

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION

ACCESSION SHEET

Accession # 46 M 73, 72 M 55
99M14

Location 3-a-1/6, 3-b-1/6, 3-c-1/5, 3-d-4/5

Title Worthington C. Ford, Papers.

Approximate inclusive dates 1858 - 1938 ; 1880 - 1925

Date of receipt Unknown

Received from Worthington C. Ford and

Volume on arrival Unknown

Ford family

Number of boxes (after reboxing) ~~12~~ boxes; 106 AB, 14 RC, 9 FB; 75 linear feet

1999 Additions Gift of Richard P. Wunder

Addenda

1 AB; 1/2 l.f.

Condition Good

Restrictions None

Description (SEE ATTACHED SHEETS)

Special Formats Photographs Maps Audio Tapes Films Graphics
 Artifacts Machine-readable records
 Other (list) _____

Temporary catalog card added entries (SEE ATTACHED SHEETS)

Accessioned by

John Bodd

Date

August 26, 1986

ACCESSION SHEET

Worthington Chauncey Ford

Description

Worthington Chauncey Ford (1858-1941), statistician, economist, editor, writer, historian, and archivist, was born in Brooklyn, New York, the eldest son of Gordon Lester⁽¹⁸²³⁻¹⁸⁹¹⁾ and Emily Fowler Ford⁽¹⁸²⁶⁻¹⁸⁹³⁾. His mother, granddaughter of Noah Webster, wrote and published poetry. His father, who made a fortune in business, collected one of the most extensive libraries of Americana of his day. His younger brother, Paul Leicester Ford⁽¹⁸⁶⁵⁻¹⁹⁰²⁾, shared his enthusiasm for history. Together they established the Historical Printing Club of Brooklyn, and published numerous imprints between 1876 and 1899. Ford attended the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute and went on to Columbia, although he left after three years due to increasing deafness. From 1879-1882 he worked as a cashier for the Long Island Railroad. At this time he began to write articles on economic subjects, briefly for the New York Post, and then for the New York Herald. Ford became a follower of David Wells, who advocated free trade and tax reform, and in 1879 he published Wells' Natural Philosophy: For Use In Schools. His next work, the American Citizen's Manual¹⁸⁸²⁻ (1883), is considered the first real civics textbook published in the United States. At the beginning of Cleveland's first term as president, Ford was appointed Chief of The Bureau of Statistics, Department of State (1885-1889). While he held this post, Ford had a chance to evaluate the historical manuscripts scattered through the State Department. During Cleveland's second term, Ford became Chief of the Bureau of Statistics, Treasury Department (1893-1898), but was forced out by the next administration. He was then invited to become head of the Department of Documents and Statistics at the Boston Public Library, where he stayed until 1902.

In 1899 he married Bettina Fillmore Quin of Washington; they had two children, Crimora Chauncey and Emily Ellsworth. Ford left the Boston Public Library to go to the Library of Congress as chief of the newly formed Division of Manuscripts (1902-1909). He built this division to a place of prominence by collecting the scattered documents in the State Department, and by arranging the purchase of papers of several U.S. presidents. At this time he began to edit the Journals of the Continental Congress, 1774-1789, and finished 15 volumes. In 1909 Ford became editor of the Massachusetts Historical Society, where he remained until 1929. He had already worked closely with his friend Charles Francis Adams, president of the Society, in editing The Writings of John Quincy Adams (1902). Under Ford's supervision, the Society published 50 volumes in 20 years. In 1929 Ford was appointed European Commissioner for the Library of Congress, which required him to supervise the reproduction of documents in Western Europe. Ford then retired to France, making occasional trips to the United States; he died on board ship at the outset of one of these visits. In addition to those mentioned above, Ford wrote and edited several historical works. He was considered the leading expert on George Washington of his day, and published The Writings of George Washington (1889-1891) and George Washington (1900). Ford was affiliated with various organizations, in particular the John Carter Brown Library, for which he edited publications from 1917-1923, and the American Historical Society, of which he was president in 1917.

The collection is divided into general correspondence, letter-books, family correspondence, writings, notes and transcripts, student notes and notebooks, diaries, scrapbooks, personal miscellaneous papers, miscellaneous papers, photographs, printed matter, and unsorted papers. The gen-

eral correspondence, 1862-1938, is arranged chronologically, alphabetically, and by subject. Most of the correspondence is between Ford and various colleagues from different areas of the United States, including historians, librarians, academics, and writers, along with publishers, printers, booksellers and lawyers. Many of these individuals were also close friends of Ford. The collection incorporates extensive correspondence of Charles Francis Adams, Henry Cabot Lodge, James Ford Rhodes, and John Franklin Jameson. Other correspondence includes that of Brooks Adams, Henry Adams, James Truslow Adams, Albert Jeremiah Beveridge, Lindsey Swift, Mark Antony De Wolfe Howe, William Herbert Perry Faunce, Albert Bushnell Hart, Abbott Lawrence Lowell, Galliard Hunt, Barrett Wendell, Daniel Berkely Updike, Herbert Putnam, Wilberforce Eames, William Roscoe Thayer, Richard Rogers Bowker, Samuel Flagg Bemis, Richard Henry Dana, Oswald Garrison Villard, and Charles Nordhoff. In addition, there are a few letters of Mark Van Doren, Gamaliel Bradford, John Bigelow and Albert Shaw. Further correspondence is that of Ford's brothers-in-law, Roswell Skeel, Richmond Mayo-Smith, and Robert Turle, and that of his cousin, Wolcott Ellsworth. The alphabetical correspondence is also arranged chronologically (1899-1937). It includes separated correspondence 1878, 1898, and 1910-1925 of Charles Francis Adams, 1910-1916 of the American Historical Association, 1929-1935 of John Franklin Jameson, 1916-1922 of the John Carter Brown Library, 1910-1924 of Henry Cabot Lodge, 1898-1928 of James Ford Rhodes, and 1909-1920 of Barrett Wendell. Finally, there are letters

(1887-1891) concerning the Writings of George Washington, letters (1912-1921) concerning the Writings of John Quincy Adams, letters (1937-1938) concerning the Letters of Henry Adams, letters (1928-1929) concerning forged Lincoln correspondence published by the Atlantic Monthly, and letters (1914-1925) chiefly between Ford and lawyers concerning the settlement of the Ford Estate and the sale of property. Of six letter-press copy-books, one (1881-1882) is a record of Ford's term as secretary of the Brooklyn Reform Club. Four others, covering the periods June 26, 1893 - March 24, 1894, May 31 - January 4, 1895, January 6 - September 5, 1896, and September 14, 1896 - August 16, 1897 all consist of letters written while Ford was chief of the Bureau of Statistics, Treasury Department. One other letter-press copy-book, February 23 - October 22, 1894, contains letters along with a few pages of notes on economic subjects and an article on Chinese foreign commerce. The family correspondence (1870-1935) is chiefly incoming; letters ^{from} ~~to~~ Ford ^{to} ~~from~~ many family members are in their respective collections. It includes several letters from Ford's mother, until her death in 1893, and from his brother Paul, until his death in 1902. There are ~~also~~ a few letters from Malcolm Webster Ford, the middle brother. In addition, early letters include a few to Ford's grandfather, Lester Ford, and a few (1876 & 1878) from a cousin, C. F. Clarke, and ^{separated} ~~correspondence~~ (1871-1885). Throughout the correspondence are letters from Ford's sisters, from Vincent Ford, particularly Emily Ellsworth Skeel, and also Rosalie Greenleaf ^{perhaps a cousin.} Barr, Mabel Percy Mayo-Smith, and Kathleen Gordon Turle. There are numerous letters between Ford and his wife (ca. 1899-1924) and his two children. Further correspondence includes that between

Ford and several nieces and nephews, including Malcolm, Richmond, Byrd, Rufus, Gillian, Lucie, Betty, June, Amy and Ulrich Philips (evidently a nephew by marriage), and also Grace Kidder, Paul's widow. Ford's writings are partially sorted. They are loosely grouped according to subject and period, with overlap throughout most of the series. Most of the writings are drafts or handwritten manuscripts, often with the final or intended form unclear. Some of the manuscripts follow upon each other, while others are more fragmentary. A few annotated transcripts are included, which presumably were intended for works which Ford edited. Some manuscript drafts are interspersed with clippings which remain in context. The writings are chiefly concerned with American history, and with economics, finance, and commerce. Economic writings concentrate both on the history of commerce, including European and Asian (particularly Chinese) subjects along with American, and with foreign trade and policies. These writings include a letter-press copy-book of essays on finance and commerce, and two notebooks of material for a projected work, "History of the Public Finances of the United States" (ca. 1885). There are also drafts for another projected work, "History of Commerce" (ca. 1904). Some writings are of the Revolutionary War period, including work regarding Washington and the Journals of the Continental Congress, and some are of the Civil War period. Writings concerned with the 17th century and other periods of the 18th and 19th centuries are grouped together. Further manuscripts include copy for The Writings of George Washington and The Writings of John Quincy Adams.

Essays, addresses and articles form another group. These include writings on historical societies and archives, and biographical sketches including one of Cotton Mather. Miscellaneous writings incorporate unsorted drafts on various periods and subjects. Various galleys and page proofs and some printed copies of Ford's published work end the writings. Notes and transcripts are comprised of numerous transcripts of historical letters and other documents, many of which were copied by hand by Ford. Presumably they were used both as research material and for collected editions of letters and writings. Among the transcripts are considerable letters of George Washington, John Quincy Adams, Richard Henry Lee, James Madison, James Monroe, and John Caldwell Calhoun. Some transcripts were collected for a projected work on the Civil War. Extracts from F. O. (Foreign Office) America are from a record group in the British Public Record Office. Other transcripts are from various periods of the 18th and 19th centuries. In addition, there are unsorted notes and transcripts. Scattered through the series but particularly in this last group are fragmentary research notes and annotated printed matter. Of six notebooks, two include various newspaper articles (1865) concerning the assassination of President Lincoln, and one in French is of articles in French newspapers on the same subject. One other is a commonplace book, another records extracts from a 1777 diary of Robert Morton, and a last contains various transcripts. There is also an 1896 letter-press copy-book of financial statistics. Two notebooks document the names of

Revolutionary War soldiers; in addition, there are index cards on the same subject. Student notes and notebooks (ca. 1872-1879) include some highschool notes but are mostly from college; along with history, they are chiefly of languages (particularly Greek and Latin translations) and science. The diaries (1873-1918) are comprised of hard-bound notebooks, leather pocket diaries, and desk-calendars (1911-1914). They record everyday and more unusual events with brief and curt entries. The scrapbooks (ca. 1898-1931) consist mostly of clippings and other matter which Ford put together on a particular subject. They include a scrapbook concerning the Washington family, one concerning the Society for Political Education, and several of articles and essays written by Ford. ^{Miscellaneous} ~~Personal~~ ~~miscellaneous~~ papers include ^{personal papers,} ~~consisting of~~ school reports both of Ford and of his two children, various juvenalia, an account regarding the reading of Gordon Ford's will, an essay by Ford "Recollections of my Father", a passport, and stamps with Ford's portrait on them. ^{Other} ~~miscellaneous~~ papers contain writings by individuals other than Ford along with a few unidentified manuscripts, and records of societies and committees of which Ford was affiliated. Other papers are geneological documents and biographical sketches of the Fowler and Chauncey families, legal papers which include a copy of Ford's will and one of his father's will, announcements of publications, bills and receipts, accounts including one account book (1891-1893), various memos and short notes, invitations and calling cards, and voting slips. Photographs include

several : of Ford, along with others of his father and mother, his brothers Malcolm and Paul, and his sister Emily Skeel. Some photographs are probably of Ford's two daughters, along with others which are possibly of Ford family members or relatives. Other photographs ^{include} those of both identified and unidentified people, and miscellaneous photographs of various subjects, ^{both personal and public.} There is one photo album and glass negatives of two pictures. Printed matter includes material concerned with the Lincoln forgeries and numerous clippings.

WORTHINGTON C. FORD

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Box</u>	<u>Contents</u>
	General Correspondence (chronological & alphabetical)
1	1862 - 1884
2	1885 - 1889
3	1889, Jan. - 1892, Aug.
4	1892, Sept. - 1896
5	1896 - 1898
6	1898 - 1901
7	1901 - 1902, Sept.
8	1902, Oct. - 1905, Sept.
9	1905, Oct. - 1906
10	1907 - 1908, Dec.
11	1908 - 1909, Sept.
12	1909, Oct. - 1910, Feb.
13	1910, Feb. - May
14	1910, June - Dec.
15	1910, Dec. - 1911, Feb.
16	1911, March - July
17	1911, Aug. - 1912
18	1912, Jan. - May
19	1912, May - Dec.
20	1912, Dec. - 1913, April
21	1913, May - Oct.
22	1913, Nov. - 1914, March
23	1914, March - Oct.
24	1914, Nov. - 1915
25	1915, Jan. - April
26	1915, Jan. - 1916, Jan.
27	1916, Jan. - Agg.
28	1916, Dec. - 1917, May
29	1917, May - 1918, March
30	1918, April - 1920
31	1920 - 1921
32	1922 - 1937
33	1937, 1938 & nd
34	nd and envelopes
35	1899, 1900 (A-Y)
36	1919 (A) - 1920 (N)
37	1920 (P) - 1921 (F)
38	1921 (H-W)
39	1922 (A-G)
40	1922 (H) - 1923 (W)
41	1923 (A-W) - 1924
42	1924 (A) - 1925 (F)
43	1924 (G) - 1925 (G)
44	1925 (H) - 1926 (M)
45	1926 (N) - 1926, 1927 (N)
46	1926, 1927 (P) - 1927 (F)
47	1927 (F-V)
48	1927 (V) - 1927, 1928 (L)

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CONTAINER LIST

<u>Box</u>	<u>Contents</u>
	General Correspondence (cont'd)
49	1927, 1928 (M) - 1928 (B)
50	1928 (C-V)
51	1928, 1929 (A-C)
52	1928, 1929 (C-N)
53	1928, 1929 (N-Y)
54	1929 (A-V)
55	1929, 1930 (A-Y)
56	1930 - 1932 (A-Y); 1931 (A-M)
57	1931 (N-W); 1931 - 1933 (A-R)
58	1931 - 1933 (S-W); 1934, 1935 (A-M)
59	1934, 1935 (N-V); 1935 - 1937 (A-W)
60	Correspondence with Charles Francis Adams (1910-1912)
61	" " (1912-1913)
62	" " (1913-1914)
63	" " (1914-1916)
64	Correspondence with the American Historical Association
65	Correspondence with John Franklin Jameson & John Carter Brown Library (1916-1918)
66	Correspondence with John Carter Brown Library (1917-1922) & Henry Cabot Lodge (1878, 1898, 1910-1916)
67	Correspondence with Henry Cabot Lodge (1916-1917)
68	Correspondence with James Ford Rhodes & Barrett Wendell
69	Correspondence re <u>Writings of George Washington, Writings of John Quincy Adams, & Letters of Henry Adams</u>
70	Correspondence re Gordon L. Ford Estate & Lincoln Forgeries
	Letterbooks
71 - 73	In chronological order
	Family Correspondence
74	1870 - 1910
75	1911 - 1920
76	1920 - 1935
77	Correspondence with Bettina Ford
78	" " & Vincent Ford
79	nd
	Writings
80	Notebooks & Letter-press copy-book
81	"History of Commerce" - manuscript
82 - 84	Economics and Finance - various writings
85	<u>Writings of George Washington & Writings of John Quincy Adams</u>
86	re George Washington & Revolutionary War Period
87	Revolutionary War Period
88	" " & Journals of the Continental Congress
89	18 th century - various periods
90 & 91	Civil War Period
92 & 93	Essays, Addresses and Articles
94	Miscellaneous Writings
95	Page & Galley Proofs
96	Printed Writings

WORTHINGTON C. FORD

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Box</u>	<u>Contents</u>
	Notes and Transcripts
97	Richard Henry Lee & James Madison
98	James Monroe & John Caldwell Calhoun
99	F. O. Monroe
100	Revolutionary War Period
101 & 102	18 th century - various periods
103 & 104	Civil War period
105	19 th century - various periods
106	Unsorted - Miscellaneous notes and transcripts
107	Notebooks
108	Notebooks - Letter-press copybook & Notes re Revolutionary soldiers
109	Index cards
	Student Notes and Notebooks
110	Notes
111	Notebooks
112 & 113	Diaries
114 - 116	Scrapbooks
	Photographs
117	Ford family
118	Ford family & Photo album
119	Miscellaneous photographs
120	Glass negatives
	Miscellaneous Papers
121	Personal papers
122	Other writings, Notes and memoranda, Invitations, Voting slips
123	Organization records & Notices of publications
124	Geneological papers, Legal papers, Accounts, Bills and receipts
	Printed Matter
125	Material re Lincoln forgeries
126	Periodicals and pamphlets
127	Clippings
128	Clippings and printed matter
129	Printed matter

ADDENDA

130	Letterbooks (1881-82); Writings (various); Miscellaneous Papers
131	U.S. Continental Congress. Proceedings, 1774-1776. Volume 1. Philadelphia, Aitken, 1777. Library of Congress. Journals of the Continental Congress, 1774-1789. Volume 1. 1774. Washington, GPO, 1904 (with related items)