

# Guide to the William J. and Stephen C. Powell Papers

MS 1041



compiled by Janet Elaine Gertz

June 1983

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1041

**CREATOR:** Powell, William John, -1848

**TITLE:** William J. and Stephen C. Powell Papers

**DATES:** 1829-1863

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.5 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Chiefly medical notebooks (1829-1831) of lectures William J. Powell attended at the Columbia University Medical School, recording lectures by A. H. Stevens, John A. Smith, John B. Beck, Joseph M. Smith, and Edward Delafield. Also included is a notebook containing a diary of his medical practice aboard the U.S.S. *Ohio* (1842). The school books of his son, Stephen C. Powell, including notes from his studies at the Yale Medical School, are also in the papers.

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1041>.

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Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box  
f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

William J. and Stephen C. Powell Papers (ms 1041). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Stephen Cambreleng Powell, M.D. 1864.

Born July 20, 1843, in Charlestown, Mass.

Died October 7, 1930, in Newport, R. I.

Father, William John Powell (graduate Dublin University; M.D. Columbia 1831); assistant surgeon and surgeon in United States Navy, serving on the *Experiment*, *Porpoise*, *St. Louis*, *Falmouth*, and *Warren*, and at Boston and New York Navy yards; son of Rev. Dr. William Powell (born in Dublin, Ireland, probably educated at Trinity College) and Olivia (Guinness) Powell, of New York City. Mother, Angelica Talcott (Devens) Powell; daughter of Samuel and Rachel (Noble) Devens, of Charlestown, Mass. Brother: William D. Powell ex-'60 S.

General Russell's Collegiate and Commercial Institute, New Haven; studied medicine at Yale School of Medicine 1861-63, during which period served as an assistant in care of wounded soldiers at the Knight United States Army General Hospital (New Haven); continued medical studies at Columbia 1863-64 (also M.D. 1864); traveled extensively between 1864 and 1894; postgraduate work at New York Polyclinic 1894-95; practiced medicine in Newport 1895-1925; specialized in diseases of the ear, nose, and throat; member of staff of Newport Hospital since 1896; member American, Rhode Island, and Newport Medical societies, American Laryngological Rhinological, and Otological Society, Electro Therapeutical Society, and Trinity Episcopal Church, Newport; former commodore of Newport Yacht Club.

Married June 15, 1871, in New Haven, Henrietta King, daughter of Henry and Mary Webster (Southgate) Trowbridge, and half sister of Courtland H. Trowbridge, ex-'90 Special S. No children.

Death due to infirmities of age and chronic myocarditis. Buried in St. Mary's Cemetery, Portsmouth, R. I. Survived by wife and two half sisters, Mrs. J. Clarkson Hill and Miss Lita Angelica Rice, both of Springdale, Conn.

(Taken from *Yale University Obituary Record*, 1928-31, p. 269).

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## Scope and Contents

These papers consist primarily of student notebooks kept by William John Powell (d. 1848) and his son Stephen Cambreleng Powell (1843-1930). Three of William J. Powell's notebooks date from his study (1829-1831) at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York City (now the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons), and record lectures by Drs. A. H. Stevens, John A. Smith, John B. Beck, Joseph M. Smith, and Edward Delafield. His fourth notebook was kept while he was assistant surgeon aboard the U.S.S. *Ohio*, and lists symptoms and treatment of various diseases. Stephen C. Powell's notebooks contain English compositions written while he was a student at General Russell's Collegiate and

Commercial Institute in New Haven, as well as notes on sermons and on the course of studies and grades at the institute. Dating from his study at the Yale Medical School are laundry accounts and notes on medicine.

The provenance of this collection is unknown.

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## Collection Contents

### William John Powell

b. 1, f. 1	Notes on surgery lectures	1829-1830
b. 1, f. 2	Notes on medical jurisprudence lectures	1830-1831
b. 1, f. 3	Notes on the theory and practice of physic	1830-1831
b. 1, f. 4	Notes on the symptoms and treatment of diseases	1842

### Stephen Cambreleng Powell

b. 1, f. 5	English composition book	[1859-1860]
b. 1, f. 6	Laundry accounts, notes on sermons, course of study and grades, notes on medicine	[1859-1863?]

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Medicine, Naval  
Medicine -- Study and teaching  
Physicians

### **Names**

Beck, John B. (John Brodhead), 1794-1851  
Delafield, Edward, 1794-1875  
Powell, Stephen Cambreleng, 1843-1930  
Powell, William John, -1848  
Smith, John Augustine, 1782-1865  
Smith, Joseph Mather, 1789-1866  
Stevens, Alexander H. (Alexander Hodgdon),  
1789-1869

### **Corporate Bodies**

Columbia University. College of Physicians and  
Surgeons  
Yale University. School of Medicine  
Yale University -- Students