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UMass Amherst Libraries 

Benjamin Smith Lyman Papers

1831-1921 (*Bulk:* 1851-1915)

52 boxes (42 linear ft.)

Call no.: MS 190



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The papers of Benjamin Smith Lyman (1835-1920), a native of Northampton, Massachusetts, and a geologist/mining engineer who worked in Japan at the request of the Meiji government to introduce modern geological surveying and mining techniques, illuminate aspects of late nineteenth century Japan, New England, and Pennsylvania, as well as the fields of geology and of mining exploration and engineering as they were practiced 1858-1911. From Lyman's earliest financial records--those he kept as a student at Phillips Exeter--through the journal notations of his later days in Philadelphia, Lyman's meticulous record-keeping provides much detail about his life and work. Correspondents include his classmate, Franklin B. Sanborn, a friend of the Concord Transcendentalists and an active social reformer, abolitionist, and editor. The papers, 1848-1911, have been organized into nine series: Correspondence, Financial records, Writings, Survey Notebooks, Survey Maps, Photographs, Student Notes and Notebooks, Collections, and Miscellaneous (total 25 linear feet). The collection includes, as well, over 2,000 books in Japanese and Chinese and in Western languages pertaining to Asia, acquired by Lyman in Japan and collected later. They reflect his catholic interests and scholarly bent.

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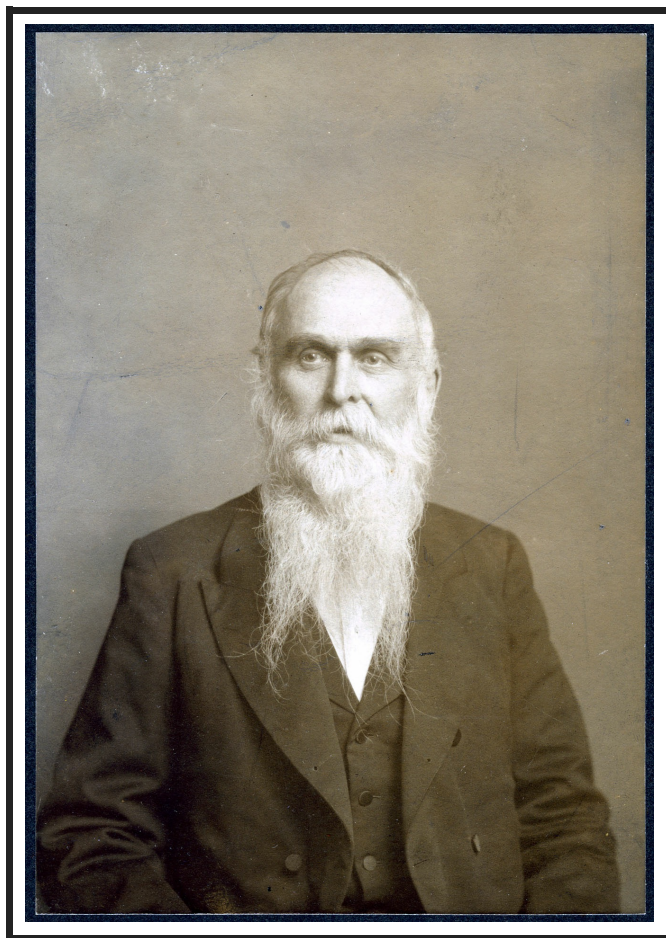
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Background on Benjamin Smith Lyman

Benjamin Smith Lyman was born December 11, 1835, to Hampshire County Register of Probate Samuel Fowler Lyman and his first wife Almira Smith Lyman in Northampton, where he remained until attending Phillips Exeter Academy from August 20, 1851, to July 8, 1852. From Exeter, he went on to Harvard College, graduating in 1855. He then taught school at Deerfield Academy in Deerfield, Massachusetts, at Charles Short's Classical School for Boys in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and at Franklin B. Sanborn's school in Concord, Massachusetts, where he came to know, through Sanborn, members of the Emerson and Alcott families and Henry David Thoreau, as well as abolitionists active in the region.

In the same exploratory period he was given his first geological job -- chain carrying and rainy day office work for his uncle by marriage, J. Peter Lesley, already a noted geologist, on a topographical and geological survey of Broad Top Mountain in Pennsylvania. According to an 1872 Lyman family genealogy, Lyman's own Uncle Joseph, Lesley's brother-in-law, originally intending a career in law, later studied civil engineering, mining, and metallurgy, and was active in the development of anthracite coal and iron resources in Pennsylvania. His activities and connections may have been an influence on Lyman in his ultimate choice of career, as well as in his sympathies for social reform. Although Benjamin had first intended to become a merchant, his interest in geology and mining engineering grew in the next few years, during which he made a survey of iron foundries in some of the eastern, middle, and southern states for the American Iron Association, accompanied Lesley on additional surveys, and became assistant geologist of the Iowa State Geological Survey.



Benjamin Smith Lyman, 1902

By 1859 he had finally decided to make geology his life's work and went for a year's study at the Ecole Imperiale des Mines in

Paris (1859-1860), followed by a practical course at the Royal Academy of Mines in Freiberg, Saxony (1861-1862). Upon returning to the United States, Lyman established his residence in Philadelphia and opened an office as a consulting mining engineer. Work on surveys took him to the Pottsville coal region of Pennsylvania; Cow Bay and Glace Bay, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia; Arizona; California; and in 1870, the oil lands of the Punjab, India. On his return from India, he traveled through China and Japan, where he was, as he said, "bitten with Orientalism."

The opportunity to return to Japan came to Lyman shortly thereafter. In the hope of making a name for himself in geology, he signed a three-year contract with the Meiji government in 1872 to survey Hokkaido for mining possibilities. Lyman carried out his mission in Japan with passion. It was to be the most productive period of his life. His survey identified the most promising coal fields for Hokkaido's eventually successful mining industry as well as reporting on progress in the reclamation of waste land, the nature of the soil in various districts; the customs, physique, and folklore of the Ainu; useful ores and stones; the development and exploitation of hydraulic power; importation of foreign capital; and the advantage of cooperation with foreign concerns in the mining industry.

Lyman's Japanese assistants, to whom he taught surveying, mapping, mathematics, mineralogy, and related subjects, accompanied him on the difficult ground-breaking survey. They all became proficient surveyors and some of them distinguished geologists. Their enthusiasm and support was largely responsible for making Lyman's experience in Japan as rewarding to him as it was, for he did not have good relations with the Kaitakushi (the Bureau of Development for Hokkaido), owing in part to conflict as to who had authority over his assistants and to a discrepancy between his values and those of the Kaitakushi's administrators. Following completion of the Hokkaido survey and the final report and maps associated with it, Lyman was employed by the Interior Department of Japan and later by the Public Works Department, Bureau of Engineering, to survey oil fields in the rest of the country.

When his contract was up in 1879, Lyman remained in Japan at his own expense to complete the survey maps. Before leaving, he encouraged his assistants to form the Geological Society of Japan and to publish a journal. He gave them his house and grounds for headquarters, which they later sold with his permission when the group disbanded (to be succeeded later by the present society). Lyman maintained contact with his assistants for the rest of his life.

Returning to the United States in January 1881, Lyman took up residence in Northampton, Massachusetts, where he continued work on his reports, publishing them at his own expense. Having saved much of his considerable salary in Japan, Lyman did not need to earn money for the time being. Soon thereafter, he bought the house at 134 Elm Street built in 1880 by W.T. Clement, founder of the Clement Cutlery Company, who died in 1882. Lyman participated in civic affairs as a member of the City Improvement Association and the Community Council. In 1882, Tokumatsu Nakajima, the 10-year old son of his Japanese stableman, came to live with him and be educated in the United States. The boy attended public schools in Northampton and was loved by Lyman's family and friends, such as Mrs. Brewer and Mrs. Ferry, Lyman's near neighbors on Elm Street. He moved to Philadelphia with Lyman when the latter accepted the position of Assistant Geologist of Pennsylvania in 1887. Toku graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, returned to Northampton to work at a Banister's bookstore, and died of tuberculosis in 1901 at age 29.

In the years following his return to Philadelphia, Lyman wrote a great many papers and articles, attended meetings of technical and scientific societies as well as the Oriental Club of Philadelphia, and held a reception each year on the birthday of the Emperor of Japan. After retiring in 1895 from his appointed position, Lyman continued a private practice, finding little remunerative work, however, due to the business depression of the 1890s. In 1906-1907 he surveyed the coal lands near Mt. Lantauan on the island of Cebu in the Philippines, for a New York company building a railroad there. On the way, he visited his former assistants in Japan, who greeted him warmly. He hoped to re-visit them on his return trip, but a long bout with dysentery prevented that.

Lyman was convinced that if he hadn't become a vegetarian in 1864, he would have died young from food eaten on his travels. At 81, in 1917 he published a scholarly cookbook of vegetarian recipes.

Lyman died August 30, 1920, aged 84, in Cheltenham, Pennsylvania.

Born in the same year as Mark Twain, Lyman outlived him by ten years. His circumstances and career provide a useful perspective upon major developments in New England, United States, and, indeed, world history during a period of immense changes. Lyman was a member of a prominent Hampshire County family with origins in the earliest European settlements of Massachusetts Bay and the Connecticut Valley. His grandfather was Sheriff of "Old Hampshire" County and, after 1811, of the new; his father was County Register of Probate and later Probate Judge. Thus a scion of a local elite, attending Exeter and Harvard, in communication with Transcendentalism and Abolitionism through Franklin B. Sanborn, he was also an early exemplar of the American exodus to Europe for advanced scientific training. And as a participant in the process of resource exploration through the application of geological science, he participated in the development of industrialization both at home and, perhaps most importantly, in Japan. These historical movements are documented in valuable ways by the collection described here.

Scope of collection

The Benjamin Smith Lyman collection at the University of Massachusetts Amherst comprises books, maps, and papers, illuminating aspects of late-nineteenth-century Japan, New England, and Pennsylvania, as well as the field of geology and of mining exploration and engineering as they were practiced 1858-1911.

Printed Works

The Japanese and Chinese language books, now in Special Collections and University Archives at the W.E.B. Du Bois Library, were for the most part purchased by Lyman while he was in Japan; others he collected later and received as gifts. They represent over 300 titles, many of them in scores of volumes each, and reflect Lyman's catholic interests and scholarly bent.

Essentially, the books fall into three categories: Japanese classics printed in the Edo period, 1600-1868; books on the Japanese language published in the nineteenth century; and books on nearly every aspect of Japanese life in the Meiji era, including medicine, religion, and popular culture. Among these volumes are some which are rare today, even in Japan.

While most of the books were published between 1800 and 1880, there are several early ones: Kitamura Kigin, *Kogetsusho* (Commentaries on The Lady Murasaki's *Tale of Genji*), 1675; Yoshida Kenko, *Tsurezuregusa Sho* (the fourteenth-century *Essays in Idleness*, said by Donald Keene "Surely [to] be included in any list of the ten most important works of Japanese literature"), 1691; and Okanishi Ichu, *Tsurezuregusa Jikige* (*Commentaries on Essays in Idleness*), 1686, for example. Among the most popular publications are a complete set of the first edition of Takizawa Bakin's *Nanso Satomi Hakkenden* (the fictional/mythological story of the Satomi family), 1814-1842, and Suzuki Bokushi, *Hokuetsu Seppu* (*Snow in Echigo* -- a literary miscellany), 1836-1843.

An additional strength of the collection is in natural science. Titles from the Edo period include: Ito Ihe's *Jikinsho* (a dictionary of flowering plants), 1707-1733; Shimazu Shigehide's *Seikei Zusetsu* (an encyclopedia of agriculture), 1804; and Okura Nagatsune's *Nokaeki* (a handbook on *haze* [wax trees]), 1802-1854.

The collection includes some books on Asia in Western languages as well. Among the rarer items is the London 1728 edition of the *History of Japan* by Engelbert Kaempfer (1651-1716), indefatigable traveler in the Middle East and Central, Southeast, and East Asia, and among the earliest Westerners to become truly expert on Japan. The History in English, first published in the previous year by Sir Hans Sloane, was the earliest publication of Kaempfer's manuscripts on Japan. Only in 1777-1779 was another of his manuscripts, left in his home in Lemgo, published in the original language. This work, *Geschichte und Beschreibung von Japan*, in two volumes, is also included in the Lyman Collection, as are the nine volume *Histoire et description generale du Japon* (1736) of Pierre de Charlevoix (1682-1761); the *Yu yen tzu erh chi: A Progressive Course Designed to Assist the Student of Colloquial Chinese as Spoken in the Capital and the Metropolitan Department* (1st ed., 1867) by T.F. Wade; and *A Dictionary of Colloquial Idioms in the Mandarin Dialect* (1873) by Herbert A. Giles.

Maps

The 121 published Japanese maps 1834-1896, housed with the books, are fine and unusual examples of cartography. Some depict the local, provincial, or national topography of Japan; others are devoted to geology. The most important of these are printed in color from wood blocks (relief printing). There are, in addition, a few maps of Korea and China as well as some Western ones, including the intaglio printed *Topographische Karte der Schweiz* by C.H. Dufour, 1855, and maps accompanying the Third Annual Report of the State Board of Health, Lunacy, and Charity of Massachusetts, 1882.

Manuscripts

From Lyman's earliest financial records, kept as a student at Phillips Exeter, through the journal notations of his later days in Philadelphia, Lyman's meticulous record keeping provides much detail about his life and work. In letters to family, friends, and business associates, Lyman described his social and professional activities, particularly in letters to Franklin B. Sanborn, his classmate, a friend of the Concord Transcendentalists, and an active abolitionist. Lyman also made observations about his surroundings in the course of worldwide travel, as well as over extended periods of residence in Philadelphia, Northampton, and especially Japan, which is also well documented in the photographs he took and acquired. The field notes and journals from which Lyman prepared reports for his geological surveys are included, as well as maps he prepared, most notably some of Hokkaido.

The papers, 1848-1911, have been organized into nine series, including Correspondence, Financial Records, Writings, Survey Notebooks, Survey Maps, Photographs, Student Notes and Notebooks, Collections, and Miscellaneous.

Arrangement

This collection is organized into nine series:

Series 1. Correspondence, 1856-1915

Series 2. Financial Records, 1851-1911

Series 3. Writings, 1868-1888

Series 4. Survey Notebooks, 1862-1907

Series 5. Survey Maps, 1831-1916

Series 6. Photographs, 1879-1911

Series 7. Student Notes and Notebooks, 1847-1907

Series 8. Collections, 1860-1910

Series 9. Miscellaneous

Series descriptions

Series 1. Correspondence

1856-1915

Lyman's letters, both business and personal, are found in the collection in three forms: in drafts; in originals of letters he wrote, mainly to his Lesley aunt and uncle, who bound them; and, mostly, in 30 volumes of letterpress copybooks (about one third of which are badly faded).

Lyman wrote chiefly to family members, business associates, and his friend Franklin B. Sanborn of Concord. Sanborn and he, who were classmates at Phillips Exeter and Harvard, reported in detail to each other about their social, professional, and civic lives. Sanborn's letters to Lyman, housed in The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, have been published as *Young Reporter of Concord*, edited by Kenneth Walter Cameron, Hartford: Transcendental Books, 1978.

Lyman's letters are filled with his meticulous observations. This was not only characteristic of nineteenth century Westerners with Lyman's education and social status, but it was also particularly congruent with his personality. Especially when Lyman was traveling, he conveyed with a great deal of freshness his experiences in varied locales around the world. We learn, for example, what it was like to travel beside the driver of a stagecoach through the Nevada Territory, to live in a remote village in Cape Breton, to socialize as a bachelor in Philadelphia during the Civil War, to carouse in taverns as a student in Germany, to establish living arrangements upon first arriving in Japan, or to observe the Empress on a visit to a school in Yedo. Occasionally he comments upon historic moments: the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, the abolitionist activities of John Brown and Wendell Phillips, the publications of the Transcendentalists and their friends.

Spanning the period of Lyman's active professional career, his letters reveal a great deal about the formal and practical education and practices of a geologist in the late nineteenth century, beginning with his early forays into the field as an assistant to J. Peter Lesley; his growing commitment to geology and mining engineering as a career; his education in Paris and Freiberg, his work on various surveys in the United States, Canada, India, and their related travels; his seven years in Japan as Chief Geologist and Mining Engineer for various agencies of the Meiji Government, and his continuing work as a geologist, especially in Pennsylvania after his return from Japan. Some of the reports he wrote for those on whose behalf he was making the surveys are included in the correspondence copybooks, along with the consultation letters.

A small portion of the correspondence series consists of letters from Lyman and Northampton friends to Toku Nakajima, who lived with Lyman in Northampton and Philadelphia from the age of 10, following Lyman's return from Japan.

Series 2. Financial Records

1851-1911

Lyman kept financial records as early as his school days at Phillips Exeter Academy, where he documented his daily and educational expenses. The collection includes his accounts for 1851-61, 1872 (including an inventory of his goods and chattels), 1873-1880 (the years in Japan), 1885-1887, and 1911.

Some of the account books from the period when Lyman was in Japan were kept by Kotaro, his cook. There are two categories comparable to journals and ledgers: the *Nikki*, or daily records, and the *Sencho*, records by category, such as foodstuffs, education, laundry, domestic wages, accommodation and travel expenses, fuel, postage, and repairs. In a ledger for 1874, Lyman listed the stock on hand for the Geological Survey of Hokkaido.

In addition to keeping journals and ledgers, Lyman retained receipts and statements, not only because it was customary, but also because he was often accountable to supporters and had to secure reimbursements for living and travel expenses incurred on surveys. It was also consistent with the thoroughness for which he was known. The receipts, which he bound, are from France, Germany, Switzerland, the Punjab, various U.S. locations, and Japan. They are for such items as books, clothing, instruments, freight costs, subscriptions, furniture, and hotel rooms.

Series 3. Writings

1868-1888

Only a few of the 150 books and papers Lyman wrote are represented in the collection. (Many of Lyman's articles appeared in the *Transactions of the American Institute of Mining Engineers* and in the *Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society* and of the *American Association for the Advancement of Science*.) Of most significance are the printed Japanese language

versions of some of his survey reports on Hokkaido and the manuscript versions, in varied hands in two letterpress copy books, of some of the survey reports on Japan, 1877-79.

Additional manuscript material includes a draft of Lyman's article on Japanese grammar; translations of Chinese proverbs; and a brief article, "The Petroleum Industries of Japan" (authorship uncertain). Also included is a printed version of "Bending Marble," 1868, from the American Journal of Mining.

Vegetarian recipes, some of which may have been included in Lyman's scholarly cookbook, *Vegetarian Diet and Dishes*, 1917, can be found in Series 9, Miscellaneous.

Series 4. Survey Notebooks

1862-1907

Lyman's survey notebooks are of two kinds: those comprising field notes made on-site, and those reporting his activities related to the surveys. Sometimes the latter become diary-like and, in fact, report on more than what is strictly associated with the surveys, making the notebooks a particularly informative segment of the collection for details about Lyman's life and business.

The field notes employ a sketching system devised by Lyman and J. Peter Lesley for conveying the location of minerals by lines charting land surface characteristics and subsurface strata. While this system was not widely adopted in the West because it was time-consuming to use, Lyman taught it to his Japanese assistants, who spread its use widely in Japan.

The notebooks document surveys beginning soon after Lyman's return from his training in France and Germany; thus they trace his professional career from its formal inception through his most active surveying years. There are 120 notebooks for Lyman's surveys in Cape Breton, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Alabama, the Punjab, Maryland, and elsewhere, as well as a run of 125 rice-paper volumes for Lyman's years in Japan.

Series 5. Survey Maps

1831-1916

The survey maps are those produced in connection with surveys in which Lyman participated. They include important ones for Hokkaido and the rest of Japan, as well as the Punjab, Cape Breton, and various U.S. locations, especially Pennsylvania.

Additional survey maps not listed here can be found in map case in 2602; see also Special Collections Dept. for published maps Lyman collected.

Series 6. Photographs

1879-1911

Lyman's photos of Japan, particularly the evocative studies of people, open a window on Japan in the 1870s, letting us see in with startling clarity. Many of the 200 photographs in the collection were almost certainly taken by Lyman: he speaks in letters of 1865 to his friend F.B. Sanborn and his mother about learning to take photos, to develop and print them; many photos in the collection were found in a photographer's blotter book when they were received at the University of Massachusetts; an envelope from a photo supplier addressed to Lyman is among the papers; and some of the photos of Japan parallel the sorts of observations made in Lyman's correspondence.

Photos probably taken by Lyman include pictures of his garden at Yedo; portraits of individual Japanese women; studies of groups of Japanese people, often by occupation; snapshots of hot springs, mining sites, and other landscapes; and some of the Ainu pictures. Some engaging photos of Lyman and his assistants and associates were taken by others. Additional photos of Japan in the collection were probably commercially prepared for travelers, particularly the Yedo series. Lyman's hand can be seen again in documentary photos of Philadelphia locations. A few snapshots of Massachusetts (Falmouth and Northampton) are included, along with some photos of Manila in the Philippines and one each from India, Freiberg, and the Paris Exposition Universelle of 1878.

See attached list for identifications

Series 7. Student Notes and Notebooks

1847-1907

Lyman's student notes and note books (1843-1863, 1870s), include a journal for January to June, 1851, and a number of early themes, 1848-55, depicting, among other things, real and imaginary trips made by Lyman, which foreshadow his later life and concrete and particular writing style while they detail aspects of his youth. There are, as well, many notebooks from Lyman's student days in Paris and Freiberg, making clear the nature of some of his training there. Finally, materials pertaining to Lyman's studies of the Japanese, Spanish, French, and German languages are included. They hint at the breadth of his learning and interests. Lyman's library included books in these languages as well as in Chinese, Persian, Sanskrit, Bengali, Hindustani, and Shan--all of which he had studied.

Series 8. Collections

1860-1910

In the course of his work and travel, Lyman accumulated collections, most significantly his books, discussed above. A related collection is the 250 wrappers Lyman saved from Japanese books and maps, one quarter of which are in the Lyman collection at the University of Massachusetts. Many of the wrappers, comparable to dust jackets, are extremely colorful and decorative. The oldest is for Taketori Monogatari, 1784.

In addition, he saved manufacturers' and dealers' catalogs of the 1880s and 1890s for the tools of the trades of geology and mining engineering. They include everything from tracing paper and tape measures to explosives, drills, and locomotives for mines. Together, they portray a slice of time in the history of technology.

Additional collections include Lyman's visitors' and associates' calling cards, which he mounted in a scrapbook, along with various small notices and broadsides; Japanese souvenir viewbooks; newspaper clippings 1860-65, (1887-95), pertaining mostly to Japan, China, Europe, the Johnstown flood, and U.S. learned societies; pencil drawings by Lyman's brother, J.F. Lyman, of European locations; graphic materials of a popular nature collected mostly in Japan; and some postcards.

Series 9. Miscellaneous

Of most significance among the miscellaneous materials are the contracts Lyman signed in 1869 and 1872 for his work as geologist and mining engineer in the Punjab region of India and in Hokkaido, Japan.

Additional materials could be considered a scientist's mementos of Japan: an atlas of taxes, population, and cultivated land; a compilation of meteorological averages for 1873-75; or government regulations on weights and measures. There are, as well, ordinary tourist items, such as a boat schedule, brochures from shrines and hot springs, and an auction catalog.

A small batch of Toku Nakajima's belongings are also found in this series: Greek and French lesson notebooks, a list of Christmas gifts for 1892, and a notebook of handwriting exercises.

Inventory

Series 1. Correspondence

1856-1915

Letter drafts

1860-63

Box 1

Letterpress copybooks, 4 vol.

1864-1867

Box 2

Letterpress copybooks, 3 vol.

1867-1869

Box 3

Letterpress copybooks, 5 vol.

1869-1873

Box 4

Letterpress copybooks, 5 vol.

1873-1875

Box 5

Letterpress copybooks, 4 vol., 1 f. loose pp.

1875-1876

Box 6

Letterpress copybooks, 1 vol., 1 f. loose pp.

1876-1878

Box 7

Letterpress copybooks, 4 vol., (1 unbound)

1877-1880

Box 8

Letterpress copybooks, 4 vol.

1881-1886

Box 9
Letterpress copybooks, 2 vol.
1886-1888
Box 10
Letterpress copybooks and letter drafts, 2 vol., 2 f.
1889-1891; 1898-1899
Box 11
Letter drafts
1899-1900
Box 12
Letter drafts
1901
Box 13
Letter drafts
1901-1909
Box 13A
Scrapbooks (2) of BSL letters to J. Peter Lesley and family
1856-1867; 1867-1884
Box 14
Additional loose BSL/Lesley correspondence
1860-1892
Box 14
Incoming letters:

Box 15
James Lyman
1867, 1869, 1894
Box 15
Felix Foucon
1869
Box 15
J.Y. Mori (2)
1877
Box 15
Noguchi(20)
1876, 1880
Box 15
S. Nishiyama (5)
1881-1884
Box 15
E.R. Hoar
1884
Box 15
W.T. Harris (3)
1885
Box 15
I. Nitobe
1890
Box 15
S. Nishiyama
1892
Box 15
H.V. Hilprecht
1892, 1898
Box 15
W. London (3)
1893-1894
Box 15

Japanese colony
1894
Box 15
N. Morimoto
1896
Box 15
Truslove & Comba, Publishers
1896
Box 15
Hong Chong
1898
Box 15
Ng Hung Tho
1898
Box 15
Kushibiki & Arai
1898
Box 15
Brewster Frost Ames re: Manila
1902
Box 15
Mayer Sulzberger
1908
Box 15
American Academy of Political and Social Science
1909
Box 15
Mary Alice Schively
1909
Box 15
F.B. Sanborn
1909
Box 15
Edith B. Cameron
1910-1914
Box 15
Wagner Free Institute
1910
Box 15
Colonial Dames
1910
Box 15
Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Ames
1910
Box 15
Daisy Gaujot
1910
Box 15
American Mining and Metal Extraction Co.
1910
Box 15
I. Wodo
1910
Box 15
City Club of Philadelphia
1910
Box 15
American Philosophical Society
1910

Box 15
Anna Bewley (3)
1910-1911
Box 15
Laura Bliss (2)
1910-1911
Box 15
Dr. Bascom (6)
1910-1911
Box 15
F.B. Vandegrift and Co. (2)
1911
Box 15
Hannah Brewer (3)
1911
Box 15
Bryn Mawr Hotel
1911
Box 15
Battle Creek Sanitarium
1911
Box 15
Elizabeth James
1912
Box 15
Bryn Mawr Horse Show Association
1915
Box 15
Postcard and Christmas card
n.d.
Box 15
Albert J. Edmunds re: dispersal of BSL letters
1921
Box 15
Tokumatsu Nakajima correspondence
1889-1894
Box 15
Series 2. Financial Records
1851-1911
Scrapbooks (3) of receipts and statements
1853-1872
Box 16
Loose receipts and statements
1863-1880
Box 17
U.S. Internal Revenue Tax Return
1866
Box 17
Scrapbooks (2) of receipts and statements while in Japan
1872-1876; 1876-1877
Box 18
Account books (3) of educational expenses
1851-1855
Box 19
Account book
1855-1861
Box 19
Journal and ledger
1872

Box 19
Journal and ledger
1874
Box 19
Journal and ledger
1885-1887
Box 19
Ledger
1911
Box 19
Daybooks (Nikki) while in Japan (7 volumes)
1876-1879
Box 20
Daybooks (Nikki) while in Japan (6 volumes)
1878-1880
Box 21
Ledgers (Sencho--by subject) (7 volumes)
1874-1876
Box 22
Ledgers (Sencho--by subject) (6 volumes)
1877-1878
Box 23
Ledgers (Sencho--by subject) (3 volumes)
1879
Box 24
Nikki and Sencho for government funds (3 volumes)
July-Dec. 1877
Box 24
Traveling expenses (2 volumes, Japanese style)
1877
Box 25
Household accounts (6 volumes, Japanese style)
1874-1878
Box 25
Accounts of dates when flowers or bonsai were sent
n.d.
Box 25
Series 3. Writings
1868-1888
Subseries 1: Writings By BSL

Bending Marble in American Journal of Mining
Feb. 8, 1868
Box 26
Geological Survey of Hokkaido (Japanese language versions, 3 volumes)
1873
Box 26
Report on survey of coal fields in Horonai, Hokkaido (Japanese language version)
1876
Box 26
Summary, Geological Survey of Hokkaido (Japanese language version)
1876
Box 26
Report on Geological Survey of Hokkaido (Japanese language version)
1877
Box 26
Reports, Geological Survey of Japan (mss and typescripts)
1877-1879

Box 26
Report, Geological Survey of Japan (ms)
1879
Box 26
Drafts of Japanese grammar article
1877-1878
Box 26
Translation into Japanese of European story "Sleeping Maid in Woods"
n.d.
Box 26
Translation of Chinese proverbs
n.d.
Box 26
Translation of article in Tokyo Illustrated Daily News
1882
Box 26
The Petroleum Industries of Japan (author?)
c. 1896
Box 26
Subseries 2: Writings By Others

Bibliographic notecards to 1918

Box 27
Hochiku Sekitan san Hokokusho, Preliminary report on coal fields in Chikuzen, Buzen, Japan, by F.A. Bottle (in Japanese language)
1878
Box 27
The Economics of Child Welfare by Royal Meeker, reprinted U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, address delivered at the U.S. Children's Bureau Conference on Child Welfare, Washington DC
May 6, 1919
Box 27
Italian Petroleum Matters, Province of Reggio, by E.S. Fairman (ms)
1867
Box 27
The Evolution of Mine-surveying, by Dunbar D. Scott (ms), also, Remarks on Mine-surveying Instruments with special reference to Mr. Dunbar D. Scott's paper on their evolution and its discussion, by H.D. Hoskold
1900
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On Unrest, author unknown
n.d.
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1866
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Survey L--Clinton County, PA
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Berks County, PA

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Survey T--Potomac Furnace Lands near Pt. of Rocks, MD
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Survey U--Seven Islands Bay on St. Lawrence River
1869
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Survey V--PA: Books 1-3, also contains extract from report by W. Theobald of Geological Survey, Pegu, British Burma, 1866
1869-1870
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Punjab (2 volumes)
1870

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Survey X--West Virginia: Books I-III
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Series 5. Survey Maps
1831-1916
Japan--Hokkaido (to be listed by title following preservation)

Box 35
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Box 36
United States

Illinois: Geological and Topographical Sketch Map of the Barnard Tract, Henry County, by BSL
1868
Box 37
Indiana: Plan of the Survey and Details of a Canal on the Indiana Side of the Falls of the Ohio
1852
Box 37
Kentucky: Preliminary Map of Kentucky Geological Survey
1887
Box 37
Kentucky: Preliminary Map of South East Kentucky
1886
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Massachusetts: Maps Accompanying the Third Annual Report of the State Board of Health, Lunacy, and Charity (re: sewage disposal for Worcester)
1882

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1831

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1893

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1879

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1882

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1904

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India: Punjab Oil Region (ms)
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Panama Canal: Board of Consulting Engineers, Lock Canal Project. Profile of Proposed Lock Canal with Summit Elevation at 85 feet. Plates VIII, IX, and X.
1905
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Polar Regions: Baffin Bay to Lincoln Sea showing the recent discoveries and routes of exploration of Peary... (to accompany Bulletin, Vol. IV, no. 1, Geographical Society of Philadelphia
1903
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List of treasures kept in Tsurugaoka Hachimangu shrine (in Japanese)

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Lid of box which housed pictures

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Canadian Geological and Natural History Survey, request for acknowledgement of receipt of mineral products of the US for calendar years 1890-1907

Box 51

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The collection is open for research.

Provenance

Acquired from the Forbes Library.

The Lyman Papers were originally part of a collection donated to the Forbes Library in Northampton by Benjamin's cousin Frank Lyman in 1921. Weighing 8 tons, the collection included 4,105 books, over 1,800 in Japanese. It is chiefly these Japanese books, with the addition of others in Chinese and in Western languages pertaining to Asia, that were transferred to UMass Amherst along with the late Edo- and Meiji-era Japanese maps acquired by Lyman and a substantial collection of his papers.

Related Material

Other significant collections of Benjamin Smith Lyman materials can be found at the American Philosophical Society, the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Hokkaido University, and in the Horace Capron papers at Yale University.

Separated Material

The non-Japanese/Chinese volumes of Lyman's library, representing various languages and many fields of inquiry, remain at the Forbes Library.

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Processed by Linda Seidman.

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