141

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 67.

November 3, 1920-April 26, 1921

Old attitudes and fresh ideas, the continuation of earlier projects and the initiation of new directions are interwoven in the letters on Reel 142. In a letter of November 15 to Helen Taft Manning, President Thomas voiced her concern about having courses in political science given by two Catholics; the following month in a letter to Asa S. Wing, she reviewed her perception of the history of the college's difficulties in dealing with Jews. At the same time Thomas was working out her plans to create a summer school for women industrial workers, perhaps the most strikingly innovative accomplishment of her career. She invited Mary Anderson and Margaret Dreier Robins to participate in an organizational meeting and expressed her solicitude about the possible reaction of the American Federation of Labor (see letter of April 4 to Pauline Goldmark). More routinely, Thomas was writing about faculty appointments, salary increases for the college staff personnel, the need to economize on campus costs, efforts to recruit a dean, and plans to establish a Department of Music. Marie Curie and Emmeline Pankhurst were invited to speak at the college. Difficulties within the Association of Collegiate Alumnae regarding its club house in Washington were aired, and a disagreement with Edith Hamilton about the composition of the Bryn Mawr School Board of Managers emerged (December 23 letter to Edith Hamilton). Thomas retained the services of an efficiency expert to survey campus operations and recommend a new plan of organizing the administration. There is a multitude of letters regarding committee meetings -- joint, standing, special, etc. -- of the Board of Directors and the faculty. In the surge of old and new represented on this reel, Thomas demonstrated the steadfastness of her central feminist theme; in a letter of March 1 to Asa S. Wing, she vigorously asserted the reasons that the presidency of Bryn Mawr College should be kept in the hands of women.

Reel: 142

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 68.

April 26-November 5, 1921

Judging from her official correspondence, nothing so much engaged M. Carey Thomas's attention during the final year of her presidency as the Summer School for Women Workers in Industry. On April 29 she invited the following to serve on its Advisory Committee: Mary Van Kleeck, Grace Abbot, Mary McDowell, Edith Campbell, Victor A. Olander, Mary Gilson, Charles B. Stillman, Maude Schwartz, Mary Dreier, Alice Hamilton, and Margaret Dreier Robins. On May 26, she added Alvin E. Dodd, W.H. Hamilton, and Frances Perkins. Writing to Rose Schneiderman on May 25, Thomas promised that the summer school faculty would have complete academic freedom in choosing both subject matter and methodology. She added that she personally hoped that subjects would be treated academically and not confined to matters relating directly to industrial work. To raise money for the support of the school, Thomas personally undertook a letter campaign. President Thomas played an active role in preparing a tribute to Madame Marie Curie and in raising money for the Marie Curie Radium Fund. In a letter on this subject to Frances Hand (April 30), she cited the work of American women in science, mentioning Alice Hamilton, Florence Sabin, Anna Johnson Pell, Ada Hart Arlitt, Rebecca Laird, and Florence Bascom. Writing about the selection of her successor, Thomas stated that she did not consider Marion Park the candidate best qualified for the position. In several confidential letters, she seems to have tried to promote the selection of Lucy Donnelly. Other college matters discussed include her efforts to assure the donation of a telescope by the construction of an observatory to house it on the campus; the recruitment of "new style" wardens (i.e. those qualified to carry academic responsibilities rather than housekeeping duties) and implementation of other recommendations of an efficiency expert; plans for the Anna Howard Shaw Foundation lectures at BMC (see letter of September 21 to Carrie Chapman Catt); and the threat of the Self-Government Board to resign if the faculty and/or administration attempted to regulate students' week-end absences. Thomas's continuing interest in the peace movement is reflected in her letters to Hamilton Holt agreeing to serve on a committee to organize support for the League of Nations and to Samuel Gompers accepting membership on an advisory disarmament committee.

Reel: 143

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 69.

November 5, 1921-June 2, 1922

Carey Thomas's concern about the selection of her successor peaked in the final months of 1921. At different times she asserted that her first choice was Caroline Spurgeon (letter of December 21 to Isabel Maddison) and Ada Comstock (December 9 letter to Asa S. Wing), but in the latter case she added that Marion E. Park would be acceptable to her. On January 7 she confided to Marion Reilly her belief that "all except the most liberal men on the faculty feel that with a man in the presidency they can get rid of the hated competition of women and especially of women full professors and heads of departments." Letters regarding the summer school for industrial workers and the departments of Economics and of Social Research attest to Thomas's defense of their curricula against the criticism of such organizations as the Chamber of Commerce (January 31 letter to G.W.B. Hicks) and her pride in the confidence organized labor had shown in their programs (February 6 letter to Helen Bartlett). Other interests emerging at this time include the following: support of the Smith-Towner bill to create a federal Department of Education (December 12 letter to Representative Caleb R. Layton); promotion of international education (for example, the Institute of International Education and women's education in England); advocacy of the admission of women to architectural schools (letter of February 18 to Josiah Penniman) and the inclusion of women on national student committees (letter of January 16 to John Rothchild). In planning for the commencement of 1922, Thomas participated in the preparations for the ceremony commemorating her retirement and celebrating her career. On May 27, in the first of a pair of remarkable letters to keynote speaker William Welch, Thomas listed distinguished scholars, scientists, and administrators who had begun their careers at Bryn Mawr College. The continuation of this letter is contained in Letterbook no. 70.

Reel: 144

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook no. 70.

May 29-September 6, (December) 1922

Combined in Letterbook no. 70 are the final pieces of M. Carey Thomas's presidential correspondence and the first of her successor, Marion Edwards Park. For the purpose of this publication, only letters written by, to, or on behalf of Thomas have been microfilmed. Included are all of the first 195 1/2 pages (items dated May 29-September 6) and twenty-six additional letters scattered throughout the remainder of the volume. The second of a two-part letter to Dr. William Welch, in which President Thomas summarized her perception of the highlights of both Bryn Mawr College's history and her own career, is located near the beginning of this reel. (Its complement, dated May 27, is in the preceding letterbook.) In it Thomas cited the following as the college's contributions to the higher education of women: graduate fellowships, fellowships to foreign students, the group system of course requirements, entrance examination requirements, and knowledge of French and German as a requisite for graduation. She added that Bryn Mawr was the first college to recognize the importance of residence as an element of education, the first to employ only college graduates as wardens, the first to treat men and women on the faculty equally, the first to have women as heads of departments in which men also taught, and the leader in employing married women in its faculty. In summary she concluded that Bryn Mawr had always emphasized not only scholarship but the same scholarship for men and women. Thomas's other correspondence on this reel treats such topics as staff and faculty appointments, fund raising for the International Federation of University Women and the Summer School for Women Workers in Industry, and notices to students of their appointments to campus jobs, and to students and their parents of academic failures.

Reel: 145

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Outgoing Correspondence: Vacation Scrapbooks A, B and C. Microfilmed on Reel 146 are three scrapbooks made up of mounted copies of M. Carey Thomas's official letters written during several vacations. The dates of entries are as follows: Scrapbook no. A -- June - September, 1896; December 20-31, 1897; July 14-19, 1899; Scrapbook no. B -- July 19 - October 16, 1899; February 5-9, 1900; Scrapbook no. C -- July 3 - August 8, 1900. Subjects covered are similar to those focused upon in Thomas's academic term correspondence, with certain predictable variations: remodelling of the Deanery; upkeep, staffing, opening, and closing of campus buildings; the Bryn Mawr School (including the appointment of Edith Hamilton as headmistress in 1896); the Naples Table; faculty selection and appointments; college monies (notably the expenditures of Mary Garrett's annual gift of \$10,000). Additionally, Thomas wrote numerous letters of instruction to staff members remaining on campus during the vacation periods regarding their general duties and special problems.

Reel: 146

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Outgoing Correspondence: Vacation Scrapbooks D, E, F and Copybooks G, H, I. Reel 147 is made up of three vacation scrapbooks containing M. Carey Thomas's official correspondence and three official copybooks dated as follows: Scrapbook no. D -- August 8 - September 4, 1900; December 1, 1900; Scrapbook no. E -- August 2-18, 1902; Scrapbook no. F -- August 18-26, 1902; April 9-11, 1903; Copybook no. G -- 1905; Copybook no. H* -- September 2, 1910 - October 31, 1915; Copybook no. I* -- December 8, 1906 - April 10, 1910* (Copybooks H and I are not in chronological order; the latter surfaced after processing and indexing of the former had been completed.) The subject matter of M. Carey Thomas's vacation scrapbooks on this reel, as on the preceding reel, is general college business in its sundry aspects. In addition, there is a concentration in 1902 of material pertaining to the construction of a power house on campus. The copybooks, which are not limited to vacation letters, are comprised of carbon copies of President Thomas's handwritten official correspondence. Because of this process, the technical quality tends to be very poor; many are so faint as to be partially or virtually illegible. These letters, handwritten by Thomas because of the importance of the addressees or the personal or confidential nature of the subject matter, are a select group. Included are such recipients and respective topics as John D. Rockefeller, Jr. (his family's gifts to the college); David Scull and Henry Tatnall (confidential Trustees' business); Anna Woerishoffer (a memorial to Carola Woerishoffer); Sophonisba Breckinridge (suffrage finances); and Josephine Thomas (Thomas's estrangement from Mamie Gwinn Hodder).

Reel: 147

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Outgoing Correspondence. 1878-1907

Reel 148 is comprised of M. Carey Thomas's outgoing unbound correspondence from a twenty-five year period preceding the establishment of Bryn Mawr College and covering its early history. Although the reel begins with Thomas's letter withdrawing from enrollment at the Johns Hopkins University because of the restrictions against her full participation in its programs, most of this correspondence pertains directly to the operations of Bryn Mawr College. Included are a number of Dean Thomas's letters to President James E. Rhoads, notably her seminal letter of August 14, 1883, setting forth her ideas and aspirations for the college. In addition, there are letters to members of the Board of Trustees about college finances, construction of Pembroke dormitory and other campus buildings, and the religious life of the college community; letters to members of the faculty about housing, contracts, courses, and curriculum; and letters to various addressees about college publications, fund raising, the Naples Table Association, the appointment of Marion Reilly as dean in 1907, etc. (Note: Microfilmed on Reels 148-151 is President Thomas's extant unbound official correspondence from the Bryn Mawr College Archives. Consisting of drafts, carbon copies, and recipient copies, these letters have been removed from a subject file of records from Thomas's administration, and filed chronologically for the purpose of this microfilm publication. Undoubtedly a number of the carbon copies duplicate items in the presidential letterbooks. However spot checks have confirmed that the preponderance of this correspondence does not replicate items present elsewhere in the collection. The researcher should use this material in conjunction with the letterbooks in order to have access to the entire run of Thomas's outgoing official mail.)

Reel: 148

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Outgoing Correspondence.
1908-1913

M. Carey Thomas's official correspondence from 1908 to 1913 pertains to college business and policy, her involvement in educational matters not directly related to Bryn Mawr College, and the women's suffrage movement. Among the principal topics concerning the college are its operating budget, Student Self-Government, the endowment fund, May Day, faculty housing, the ornamentation of campus buildings and grounds, and staff appointments. In addition, President Thomas manifested considerable interest in the United States Commissioner of Education's report on colleges for women (January 8, 1908 letter to Elmer Ellsworth Brown); the College Entrance Examination Board; and the reform of the Pennsylvania Higher Education Code (January 1909). Thomas's active involvement in the suffrage movement is documented in her copious correspondence with Anna Howard Shaw, Caroline Lexow, and others.

Reel: 149

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Outgoing Correspondence.
1914-1918

Letters about the 1916 faculty uprising predominate on Reel 150. Much information may be gleaned from these letters relevant to the following: the background of accumulating misunderstanding and distrust; the charges of abuses leveled against President Thomas in the Philadelphia Public Ledger; her item by item rebuttal of these criticisms; and the resolution of the crisis with the adoption and implementation of the New Plan of Government. (Correspondence in this file from the year 1916 is unusually heavy. When the college records from M. Carey Thomas's administration were reorganized in 1950 to provide access to unbound materials through a topical arrangement, letters relating to the faculty crisis were excised from one of Thomas's official letterbooks (no. 61) and incorporated into this file. Whenever identifiable, these errant documents have been restored to the letterbook, with xerox copies being retained in this series.) Other topics of considerable correspondence on Reel 150 are the Phebe Anna Thorne Model School, the institution of a cut rule regulating undergraduate class attendance together with student protest against it, and the American School for Classical Studies at Athens.

Reel: 150

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Outgoing Correspondence.
1919-1935 and undated

Up to the time of her retirement, President Thomas's correspondence remained germane to the general operations of Bryn Mawr College. However, her presidential correspondence on this reel (approximately 850 frames) was interrupted by her absence from the campus on sabbatical leave in 1919-1920. Two years later in the spring of 1922, she retired. During her sabbatical leave she wrote frequent, substantive letters to acting president Helen H. Taft. Prior to her leave and after her return to her official duties, her mail treated familiar subjects: faculty salaries, assignments, and appointments; reorganization of the administration to achieve greater efficiency; gifts to the college treasury, etc. She also assisted in the preparations for her own retirement celebration, and her letters of May 27 and 29, 1922 to the principal speaker William Welch, encapsulating the college's academic innovations and listing its leading scholars, embody her personal evaluation of her most important contributions to Bryn Mawr College and to American higher education. Correspondence from Thomas's retirement years is sparse. Among the topics are the Deanery, the Athens Hostel, the Equal Rights Amendment, the Anna Howard Shaw Memorial Fund, the Bryn Mawr School, the college's Fiftieth Anniversary celebration in 1935, and her support for prohibition and a minimum wage. (Note: To preserve the integrity of their provenance, M. Carey Thomas's Personal Papers have not been merged with the official records of her administration as president of Bryn Mawr College. Among the official papers there are small lots of both incoming and outgoing correspondence from the years after her retirement. How they became a part of the college archives is not clear. Thomas did not vacate the Deanery until 1933 and it may be that these items derive from her intermittent periods of residence on campus during her years as president emeritus. In any case, students of her activities in retirement should not overlook this material. On the other hand, those interested in her continued involvements in educational institutions (Bryn Mawr College, the Bryn Mawr School, the Athens Hostel, etc.) and social reform (the Equal Rights Amendment, prohibition, etc.) should also consult the considerable body of papers relating to these subjects among Thomas's Personal Papers.)

Reel: 151

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.
M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Incoming
Correspondence.
1880-1894

The richest concentration of documents from the first decade of Bryn Mawr College's history to be found in the M. Carey Thomas Papers is microfilmed on this reel. It is preceded by approximately seventy frames of letters deriving from the years immediately prior to the opening of the college (1880-1884). Letters of application for positions on the college faculty and staff, letters of inquiry from prospective students, and letters of congratulations from well wishers form the bulk of this material. Included are such noteworthy items as Hannah Whitall Smith's letter congratulating her niece on her doctorate and H.B. Adam's recommendation of Woodrow Wilson for a position on the BMC faculty. In addition, there are a few pieces about the Association of Collegiate Alumnae activities and membership. With the opening of the college in 1885, the influx of correspondence accelerated. A dozen letters of President James E. Rhoads bearing his observations, instructions, and counsel about the general operations of the college survive from the first year. Other 1885 letters -- letters of application, recommendation, and appointment of faculty, staff, and fellows -- afford a glimpse of the nature of the group that assembled on campus for the college's first term. Among these are two Woodrow Wilson letters evaluating candidates for history fellowships. Administrative correspondence regarding students and faculty continue through the remainder of the reel. It is enriched by substantive and illuminating letters from college trustees. Carey Thomas's uncle, James Whitall, periodically sent her letters remarkable for the information they provide about Trustees' business, particularly the financial interests of the college, and for the wisdom, practicality, and caution of his advice to his ambitious niece. Whitall's letters are amplified and complemented by those of other trustees: David Scull, Philip C. Garrett, Albert Smiley, Edward Bettle, James Carey Thomas, and James E. Rhoads. The academic program in the early years of the college's operation produced a rich and varied correspondence: Josiah Royce's recommendations of philosophers are striking in content and expression; Charlotte A. Scott's plans for joining the faculty and developing a new department, to be found in her 1885 letters, are reprised in an 1894 letter of Florence Bascom. Carolyn C. Ladd recorded the inception of the physical education program and revealed her disillusionment with her status and treatment; Professor Lindley Keasbey's Free Silver beliefs provoked an 1890 letter of protest. James Rhoad's letters provide some access to his views about faculty matters. In June 1888 he commented in several letters about Woodrow Wilson's failure to honor the terms of his contract with the college. On August 22, 1891, Rhoads informed Dean Thomas that he felt the appointment of Jews to the faculty would be a violation of the college's charter, adding that their presence on campus would make the preaching and teaching of Christianity exceedingly difficult. A non-BMC subject covered by a small but rich run of correspondence is the establishment of the Johns Hopkins University Medical School. Mary E. Garrett's interest in the medical education of women in Baltimore as early as January 1885 is documented. Substantive letters on

**Papers of M. Carey Thomas
Reel Listing**

fund raising and policy decisions ultimately resulting in the endowment of the Medical School continue from that early date into the first months of 1893, including among others, letters from James Carey Thomas, Elizabeth T. King, Francis King, Mary Garrett, William Welch, and Dr. Emily Blackwell.

Reel: 152

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Incoming Correspondence.
1895-May 1898

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Letters to President M. Carey Thomas surviving from the period, 1895 - May 1898, suggest that beneath the surface of routine business a critical struggle was being waged to determine the college's destiny. Apparently the president was intent on modifying the program and policies of the college in the direction of greater academic freedom and intellectual excellence, while the Board of Trustees was equally determined to assure that the primary goal of the college remain the commitment to Christian education and principles. Following the deaths of James E. Rhoads and James Carey Thomas in 1895 and 1897 respectively, Thomas received letters of condolence. These were followed in each case by warnings from the trustees that her hope to be named to the trusteeships vacated by the demise of these loyal supporters would not be realized. David Scull's letters on this subject are noteworthy in both instances. In fact, Scull, who was Thomas's cousin and personal friend, seems often to have served as spokesman for the Board in communicating its displeasure with her policies, perhaps softening some of its criticisms in the process. In October 1896 and again in January 1897, he catalogued her perceived shortcomings. Other trustees' letters, particularly in early 1895 and at the end of 1896, convey similar messages of conservative, even rigid, policies. Some literally advocated book burning. Of the extant trustees' letters, only Albert K. Smiley's are uniformly supportive. Although specific incidents that distressed or outraged the Trustees rarely appear, one outstanding example may be traced within the span of this reel. Early in 1896 Alys Russell wrote to her cousin Carey proposing that she and Bertrand give a series of lectures at Bryn Mawr College. Other letters from Alys and Bertrand preparatory to their visit follow; none suggest the controversial nature of the topics they were to examine. Following their visit Alys wrote that she hoped they had not caused trouble for Thomas with the trustees and specifically denied that she or Bertrand had mentioned religion, neo-Malthusianism, or free love to the students. However Alys Russell's disclaimers did not save Carey Thomas from the Board's criticism, and the Russell lectures were cited in Scull's list of grievances in the January 1897 letter. Restrictions on free discussion came not only from Trustees and were not limited to moral issues. Thomas received letters protesting reported vivisection in the biology laboratories (fall of 1895) and proscribing proposed lectures on socialism and Free Silver (letters of Alexander C. Wood and David Scull). An April 25, 1897, letter from Ida Hyde proposed the formation of a committee to support a woman at the Naples biological research station and invited Thomas to chair the committee. Subsequent correspondence from Hyde and others treats the early history of the Naples Table Association. Faculty correspondence continues, including a suggestion from Joseph W. Warren that, because of the anxiety they produced among students, senior oral examinations should be restructured. Complaining of sexist attitudes which she perceived to be generally held, Charlotte A. Scott, in a letter of January 12, 1898, charged that male professors at BMC believed education had to be watered down for women. Other professors grumbled

about the inadequacy of their salaries, failure of promotions to be granted as promised, etc.

Reel: 153

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Incoming Correspondence.

June 1898-1900

Letters bracketing the turn of the century, though heavier in volume, are less consequential in subject matter than those of the preceding years. Trustees' letters continue to be numerous, but the topics discussed have shifted from fundamental educational principles to such relatively mundane matters as faculty appointments and salaries, building upkeep and repairs, and budget and finances. By the end of 1899, Henry Tatnall, Chairman of the Finance Committee, was inundating Thomas with queries and directions about the overall budget of the college and its day to day financial transactions. As the number of his letters grew, his tone became increasingly rigid and testy. Faculty letters form a second major body of correspondence. Protest against senior oral language examinations continued (Gonzalez Lodge, December 4, 1898). Clarence D. Ashley offered to teach a legal course to Bryn Mawr College students without compensation and added that women needed to be trained to be intellectually more aggressive in questioning the content of lectures presented in classroom situations. William A. Neilson's letters in the spring of 1899 reflect his willingness to accept criticism and his openness to advice and guidance in his teaching. In spite of this apparent malleability, his work at BMC did not earn Thomas's confidence and he resigned the following April. The Naples Table, library acquisitions, Ume Tsuda's plans to open a private school in her native Japan (August 9, 1900 letter), the Olmsted Brothers' plan for landscaping the campus (October 22, 1898), Librarian Isabel E. Lord's objections to Cope's library design (December 5, 1900), faculty housing, the Bryn Mawr school, and Student Self-Government are other subjects of correspondence.

Reel: 154

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Incoming Correspondence.
1901-1903

The topics that dominated M. Carey Thomas's incoming correspondence during 1901-1903 were a major building program and the fund drive launched to support the new construction. Letters from Cope and Stewardson, the architects in charge of the program, first appear in the spring of 1901, marking the beginning of one of the heaviest and apparently most complete runs of correspondence in this series. There is, in addition, a number of letters from John D. Rockefeller, Jr. about the Rockefeller pledge to the construction fund. By the second half of 1903, serious disagreements arising out of the expansion of the college plant were apparent as the trustees opposed the president's wishes concerning numerous architectural and decorative features, partly in an effort to check spiraling costs. Faculty letters include some annual departmental reports (occurring for the first time here and at the end of subsequent years), reports of faculty committees, and communications from and about the Faculty Senate (see the letters of Joseph W. Warren). Documentation of the interest of suffrage leaders in reaching college audiences begins to appear at this time. Carrie Chapman Catt, in December 1901, offered to recommend lectures for the college. The following year on February 1, Susan B. Anthony disclosed her plans to visit Bryn Mawr and recommended Anna Howard Shaw as a speaker. Items of special import include Trustee Philip G. Garrett's February 1902 letter supporting strict adherence to the policy of denying faculty applications to offer courses on other campuses; Nettie Stevens' 1903 letter accepting a BMC research fellowship because she was unable to find a suitable position elsewhere; and letters in May and June of 1902 from the president of the Student Self-Government Association regarding the procedures and limitations to be observed in investigating students suspected of criminal acts.

Reel: 155

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Incoming Correspondence.
1904-1905

A variety of subjects-building construction, the design of the college seal, Naples Table Association matters, decoration of the library, the deficit in the construction budget, and College Entrance Examination Board matters -- is discussed in M. Carey Thomas's correspondence on Reel 156. Officials of other colleges frequently sought President Thomas's advice, based upon the Bryn Mawr experience, about such matters as rules of student conduct, dormitory design and construction, table costs, and, most particularly, the operation of the student self-government. In February 1904, Alice Rand Eldridge offered the college an important mineral collection for its geology department. Writing on May 10, 1905, Susan B. Anthony voiced her concern about the difficulties qualified women experienced in finding college teaching positions. In the spring of 1905, John G. Johnson, an eminent Philadelphia attorney who provided the college with free legal services, sent Thomas his opinion regarding the Carnegie Foundation pension plan for college and university professors and the measures that should be taken in seeking admission to the program. The following fall Thomas collected statistical data from the Bryn Mawr faculty preparatory to submitting an application to the Foundation. In May and June of 1905 there was an influx of letters from parents whose daughters' prospects for graduation were adversely affected by the newly adopted merit rules.

Reel: 156

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Incoming Correspondence.
1906-1907

Two great controversies erupted on the Bryn Mawr College campus in 1906. The first, charges of highhandedness in dealing with faculty and staff and cost overruns in the building construction program combined to provoke a Trustees' inquiry into President M. Carey Thomas's integrity and fitness for her office. Very little documentation concerning the investigations is to be found in this material. The most important piece of evidence in the case against Thomas preserved here is a letter of November 29, 1906, from E.W. Bowles in which he attempts to explain a discrepancy in Thomas's account of how teak wood came to be ordered for library paneling in opposition to the Trustees' directions. A few letters of support from Thomas's friends and well wishers are present. Of these the most eloquent and illuminating is that of alumna Abby Kirk (December 4, 1906) reporting public opinion: "It is true that many people distrust you, that you have a reputation for acting on principles of policy rather than of honour -- that more than once you have been said to have broken a promise -- and that these things are said openly and widely believed in other colleges..." and expressing her own complete loyalty: "To tell the truth -- you, rather than the college, are my alma mater"... "The other controversy is more amply documented. Although its background is sketchy, it is clear that objections were raised, probably by the Student Self-Government Association, against smoking by women staff and faculty members. Beginning in May 1906 and continuing through the year there are a great many letters about the smoking imbroglio, including a host of denials that they smoked from women in the college community. Apparently women employees were expected to foreswear smoking in private as well as in public, off campus as well as on the grounds of the college, and on vacation as well as during the school year. Other subjects of importance appear in isolated letters. Anna Howard Shaw, writing on March 10, 1906, related Susan B. Anthony's sick bed wish that her estate should be added to the fund Carey Thomas was collecting to support suffrage work. On June 8 of that year, David Starr Jordan reported to President Thomas the extent of earthquake damage suffered by Stanford University. Vernon Howe Bailey wrote about the series of drawings of the campus he had been commissioned to produce. Ira Remsen of Johns Hopkins University, replying in March 1907 to Thomas's charge that he had raided the Bryn Mawr faculty, acknowledged the validity of her grievance and promised to seek elsewhere for qualified candidates before calling any other Bryn Mawr men. Ume Tsuda wrote on May 22, 1907, about the progress of her plans for establishing a school in Japan. Mail from faculty, trustees, and parents persists; the latter most often regards students' academic shortcomings.

Reel: 157

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Incoming Correspondence.
1908-1909

The years 1908-1909 appear, based on the content of President M. Carey Thomas's incoming mail, to have been a relatively serene time on the Bryn Mawr College campus. The mix of subjects is heavily weighted in the direction of the day to day college operations. Trustees' letters emphasize organizational and financial matters. Very heavy faculty correspondence reveals that this otherwise quiet period saw the introduction of a number of new courses and innovative classroom methods as the faculty and administration experimented with ways to capture the interest of a seemingly under-motivated generation of students. On April 27, 1909, Tenney Frank protested that the contract Thomas had offered him failed to fulfill promises she had made to him earlier. As revealed in Thomas's correspondence, Lucien Foulet stunned the 1909 commencement audience with a public outburst against what he interpreted as anti-Gallic remarks of the commencement speaker, David Starr Jordan. The dispute with Cope and Stewardson over their fees, which was finally settled in the fall of 1908, generated considerable correspondence, the most instructive part being the communications of college counsel John G. Johnson. John Olmstead and Lockwood deForest letters about the landscaping of college grounds and decorations of buildings are present, along with letters from several sources about the design of the college seal and the erection of a memorial sun dial on the campus. There is a slight amount of correspondence about the suffrage movement, the Bryn Mawr School in Baltimore, the Ywca, and the College Entrance Examination Board.

Reel: 158

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Incoming Correspondence.
1910-June 1912

Faculty and trustees letters regarding routine college business form the bulk of correspondence on Reel 159. In general good news seems to have outweighed the bad. In June of 1910 President Thomas received congratulations upon the successful completion of the one-half million dollar endowment drive from, among others, William H. Taft. Taft, in the same letter accepted an invitation to visit the college. In the fall, many friends of the college sent their felicitations on the celebration of its twenty-fifth anniversary. Announcement of a major gift from Jonathan and Samuel Thome also generated correspondence at the end of 1910. The following fall the legacy to the college of a large share of Carola Woerishoffer's estate occasioned another influx of congratulations. Complaints about the heating system and the threat of a scarlet fever epidemic, which closed the college briefly in the spring of 1911, were the only college-wide problems which surface in this correspondence. In May of 1910 Marion Reilly reported that a number of students had attended a Eugene V. Debs political meeting without permission. Richard Holbrook protested in the spring of 1912 against the decision that he would not receive a promotion which he considered due to him. Thomas, in correspondence clustered between November 1911 and February 1912, personally received a good deal of criticism (as well as support) for her role in an Association of Collegiate Alumnae controversy over reorganization. Outstanding among these is the evenly balanced analysis of Sophonisba Breckinridge. There is a flurry of suffrage letters in May 1910 including notable letters from Anna Howard Shaw and Lucy Salmon. In the spring of 1912 Mary Thayer Scudder requested permission for her daughter to march in a suffrage parade. Several noteworthy individual items include the following: Soliciting information about Nettie Stevens for an article in the journal Science, T.H. Morgan lauded the accomplishments of her brief career. In October 1911 Abraham Flexner asserted that women's colleges should follow the lead of the most prestigious men's colleges in liberalizing their entrance requirements. On May 18, 1912, Mary Coes informed President Thomas that Mary Woolley, James Taylor, Ellen Pendleton, and others were unwilling to invite Madame Marie Curie to lecture on their campuses because of scandal involving her. Coes suggested that the Naples Table Association might want to reconsider its decision to offer a prize to Curie during her American tour.

Reel: 159

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Incoming Correspondence.
July 1912-1914

Extant M. Carey Thomas incoming correspondence from this period is largely made up of faculty correspondence, staff memoranda (from the librarian, the business manager, presidential assistants, etc.) and other types of intra-campus mail. The perennial theme of inadequate faculty salaries is varied by reports of parents' contributions to a special fund for alleviating this situation (October-December 1912) and by protests against a change in the salary payment schedule (March and April 1914). Other faculty correspondence regards the organization of departments, especially English (see particularly Lucy Donnelly's letters) and psychology; classes and schedules; academic policy; etc. (Note: Drafts of Arthur Wheeler's letters to President Thomas have been placed in the college archives. When present, these have been filed and microfilmed along with the recipient copies. In some cases only the draft survives.) Preparatory to the opening of the Phebe Anna Thome Model School, Principal-elect, Mathilde Castro, and professor of education, Kate Gordon, both travelled extensively visiting schools in the United States and Europe in search of new and useful ideas regarding programs and administration. Letters reporting their travels are present. Facilities for women at the American School for Classical Studies in Athens and the women's suffrage movement are also subjects of discussion in this correspondence. Regarding the latter, there are substantive letters from Anna Howard Shaw and Katherine D. McCormick. Trustees' letters, which earlier composed a sizeable and informative portion of President Thomas's mail, by the end of 1912 had dwindled to a very few, most of which were from the Treasurer of the Board, Asa S. Wing.

Reel: 160

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Incoming Correspondence.

1915-September 1918

Long-smoldering faculty unrest provoked chiefly by the concentration of power in the hands of President M. Carey Thomas gathered heat, exploded dramatically, and was resolved to the satisfaction of most of the college community in the course of time covered by correspondence on this reel. By the end of the period, the campus crisis had been superceded as a focus of interest by international events. Dissatisfaction with changes in the organization and personnel of the English Department, one of the most volatile sources of the discontent which erupted in the Faculty Uprising during the spring of 1916, is amply documented. In the last half of 1915, for example, Thomas received a sizable influx of alumnae letters protesting the demotion of Regina Crandall, who had formerly headed the department's essay work. Particularly useful in elucidating the faculty's position in this confrontation is a December 4, 1915, letter of Arthur H. Wheeler's rejecting a plan offered by President Thomas for modifying the Bryn Mawr College faculty-trustee relationship and insisting that the American Association of University Professors's model of faculty involvement in college administration be adhered to. Letters from Trustees, the Public Ledger's editor, and alumnae (especially Elizabeth Shepley Sargeant and Evangeline Andrews) help to further clarify this matter. By the spring of 1917 letters pertaining to war relief, possible military service of faculty and staff, restrictions on travel, etc. had begun to appear. There are small lots of correspondence regarding student defense work and Emmeline Pankhurst's patriotic efforts. Several letters reporting student hijinks - trespassing on neighboring property, spying on faculty meetings, etc. - survive from 1918.

Reel: 161

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Incoming Correspondence.

October 1918-1922

Incoming correspondence deriving from President M. Carey Thomas's last years in office is microfilmed on Reel 162. Subjects of discussion include faculty pensions; women smoking on campus; the Summer School for Women Workers in Industry; the possible gift of a telescope to the college (Isabel R. Hewitt's letters); college monies and fund raising; the Bryn Mawr School (Edith Hamilton's letters); the Athens Hostel; establishment of the Music Department; staff salaries; and gifts to the college. During Thomas's sabbatical leave in the academic year 1919-1920, Acting President Helen H. Taft recapitulated in lengthy, newsy letters events and changes on the campus, especially her own activities. Among the distinguished correspondents represented are Herbert Hoover (letter of October 21, 1918) commenting on the college's response to the Federal Food program, Felix Frankfurter (February 7, 1919) praising the work of Bryn Mawr College trained industrial counselors, Emmeline Pankhurst, and Carrie Chapman Catt. The reel concludes with letters of congratulations and best wishes to Carey Thomas upon her retirement.

Reel: 162

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Incoming Correspondence.

1923-1935 and undated

The first approximately two hundred frames on Reel 163 are letters from M. Carey Thomas's official papers deriving from her retirement years. Most pertain to college matters in which she had an ongoing interest: the Summer School for Women Workers in Industry, the Anna Howard Shaw lectures, Board of Trustees business, and her gift of the Deanery's furnishings and decorative objects to the college alumnae association. Other topics include the Athens Hostel, Thomas's speaking engagements, the Bryn Mawr School, and the Equal Rights Amendment. The reel concludes with about nine hundred frames of undated correspondence filed alphabetically by author. Included, among others, are Katherine Loring's and Elizabeth King Ellicott's letters regarding the Women's Fund for the Johns Hopkins University Medical School; a Helen Taft Manning letter concerning the visit of the Queen of the Belgians to Bryn Mawr College; an Edith Wharton thank you note; and several letters each of Alys Russell and Susan M. Kingsbury.

Reel: 163

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, A - Alumnae Association: Endowment Fund.

Highlights of Reel 164 include papers (agenda, reports, a copy of the constitution, etc.) of the Affiliated Summer Schools for Women Workers in Industry, 1926-1934, and several folders regarding the Alumnae Association and its activities.

Reel: 164

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, Alumnae Associations: Loans and Gifts - Association of Collegiate Alumnae: Foreign Universities. Papers pertaining to the Alumnae Association, begun on Reel 164, continue on Reel 165. Of note are folders of memorabilia from the college's 25th and 50th Anniversaries. The reel concludes with eight folders of reports, lists, statistics, etc. regarding the Association of Collegiate Alumnae.

Reel: 165

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, Athens Hostel - Bryn Mawr College: Seal, Use of. Material concerning the history of the Athens Hostel (including blueprints) is microfilmed at the beginning of Reel 166. Much of the remainder of the reel is comprised of topics directly related to the college. In addition to such subjects as "Athletic Association," "Bookplate," and "Bookshop," there are sixteen subtopics under "Bryn Mawr College." In particular, the folders on "Organization" are rich in documents concerning the founding of the college, including Carey Thomas's confidential journals reporting her travels to other women's colleges on a fact-finding tour prior to the opening of Bryn Mawr.

Reel: 166

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, Bryn Mawr College: Staffing - College Inn: Tea Room. Topics listed under "Bryn Mawr" are concluded on Reel 167. Among the subjects on which there are sizable holdings are the Bryn Mawr School in Baltimore, the Charter and By-laws of the college, and the Christian Association.

Reel: 167

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, College Inn Association: Finance - Departments: English. Papers regarding the College Inn, begun on Reel 167, are concluded on Reel 168. There is documentation concerning two significant controversies in President Thomas's administration in the folders entitled "Cope and Stewardson" and "Crandall, Regina." Papers relating to campus buildings are filed in the Cope and Stewardson folders and under the names Denbigh Hall, Dalton Hall, and the Deanery. Surviving records of academic departments from Biblical Literature through English are microfilmed on this reel.

Reel: 168

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, Departments: French - Exclusion of Students. Papers of academic departments from French through Spanish are microfilmed on Reel 169. Other noteworthy subjects are Endowment, the Equal Rights Amendment, European Fellowships, Examinations, and Exclusion of Students.

Reel: 169

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, F - Finances. 1901

Papers pertaining to the faculty, its rules, salaries, pensions, etc. make up the bulk of the material microfilmed on Reel 170. Also of note are applications, lists, announcements, etc. regarding fellowships.

Reel: 170

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, Findlay, J.J. - Hallowell, Anna. Items of substance pertaining to the history of the college are to be found on Reel 171 under the headings "Fires and Fire Rules," "Friends at Bryn Mawr College" (notably a protest in Mamie Gwinn's handwriting against a statement in the college Program regarding Bryn Mawr College's association with the Society of Friends), "Mary Elizabeth Garrett" (including a holograph copy of Garrett's letter to the BMC Board of Trustees offering the college an annual gift of \$10,000 during her lifetime contingent on Carey Thomas's holding the office of president), "General Education Board," "Gymnasium," and several listings applicable to the graduate school program.

Reel: 171

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, Halls - League of Nations. An unusually large number of topics are microfilmed on Reel 172. Although many of the folders have single or a very few items, there are interesting runs of papers in several categories. Of note are records filed under "Health" and "Infirmary," papers regarding Richard T. Holbrook (whose termination was one of the precipitating factors in the faculty uprising in 1916), "Landscape Architects" (Vaux and Olmsted plans for the campus), and several folders regarding the Johns Hopkins University Medical School.

Reel: 172

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, Lectures and Lecturers - Merion Hall. Three long runs of papers are microfilmed on Reel 173. These pertain to the Library (book lists, appropriations data, fund drive and construction information), the Low Buildings (legal, financial, and construction records), and May Day (clippings, programs, photographs, etc.). In addition, there are lesser lots of materials regarding such topics as "Lectures and Lecturers," "Legal Cases," and "Memorial Funds."

Reel: 173

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, Merit Law - Phebe Anna Thorne Model School. Several topics appearing on Reel 174 relate to organizations or individuals of national or international importance. These include the Naples Table Association (constitution, minutes, reports, etc.), the National College Equal Suffrage League (constitution, financial records, minutes, etc.), the Paris Club House (reports, minutes, financial records, etc.), and Emmeline Pankhurst. Of significance to the college's history are the annual reports made to the Pennsylvania Department of Public Instruction and papers regarding Orals and the Phebe Anna Thorne Model School.

Reel: 174

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, Phelps, William Lyon - President's Reports, Source Material. 1901-1902 Microfilmed on Reel 175 under the heading "Plan of Government" are, among other things, college by-laws, extracts from the minutes of the Board of Directors meetings, and President Thomas's 1916 commencement address hailing the adoption of a new form of college government. More than half the reel is comprised of source material for the President's Reports, 1898-1902. This includes rough drafts, reports of various administrative offices, departmental notes, etc.

Reel: 175

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, President's Reports, Source Material. 1902-1906 Microfilmed on Reel 176 is source material for M. Carey Thomas's President's Reports, 1902-1906. This provides a wealth of information about the college's operations during those years in the form of statistics, clippings, lists, course schedules and faculty and administrative office reports (irregularly present).

Reel: 176

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, President's Reports, Source Material: Reorganization Committee.

1906-1907

Source material for Carey Thomas's President's Reports (1906-1922) is concluded on Reel 177. Comprised of such materials as statistics regarding the student body, departmental and faculty reports, administrative records, etc., this provides considerable raw data on the history of the college. Also on this reel are folders pertaining to the Public Education Association of Philadelphia, Religion, and the Reorganization Committee (1922 reorganization).

Reel: 177

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, Requirements: Entrance - Scott, Charlotte A. Under the headings "Requirements - Entrance and Graduate" and "Scholarships - Chinese, Graduate, Japanese, and Undergraduate" papers concerning vital academic policies are microfilmed on Reel 178. Among the individuals whose files appear on this reel, the following are of particular note: James E. Rhoads, Alys Russel, Howard Savage, and Charlotte A. Scott.

Reel: 178

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, Scripture, Elsa - Summer School for Women Workers in Industry: Contributions. (1921-1922)

Papers under four general headings - Self-Government (documenting the record of student government), Students, Suffrage, and the Summer School for Women Workers in Industry -- provide most of the bulk on Reel 179. In addition, there are memorials and other items regarding David Scull, Anna Howard Shaw, and Nettie Maria Stevens. Filed under her name is Hannah Whitall Smith's letter to the Bryn Mawr College Board of Trustees supporting her niece's candidacy to be president of the college.

Reel: 179

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, Summer School for Women Workers in Industry: Curricula - Taylor, Joseph Wright: Will. Approximately one half of Reel 180 is comprised of papers regarding the Summer School for Women Workers in Industry filed under such subtopics as "Curricula," "Directors," "Executive Committee," "Finance," "Publications," "Scholarships," "Staff," and "Students." Among the papers making up the remainder of the reel, folders pertaining to Helen Herron Taft (Helen Taft Manning) and Joseph Wright Taylor are noteworthy.

Reel: 180

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, Taylor, Lily Ross - Thomas, President M. Carey: Speeches -- Am-At.
Reel 181 is dominated by papers pertaining directly to M. Carey Thomas. Under her father's name (James Carey Thomas) is a copy of his letter to the Board of Trustees recommending that she be named president of the college. Following that are eighteen folders under President Thomas's name housing papers relating to such topics as "Appreciations," "Attacks on," "Family Tree," "Health," "Leaves of Absence," "Publications," "Retirement," etc. Her speeches, filed alphabetically, begin at the end of the reel.

Reel: 181

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, Thomas, President M. Carey: Speeches -- B-Bro - Chapel.
February - June 1915
Reel 182 is made up entirely of M. Carey Thomas's speeches filed alphabetically, beginning with B and concluding with her 1915 Chapel talks. These include her public addresses delivered on and off campus. Although some of the most important of them were printed for distribution, most are present only in the form of notes from which she spoke. Thomas's speeches are begun on Reel 181 and continued on Reels 183-185; other speeches appear on Reels 77 and 78 of the Personal Papers.

Reel: 182

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, Thomas, President M. Carey: Speeches -- Chapel, - Chi-Colonial.
September-December 1915
Reel 183 is made up entirely of M. Carey Thomas's speeches filed alphabetically, beginning with Chapel talks from the fall of 1915 and concluding with "Colonial." These include her public addresses delivered on and off campus. Although some of the most important of them were printed for distribution, most are present only in the form of notes from which she spoke. Thomas's speeches are begun on Reel 181 and continue through 185; other speeches appear on Reels 77 and 78 in the Personal Papers.

Reel: 183

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, Thomas, President M. Carey: Speeches -- Commencement, Opening of College.
1893-1899 - 1900-1905
Reel 184 is made up entirely of M. Carey Thomas's speeches filed alphabetically, beginning with Commencement and concluding with Opening of College, 1905. These include her public addresses delivered on and off campus. Although some of the most important of them were printed for distribution, most are present only in the form of notes from which she spoke. Thomas's speeches are begun on Reel 181 and continue through 185; other speeches appear on Reel 77 and 78 of the Personal Papers.

Reel: 184

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, Thomas, President M. Carey: Speeches -- Opening of College, - Trustees: Scattergood, Thomas.
1906-1910
The conclusion of M. Carey Thomas's speeches (Opening of College, 1906 - Y) is microfilmed on Reel 185. Thomas's speeches, which are filed alphabetically, begin on Reel 181. They are followed by six additional topical folders regarding Thomas's travels, college trusteeship, 70th birthday, death, and will. The reel is concluded with files regarding the Trustees of the college as a group and individually.

Reel: 185

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Office Files, Trustees: Scull, David - Z.
Reel 186 begins with the remainder of individual Trustee's files (continued from Reel 185) followed by a folder of Trustees' reports. Other important topics on this concluding reel of the Office Files are the Tsuda School in Japan, Arthur L. Wheeler, Woodrow Wilson, and the Young Women's Christian Temperance Union.

Reel: 186

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Faculty Files. Faculty files (1884-1922) from President Thomas's administration and that of her predecessor, James E. Rhoads, have been microfilmed on Reels 187 and 188. The files are arranged alphabetically, with A - K on Reel 187 and L - Z on Reel 188. Record copies of contracts with professors, instructors, demonstrators, wardens, librarians, and other faculty and staff form the bulk of the material in these files. In many cases, a contract or series of contracts constitutes the entire contents of a folder. Other files, however, are enriched by correspondence, skeletal biographic data, etc. The correspondence, which includes letters of appointment and agreement supplementing the contracts, mainly covers salaries and benefits arrangements (e.g. faculty housing, sabbatical leave, etc.). Consequently, this material provides considerable detail regarding the financial transactions between the college and its faculty and staff. There is much less information to be gleaned about other aspects of faculty-administration relations. Carey Thomas's letters predominate, but there are also a sprinkling of letters from the faculty and staff and occasional third party letters. A fair number of James E. Rhoads's letters and contracts in his handwriting survive. A few folders include credentials and letters of recommendation, either by Thomas or by professors and administrators of other colleges and universities. The unusual preservation of six letters of evaluation (three by William James, two by Josiah Royce, and one by George Palmer) concerning Alfred J. Hodder suggests that other files may at one time have contained similar letters which were subsequently discarded. Some information about the faculty crisis of 1916 appears in the folders of Regina Crandall, Howard Savage, and Richard Holbrook. Various effects of World War I are reflected in the files of Rhys Carpenter, Fonger DeHaan, and Howard R. Patch. (Note: The letters on these two reels have not been included in the index of M. Carey Thomas's correspondence.).

Reel: 187-188

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letter of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 1. October 3, 1905 - January 23, 1906
This letterbook contains a number of letters suggesting improvements for several buildings currently under construction. Correspondence dealing with telephone problems in the administrative offices and a sample tea menu (p. 71) are also included.

Reel: 189

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letter of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 2. January 23, 1906 - April 20, 1906
This letterbook includes letters dealing with building construction. A letter on p. 239, apparently written in response to a query about academic rules, states that the Academic Senate, made up of the full professors of the college, deals with punishments of students for "cheating in examinations or in written work." In order to qualify for membership on the Senate, professors must have been connected with the college for a period of ten years or more. Miss Maddison adds that the Senate has held this authority since 1902. Another interesting letter on p. 343 gives the number of Southern students admitted to the College from the period of 1885-1904.

Reel: 189

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 3. April 20, 1906 - August 31, 1906
Letters on pages 83 and 107 deal with Emily Greene Balch's lecture at the college on May 14. A letter on p. 163 states that of the 454 students at the College, 20 are members of the Society of Friends, while 46 of the members of the faculty profess that faith. Also included are a number of notifications to parents, informing them that their daughters academic performance was inadequate for graduation under the college's merit law.

Reel: 190

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 4. September 1, 1906 - November 19, 1906
Between pp. 351 and 352, there has been inserted a 1907 pamphlet about the American Hospital for Diseases of the Stomach, located in Philadelphia. Another sample tea menu appears on p. 352. In a letter on p. 454, Maddison remarks that, "no difference is made at Bryn Mawr College between the salaries paid to the men and the women members of the faculty."

Reel: 190

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 5. November 19, 1906 - February 22, 1907
In a letter on pp. 55-56, Maddison enumerates facts about the types and specifications of the dormitories on campus. Letters on pp. 149 and 150 are from Caroline Lewis, superintendant of grounds, to workmen. On p. 263 there is a letter from M. Carey Thomas to Lucy Martin Donnelly concerning a course description. An unsigned letter from M. Carey Thomas concerning an article on alumnae fund raising appears on p. 263. Maddison asserts that she knows of no former student of Bryn Mawr who has ever become an actress (p. 415).

Reel: 191

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 6.
February 25, 1907 - May 21, 1907
A letter from superintendant of grounds, Caroline Lewis, is on p. 42. On p. 49 a letter appears listing lectures and courses at Bryn Mawr relating to the Society of Friends. A letter on p. 78 notes that 13 of 450 students in the previous year were Roman Catholics. Maddison further remarks that, "Bryn Mawr is strictly non-sectarian, and attendance on all religious exercises of the college is voluntary." A letter to undergraduate Theresa Helburn concerning the Junior Class Show is copied on p. 363.

Reel: 191

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 7.
May 22, 1907 - December 13, 1907
In Miss Maddison's absence from the college from June 20 - July 22, letters were written on her behalf by Bertha Warren Seely, Emily L. Shields, and Josephine A. Chase. On p. 80, Maddison writes to newspapers contradicting their report of M. Carey Thomas's resignation as Bryn Mawr College President. Responding to the queries of an entering freshman's mother (pp. 97-98) Maddison described social life at Bryn Mawr: "I think that your daughter can have as much or as little social life as she pleases ... I do not think that your daughter will be in any danger of finding the life 'all grind.'" An interesting comment appears in the letter on pp. 391-392: "Directors do not very much care to dine in the halls as the students watch them with especial interest." Also of note is Maddison's letter (p. 394) stating that she wishes to publish some information in regard to the amount possible for students to earn while going on with their college course. She wants to do this in order to combat the general impression that "Bryn Mawr College is only for the rich and therefore it is impossible to do anything to help themselves through college." There is another tea menu on p. 292.

Reel: 192

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 8.
December 13, 1907 - April 17, 1908
Three of M. Carey Thomas's letters are copied in this letterbook (pp. 18, 19, 20). Maddison warns students with poor academic records that they should give up all engagements and entertainment not included in their college work in order to have the best possible chance of obtaining degrees. On p. 245, Maddison advises the faculty that President Thomas wishes the March faculty meeting to be postponed so that it will not interfere with the address to be given by Jane Addams on March 16.

Reel: 192

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 10.
November 6, 1908 - March 3, 1909
This letterbook contains letters signed by Helen E. True on behalf of Miss Maddison. Maddison writes to Harper's Weekly on pp. 1 and 2 discussing faculty publication interests. Letters on pp. 3 and 58 describe attendance regulations. Maddison accounts for the decreasing number of students from 1903 to 1908 by an increase in tuition (pp. 33-34), and explains the grading system (p. 41). The system of medical care provided at the college is described (pp. 143-144), giving the number of physicians employed and reporting cases treated by them in the 1906-1907 period. A letter of particular note written in response to a query by Dean Lewis of the University of Pennsylvania states that out of 93 Bryn Mawr Alumnae only 3 are lawyers. Maddison adds: "... it is President Thomas' experience that the parents of the students usually object to Law as a profession." A letter on pp. 418-419 explains why students are not allowed to cook in their rooms. She lists the places where alumnae may eat in the area, adding that no profit is made on the meals served in the halls. The College Loan Fund is described on p. 427. Maddison outlines in a letter on p. 498 examination procedure, further stating that there has been practically no difficulty in regard to cheating.

Reel: 193

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 9.
April 18, 1908 - November 6, 1908
This letterbook contains several standard form letters signed by M. Carey Thomas. A letter ordering the Childs Essay Prize watch indicates that Theresa Helburn was the winner. Tea menus appear on pp. 119 and 396. Graduation events of 1908 are outlined on pp. 263-264. M. Carey Thomas urges that a student be recommended for a position in the Philadelphia school system as she fears the fact that she is Jewish might prevent her from being hired at a private school. On pp. 398-400, the function, make-up, and activities of the Alumnae Association are described.

Reel: 193

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 11.

March 3, 1909 - June 10, 1909

On pages 11-12, Maddison discusses course preparation, stating: "For each hour of lecture the student is expected to give 1 1/2 hours of preparation." In addition she gives the rules regarding laboratory work. The requirement of four years of residence for the A.B. degree and the "roll of honor" are explained on page 135, and the number of students studying the sciences, especially physics, is given on page 136. Recent lecturers at the college are listed on page 308 and a sample luncheon menu for the senior class is provided on page 400. On page 317 Maddison expresses her opposition to a Cooperative Bookshop, stating that it is "rare to find students who will work satisfactorily for a salary at anything which requires businesslike qualities." It should be noted that this letterbook is seriously marred by bleedthrough and many pages are illegible.

Reel: 194

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 12.

June 10, 1909 - January 12, 1910

The dormitory system is described on page 34 and information regarding the tiling of the swimming pool is found on pages 40-41 and 44. Letters on pages 131, 146, 165, 184, and 194 deal with an article in *Cosmopolitan Magazine* about Bryn Mawr. A letter on page 185 has to do with an article in an unidentified magazine. Recent changes and coming events at Bryn Mawr are discussed in a letter on pages 188-189. Grades and course book procedure are described on page 281. The possibility of having a Jacobean instead of Elizabethan May Day is discussed on pages 303-306, 338 and 341. Letters on pages 330 and 370 concern an article on Bryn Mawr which appeared in *Harper's Weekly* in summer of 1909. President Thomas's suggestion that the Class of 1908 travel to different cities to present Romeo and Juliet for the benefit of the endowment appears on page 365. At Thomas's request, Maddison informed a correspondent that Bryn Mawr is a "woman's college and therefore no tobacco is used" (p. 396). A list of photographs sent to *Century Magazine* appears on pages 406-407. Information regarding the admission and classification of students is given on pages 421-423. Per Maddison's report of the latest news of the college (p. 443), freshmen have voted to wear cap and gown to all college lectures and academic functions, and the swimming pool was officially opened. Some correspondence in this letterbook is signed by Josephine Belding on Miss Maddison's behalf.

Reel: 194

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 13.

January 12, 1910 - November 7, 1910

Several letters signed by Miss Josephine Belding in Miss Maddison's behalf are preserved in this letterbook. On page 39, Maddison states that because its enrollment is practically complete, the college has no need to advertise. Pages 175-176 list the graduates of the Philadelphia High School for Girls who held Scholarships at Bryn Mawr. Information concerning the production of *Medea* given by students and alumnae is related on pages 189-190. On page 330 Maddison reveals her intention to write a little historical account of the college. The number of students who have come to Bryn Mawr from Cincinnati is given on p. 399. Maddison notes the foreign language exceptions made in the case of Japanese students at the college (p. 499) and the grading procedures at the college (pp. 502-504). Details and statistics of the foreign language study are found on pages 539-540. Maddison asserts that Bryn Mawr is not a "society finishing school" but rather that it ranks with big universities in the quality of work done (pp. 655-656). Letters on pages 682-688 invite reporters of various newspapers to hear President William H. Taft's commencement address on June 2, 1910, which will be his first public statement about women's education. Maddison states that no courses at Bryn Mawr are defined or described as vocational (p. 729). Letters on pages 880, 887, 903, 907 and 918 deal with archaeologist Leonard C. Wooley's class lecture series at the college. The danger of typhoid is related in a letter on p. 961.

Reel: 195

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 14.

November 8, 1910 - February 16, 1911

M. Carey Thomas's tentative offer of a permanent position in Archaeology to Leonard Wooley is mentioned on page 40. A report giving the number of students in 1910 and the gifts for the year 1909-1910 is found on page 83. Student self-government, and M. Carey Thomas's strong approval of it, is the subject of a letter on page 367. On page 435 Bryn Mawr graduates currently or previously holding executive positions in colleges are listed. Information regarding tuition and scholarship funds for the year ending in September 1910 is found on page 487.

Reel: 196

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 15.
February 17, 1911 - May 6, 1911
Letters concerning an article, "College Life at Bryn Mawr" which appeared in the February 12, 1911 issue of the New York Sun are copied on page 7. Maddison explains the procedure of course registration on pages 130-131. A letter discussing private and public school preparation of Bryn Mawr students appears on page 149; Maddison states that despite the fact that three-fourths of them entered from private school or had private school or had private tutors, little difference between these students has been noticed since they entered. The quarantine of students and staff in Merion and Radnor Halls because of the threat of scarlet fever is discussed on page 177, including a description of the procedure of sterilizing letters leaving the halls. The types and numbers of scholarships at the college are enumerated on page 450. Geographical distribution by state and country of students in 1910-1911 is given on page 460.

Reel: 196

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 16.
May 6, 1911 - December 13, 1911
Letterbook no. 16 includes notifications to students of scholarships they have been awarded, letters about college printing, notices to the faculty, and correspondence regarding the scheduling of religious services on campus. There are letters about arrangements for commencement and to students announcing their appointments to campus jobs. Several letters of October 16, 1911, regard arrangements for Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst's lecture on campus.

Reel: 197

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 17.
December 13, 1911 - April 25, 1912
Alumnae statistics are given on page 32. On page 37 Maddison states that courses in Ancient History, previously taught at the college by Woodrow Wilson among others, were discontinued because they were not successful. In reply to an inquiry Maddison acknowledged that one of four hygiene lectures given to Bryn Mawr freshmen was entitled "Sex Hygiene" and that a collection of books on that subject enabled students to "inform themselves on this question." On page 233, the names of the 23 Methodist students at the college are listed. Maddison asserted that Bryn Mawr students "by virtue of the conditions of life in a women's college in the country, have more freedom from restrictions than is the case in a co-educational college or large university" (p. 234). On page 313, there is a notice to the faculty announcing that Jane Addams will speak at Chapel on March 15, 1912.

Reel: 197

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 18.
April 25, 1912 - November 1, 1912
Maddison requested that Jane Addams send the subjects of her forthcoming commencement addresses at Bryn Mawr College and the Bryn Mawr School in Baltimore (p. 116). The completion date and cost of the gymnasium are listed on page 136. On pages 191 and 205 there are sample menus for the senior luncheon. This letterbook is particularly marred by bleedthrough; when legibility is affected, the reader should look forward and backward to locate the best copy.

Reel: 198

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 19.
October 25, 1912 - May 21, 1913
Information concerning Woodrow Wilson's tenure at Bryn Mawr, including the courses he taught and an article he published, is found on pages 46-47. In response to an article published in the Catholic Union Times which apparently purported that there is a reduction in the number of children produced by educated mothers, Maddison provided statistics on the average number of children per family for Bryn Mawr graduates from 1890-1910 (pp. 242-243). Further information concerning this topic is given on page 564. Details of course registration are provided on pages 323-324. There is, on pages 461-462, a description of the May Day fete annually held on the Bryn Mawr campus. Maddison answers a questionnaire on Chapel attendance (p. 547), and states that Bryn Mawr has never excluded any student on account of her religious denomination (p. 673). Bryn Mawr's system of student self-government is outlined on page 678. In a letter on page 749 Maddison states that a number of Bryn Mawr students have studied at New York University Law School. On page 878, Maddison complains that the students' attitude toward examinations is far "too trivial."

Reel: 199

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 20.
May 21, 1913 - March 14, 1914
In a letter to President Thomas (p. 168), Maddison cites the need for additional classrooms. An advertisement for the College Inn is found on page 191. The names of proposed speakers for the Graduate Club, including President Woolley of Mount Holyoke, are listed on page 247. Maddison gives the college colors and yell on page 294. On page 234, Maddison explains that M. Carey Thomas is away from the college "for a slight surgical operation which it is hoped will cure her lameness." Scholarship opportunities are outlined in a letter to the editor of McCall's on page 335. On page 441 Maddison states her opinion that Miss Thomas would not consider a job applicant if there was "any prospect of her stenographer career being cut short by marriage." In a letter to parents of a prospective student, Maddison asserts: "Bryn Mawr is not a society college ... the majority of the students have moderate means." Suffrage speakers approved by Miss Thomas for 1913-1914 are listed on page 532.

Reel: 200

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 21.
March 13, 1914 - February 25, 1915
On pages 72-73, 422-423, 428, and 430, Maddison outlines Bryn Mawr College's procedures regarding press releases. A letter to a Texas mother on pages 472-473 conveys a suggested high school schedule for a potential Bryn Mawr College student and gives the average age of the entering freshmen as 18 1/2 years. On page 501, Maddison, acknowledging the absence of a faculty club, describes the accommodations available for faculty and visitors to the campus. Maddison confirms (p. 584) the action of the Directors, in response to Faculty wishes, relieving faculty from the conduct of quizzes and examinations and instead transferring the responsibility to the college office. The names of children between the age of eight and sixteen attending the Phebe Anna Thorne Model School are listed on page 669. Statistics concerning information pertinent for the year 1913-1914 are found on page 767. A letter on pages 791-792 concerns Woodrow Wilson's teaching and activities at Bryn Mawr. The number of class hours a student, supporting herself by working, should take is discussed by Maddison in a letter on page 886. Changes in the blueprint of the Library are enumerated on pages 895 and 899. Writing on M. Carey Thomas's behalf, Maddison invited a rabbi to conduct a Sunday evening service at the college (p. 943). Letters on page 1014, 1020, and 1021 concern a woman minister, Rev. Anna Garlin Spencer, and her forthcoming visit to conduct a Sunday evening service. Statistics on page 978 show the percentage of married alumnae.

Reel: 201

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 22.
February 25, 1915 - January 15, 1916
A letter on page 79 compares the desirability of the different residence halls. The lending of a college seal drawing for reproduction in a window of a Wellesley College dormitory is discussed on page 131. On pages 135 and 483 Maddison states that Bryn Mawr College did not take public stands on current issues. A description of social activities, including club membership, is found on pages 141-142. The names of some English texts used at Bryn Mawr in 1887-1888 are listed on page 153. The ratio of professors to lecturers on the college teaching staff is given on page 459. The type of high school preparation the class of 1915 received is shown on page 512; the letter on page 561 follows up this information with percentage of these students graduating with honors from their high schools. On page 524, faculty course loads are given. A copy of the questionnaire sent by the Bureau of Education in Washington concerning physical education and hygiene instruction and facilities is located on pages 594-598. The scope of Maddison's responsibility is reflected in a letter from the Assistant to the President to M. Carey Thomas found on pages 601-602 in which Maddison tells Thomas that she would be anxious if she stayed too late in England and is afraid Thomas would be anxious too. Page 720 contains information concerning the costs of dormitories, including the college's judgment that 80 students is the most satisfactory number housed per hall. The letters on pages 896 and 900 express Maddison's personal feelings about the war. In the first she regrets President Wilson had not spoken more strongly to England at the beginning of the war and is "almost ashamed to think how well everything goes with us;" in the second she states "Bryn Mawr is going on very happily. It seems an abode of peace in this horror stricken world."

Reel: 202

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 23.
January 15, 1916-December 13, 1916
A letter on page 54 to Juliette Low, head of the Girl Scout Movement, invites her to address Bryn Mawr students. Fire protection at the college is discussed on pages 90-91. A letter to the City Editor of the Public Ledger laments the inaccurate reporting of Dean Reilly's resignation and asks for the name of the informant. Salaries of professors are discussed on page 205, while the scholarships available for graduate and undergraduate students are described on page 243. An announcement to the press that Leopold Stokowski and the Philadelphia Orchestra will play in the college gymnasium on April 1, 1916, appears on page 334. In a letter on page 510 Maddison informs Marion Edwards Park of her nomination to receive the Resident Fellowship in Latin for 1916-1917, adding "It will be very nice to have you again in the College." Maddison lists the arguments in favor of small colleges (under 400 or 500 students) on page 881. Entertainments annually given at Bryn Mawr are described on pages 943-944. Factual and statistical answers to a questionnaire on college government are recorded on pages 970-972. An explanation of the procedure in regard to the announcement of scholarships appears on page 985.

Reel: 203

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 24.
December 13, 1916-November 28, 1917
Memoranda and announcements dated December 13, 1916 through May 23, 1917 are found at the beginning and end of this letterbook. On page 412, Maddison notes the number of graduate students in political science and those students taking the Post-Major course in International Law. She added that the increased interest in political science was due to the gradual extension of the suffrage and to its usefulness for women preparing for business and political life. Courses offered at Bryn Mawr relating to the war effort are mentioned on page 652 and course adaptations due to the war are noted on page 903. On page 652 Maddison writes to author Kate Douglas Wiggin who is planning to visit the college. A letter on page 765 pertaining to the freedom of students to cut classes or leave campus on the weekend states that "students themselves have entire jurisdiction over the conduct of the students." The furnishing and costs of the Low Buildings are discussed on the back of page 954. In a letter to a former Bryn Mawr professor currently in the armed forces, Maddison writes that Bryn Mawr was very crowded, indirectly due to the war, and that ex-President Taft was to speak to the college community on "What We Are Fighting For."

Reel: 204

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 25.
November 28, 1917 - January 11, 1919
In a letter on page 11 to an alumna entering Radcliffe, Maddison states, "It is very satisfactory to hear that Bryn Mawr courses formed an Open Sesame to Harvard Graduate School." On page 113, Maddison proposes to President Thomas that Russian should be added to the curriculum. Maddison informs a student of Thomas's disapproval of Isadora Duncan as a college speaker on page 124. The number of graduates, former students, and teaching staff that have entered the "national service" is noted on page 295 while a letter to a colleague of Maddison's at Vassar on pages 334-335 details the faculty departmental system at Bryn Mawr. On page 359, Maddison gives characteristics of faculty housing on campus. A letter inserted after page 689 addressed to the War Department in Washington fully outlines Bryn Mawr activities in support of the war effort. Maddison expresses her disapproval of the "camp song" rage at the college in a letter to Thomas on page 885.

Reel: 205

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 26.
January 13, 1919 - March 21, 1921
M. Carey Thomas's approval of the "Grandmother of the Russian Revolution" as a speaker before the History Club is announced (p. 75). Letters on pages 90 and 99 highly recommend geographer Dr. Ellen Mary Sanders. President Thomas's rules outlining conditions under which men may attend Senior Plays are given on pages 779 and on page 322. Maddison states that because the college lecture schedule is so full, Count Tolstoy will not be able to give an address. On page 340 approved freshman activities (mild pranks) for the evening of April 25, 1919 are listed. The highest average of the junior class -- a grade of 88.24 -- is specified on page 348. The fact is noted on page 392 that 194 students are taking French at BMC. The menu for the 1919 Senior Luncheon is given on page 400. There appears on page 562 a list of faculty members who had died since the college's opening in 1885. Maddison responds to a young alumna facing sex discrimination in the business world in a very interesting letter: "The situation seems to be annoying, but it is I fear the kind of thing that a great many of women have suffered and are likely to suffer for the present when business is controlled by men. I hate to confess that there is any sex antagonism in existence, but it is almost impossible to shut your eyes to it. I regret it especially because I have always been most anxious that college women should not regard teaching as their only provision and should take part in the big business work of the world as you have been doing. Of course, it takes the physically strong, as college positions with their long vacations allow time for recuperation" (p. 592). In another letter to an alumna, Maddison states: "I think we all understand that the proper bringing up of children is one of the most engrossing occupations in the world and one of the most difficult..." (p. 606). Siegfried Sassoon's address at Bryn Mawr is announced on page 662. Some statistics of the college for 1918-1919 appear on page 723, and BMC graduates who have taught at Mount Holyoke and Smith College since 1912 are listed on page 729. On page 762, Maddison attempts to placate a correspondent who was outraged by the use in the endowment campaign of a photograph which showed an alumna with a Bryn Mawr lantern in front of the Liberty Bell. Maddison explained the Bryn Mawr College Foreign Scholarships for Graduate Women to Dean Boody of Radcliffe (p. 828) and described the college system for registering student absences (p. 913). Foreign students on campus in 1920-1921 are listed on page 920. On page 924, \$548,279 is given as the annual operating cost of the college in 1919-1920, with a breakdown of expenditures. Maddison recounts Helen Taft Manning's association with Bryn Mawr on page 932. On page 983 an account appears of an entertainment sponsored by Chinese students for the China Famine Relief fund, which featured brief addresses by both M. Carey Thomas and Emmeline Pankhurst, the noted British suffragist.

Reel: 206

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Isabel Maddison: Letterbook no. 27.
March 19, 1921 - September 18, 1922
Pages 92-110 in this letterbook contain letters dated the summer of 1921 and signed by Marion Parris Smith, who served as Acting Chairman of the Committee on Scholarships and Fellowships during Maddison's travels in Europe. A letter on the back of page 241 informs an alumna in Italy that Marion Park has been selected as Bryn Mawr's new president and that officials at the college have heard "that Radcliffe College is complaining bitterly that they are losing her." On page 283, there is a letter describing the annual May Day celebration.

Reel: 207

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbooks of Caroline Lewis, Secretary to the President.
Microfilmed on Reel 208 are two letterbooks of Caroline Lewis, secretary to President Thomas, from the last years of the nineteenth century. Letters in the first of these, dated October 14, 1897-July 12, 1898, relate to general college matters, mostly of a fairly routine nature. Included are letters written for President Thomas's signature including several to Trustees, notably David Scull. The bulk of this material consists of letters written on Thomas's behalf to faculty and staff, suppliers, contractors, etc. A few of the letters are addressed to Thomas and summarize administrative business during her absences. Miss Lewis's second letterbook (July 13, 1898-October 17, 1899) differs from its predecessor in the uniform nature of the subject matter. Her letters in this volume are almost entirely concerned with minor business matters of the college such as campus and buildings repair and upkeep, the procurement and distribution of supplies, contracts for services, etc. It affords, therefore, the most concentrated information about the routine management of the college available in the M. Carey Thomas Collection.

Reel: 208

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

M. Carey Thomas Official Papers; Letterbook of Elizabeth F. McKeen and Caroline Lewis, Secretaries to the President.

The final volume of three extant letterbooks of M. Carey Thomas's secretaries is microfilmed on Reel 209. Covering the period January 17, 1906-June 1, 1908, this volume incorporates the letters of Elizabeth F. McKeen and Caroline Lewis. Letters of Miss Lewis begin with the date September 28, 1907. This correspondence, which mostly consists of letters written on behalf of, or ostensibly by, President Thomas, is addressed to prospective students, parents of students, faculty, staff, and businessmen. There are as well a few letters to suffrage leaders. Note:

Although this letterbook includes letters signed by and addressed to M. Carey Thomas, its index has not been incorporated into the printed index in the Guide. Readers should consult the index at the beginning of the letterbook for citations to correspondence therein. The series of letterbooks of the secretaries to President Thomas (Reels 208 and 209) is obviously incomplete. The whereabouts of other volumes which would have been included in this series is unknown.

Reel: 209

Thomas, M. Carey.

Bryn Mawr School Papers; Correspondence.
1881 - 1888

The predominant subjects of extant Bryn Mawr School correspondence from its earliest years are the opening and staffing of the school. Both the earliest and most numerous of these letters consist of applications for teaching and administrative positions, testimonials and credentials of applicants, and evaluations of candidates. In addition, there are letters to and from each member of the Board of Managers and Eleanor Andrews about the operations of the school and about policies and procedures advocated and adopted.

Reel: 210

Thomas, M. Carey.

Bryn Mawr School Papers; Correspondence.
1889 - 1892

Letters regarding faculty and staff form the bulk of correspondence on Reel 211, with the members of the Board and the Secretary, Mary N. Colvin, being the most frequent addressees and writers. Other subjects discussed include gymnasium apparatus, furniture and supplies, operating expenses and accounts, and the John Hopkins University Medical School fund drive (slight). Of particular note are letters of November 1890 regarding an article in the Jewish Exponent about the school's admissions policies.

Reel: 211

Thomas, M. Carey.

Bryn Mawr School Papers; Correspondence.
1893 - August 1895

Correspondence on Reel 212 is somewhat more diverse in subject matter than that on the preceding reels. Although letters regarding faculty matters (salaries, recruitments, dismissals, etc.) remain heavy, academic policy, examinations, scholarship awards, school teas, library acquisitions, decoration and furnishing of the school building, and the day to day operations of the school are also covered. There are a few letters from 1893 about the Columbian Exposition in Chicago in which the Bryn Mawr School had an exhibit. Documentation of Mary E. Garrett's involvement in charitable organizations in Baltimore is present. In April 1895, the first letters regarding the appointment of Edith Hamilton as Head-mistress appear.

Reel: 212

Thomas, M. Carey.

Bryn Mawr School Papers; Correspondence.
September 1895 - April 1897

Compared with both earlier and later periods, Bryn Mawr School correspondence during the school terms 1895-96 and 1896-97 is exceptionally heavy. The increase in volume was due in part to the decision of the Board of Managers to appoint Edith Hamilton as headmistress, an appointment which they foresaw as a long term one. The process of reaching an agreement with Hamilton generated a great deal of correspondence. From the outset there were a number of misunderstandings and conflicts of ideas between the prospective headmistress and the Board which are documented in this and later correspondence. From the time she assumed her duties in the fall of 1896, however, most of Hamilton's numerous letters to and from Mary Garrett, Carey Thomas, and Mamie Gwinn seem harmonious in tone and routine in subject matter. They concern administrative matters, funds, staff recruitment, pupil applications and placement, etc. In addition to the correspondence between Edith Hamilton and the Board of Managers, there are scattered letters from faculty members, contractors and suppliers, and outside examiners. (The latter were college professors who wrote and graded examinations of Bms students in the areas of their specialties.) Letters to Mary E. Garrett from officers of the Association for Improvement of Conditions of the Poor and the Managers of the Charity Organization Society also are present.

Reel: 213

Papers of M. Carey Thomas Reel Listing

Thomas, M. Carey.

Bryn Mawr School Papers; Correspondence. May 1897 - 1906
Except for undated letters and fragments, correspondence in the Bryn Mawr School Papers is concluded on Reel 214. Most of the types of correspondence which appeared earlier continue on this reel. These include faculty applications, testimonials, contracts, etc.; letters regarding Mary Garrett's charitable activities; correspondence of Edith Hamilton and the Board of Managers regarding educational policy, admission of students, and the day to day administration of the school. There are several items of special note: M. Carey Thomas's letter of March 22, 1897 to Edith Hamilton congratulating her on her sister Margaret's outstanding academic record; four April 1898 letters from Ida H. Hyde regarding the possibility that she might accept a teaching position at the School; a letter of March 19, 1901 from Margaret Hamilton to Mary Garrett reporting that Edith was ill. After 1898 the correspondence becomes sparse, and for the last few years of the run it is very light.

Reel: 214

Thomas, M. Carey.

Bryn Mawr School Papers; Miscellaneous Papers. Reel 215 is made up of three separate and unrelated groups of materials: undated and fragmentary correspondence, inventories of the School's art reproductions, and contracts. Microfilmed at the beginning of the reel are undated and fragmentary letters, filed alphabetically by author, with unidentifiable fragments at the end of the group. Among the considerable body of undated correspondence, the letters of Mary N. Colvin are the most numerous. In addition, Edith Hamilton, Mary M. Gwinn, and Mary E. Garrett are each the source of a sizable number of these letters. The second unit of material, comprising approximately 400 frames, consists of inventories of casts, prints, architectural details, etc. used in the interior decoration of the Bryn Mawr School Building. Arranged by room and frequently accompanied by mounted photographs, these inventories provide a comprehensive record of the art reproductions owned and displayed by the School. The reel concludes with contracts of Bryn Mawr School teachers (1889-1912) filed chronologically.

Reel: 215

Thomas, M. Carey.

Bryn Mawr School Papers; Miscellaneous Papers. Concluding the Bryn Mawr School Papers, a sundry group of miscellaneous records, filed topically, are microfilmed on Reel 216. Included are such types of papers as bank statements and other financial records, class lists, outside examiners' reports, book lists, circulars and advertisements, and small collections of published materials relating to other preparatory schools and to gymnasium equipment and programs. A list of subject headings of files microfilmed on this reel follows the reel note.

Reel: 216

Thomas, M. Carey.

Carrie C. Catt Photograph Albums.
Six albums of photographs depicting the history of the suffrage movement, collected and preserved by Carrie Chapman Catt, are microfilmed on Reel 217. Volume 1, entitled Publicity and Agents, is comprised of photographs of parades, floats, marching units, street meetings, suffrage posters, and suffrage headquarters from throughout the United States. Subjects of series of photographs include "Your Girl and Mine," identified as a woman suffrage picture melodrama, the sale and distribution of the Woman's Journal; the Illinois suffrage campaign; and World War I soldiers' support for woman's suffrage. Pioneers and Leaders, Volume 2, is made up of individual and group photographs of women leaders of the suffrage movement augmented with a small lot of photographs of male reformers. Roughly chronological in format, the album features National American Woman Suffrage Association officers, particularly Susan B. Anthony. Along with the portraits, there are informal photographs of ceremonies in Washington D.C. and several states celebrating the submission of the suffrage resolution to the states in 1919. The volume concludes with a picture of the final meeting of the Woman Suffrage Council in Washington on April 23, 1925. The final four albums depict the history of the movement by states and internationally. Formal and informal photographs of suffrage leaders, in groups or singly, predominate. In addition, there is a lesser amount of photographs of parades and rallies, headquarters buildings and offices, ceremonies and celebrations. Devoted to the individual state organizations, Volumes 3 (A-L) and 4 (M-W, except for New York), afford a pictorial record of the fervor and festivities of local campaigns and preserve a valuable collection of portraits of leaders and workers in the suffrage movement at the state and municipal level. Volume 5, which covers New York State and City, includes outstanding photographs of the great New York City suffrage parades. Volume 6, the final album, concerns the international history of the movement. Although most of the photographs are of European subjects, Africa, Asia, South America, and Canada are also represented. Of special note are numerous photographs of international woman's suffrage conferences.

Reel: 217