

Archives and Special Collections

Dickinson College

Carlisle, PA

COLLECTION REGISTER

Name: **Potter, Henry Cardwell (1822-1902)** **MC 1998.8**

Material: Family Papers (1858-1943)

Volume: 1.25 linear feet (Document Boxes 1-3 and 10 Folders of Photographs)

Donation: Gift of Samuel and Anna D. Moyerman, 1965

Usage: These materials have been donated without restrictions on usage.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

The record of the family begins with Henry Cardwell Potter (1822-1902), a businessman who imported coffee from Nicaragua and subsequently became Consul of Nicaragua in Philadelphia for 25 years. He was married to Amanda Inskeep Moore, and the couple had a daughter, Henrietta Augusta.

Henrietta was married first to Benicio Guerrero, whom she apparently met as a result of her father's business dealings in Central America. They had one son, Lorenzo Henry Cardwell Guerrero, who became the Consul of Nicaragua, following in the footsteps of his grandfather, Henry. Henrietta and Benicio also had a daughter, Mary Agnes (María Inéz), born in the 1880's. Benicio had another son, Solon, from a previous marriage.

After Benicio's death, Henrietta married Dr. Walter M. James. Dr. and Mrs. Walter M. James seem to have been a very prominent couple in Philadelphia society in the late nineteenth century. Among other things, Dr. James was a member of the Microscopical Society of Camden, NJ, to whom he gave a lecture in 1897 entitled "Dust." He was also a member of the Homeopathic Physicians of Philadelphia and the Homeopathic Publishing Society, the International Hahnemannian Society, and was a founding member of the Mining and Metallurgical section of the Franklin Institute. Henrietta was a great collector of Nicaraguan pottery and was on the Board of Managers of the Archaeological Society of the University of Pennsylvania. In 1897, she campaigned for and won a position as a school director in Philadelphia. She also served as the general secretary of the Missionary Society of the Saint Andrews Protestant Episcopal Church. Walter and Henrietta James had no children.

The Lord family enters the picture with the marriage of Mary Agnes Guerrero to John Carlisle Lord in October of 1906. As a professional baseball player, John wrote to Mary throughout their courtship and early marriage from various cities on his team's circuit to inform her of the progress of his team and constantly remind her of his affection. They had one known

daughter, Elinor, who went on to marry Richard L. Hopkins.

The Potter family owned an estate in Nicaragua named La Hacienda Santa Enriqueta. In the 1940's, for unknown reasons other than the death of Henry Potter some years earlier and an apparent end of family activities in Nicaragua, the family attempted to sell the estate and Mary Guerrero Lord undertook the legal matters. The activities of the family after the early 1940's, as well as the dates of death for most family members, are not known.

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

The Potter Family Collection occupies three document boxes, the last of which is solely a scrapbook. This collection documents the lives of members of the Potter, Guererro, James, and Lord families from the 1850's to the 1940's. The collection has been separated into five basic sections and arranged as follows: Business Materials, Correspondence, Miscellaneous Materials, Scrapbook, and Photographs.

The Business Materials are arranged alphabetically by the family member to whom the papers apparently belonged. These materials include papers and receipts of Henry Potter, Consul of Nicaragua, the financial papers of Benicio Guerrero, and the legal papers regarding the sale of the family's estate, La Hacienda Santa Enriqueta, by Mary Agnes Lord. Henry Potter's business papers also include a small leather-bound notebook in which financial transactions were recorded. Many of the business materials are in Spanish and date from 1858 to 1895.

The Correspondence comprises the bulk of the collection. The Correspondence are arranged alphabetically by author, and then chronologically. Letters received by a particular individual are filed to the rear. Among the correspondence are personal letters from John Carlisle Lord to his fiancée (and later wife) Mary Agnes Guerrero. John wrote to Mary often during his trips with his baseball team, and as a result many of his letters are written on hotel stationery. Dr. Walter M. James was a prominent homeopathic doctor in Philadelphia, and the collection contains many letters from his patients requesting services, thanking him for his work, and informing him of deaths in the family. These letters on medical matters date from 1892 to 1905. Also among the correspondence of Dr. James are several letters regarding personal business dating between 1904 and 1905.

The Miscellaneous Materials are arranged alphabetically by family member, with general memorabilia and clippings filed to the back.

The Scrapbook of Walter James, dating from the 1870's, is housed in Box 3 of the collection. The scrapbook contains clippings from the Philadelphia Times, the Ledger and Transcript, and the Sunday Dispatch on topics of medical procedures; one of particular interest is entitled, "How to Preserve Dead Bodies." Also included in the scrapbook are obituaries, booklets and programs from meetings of the various societies to which Dr. James belonged, and several letters from colleagues.

The Photographs, designated PC 1998.8, have been separated from the collection of papers and are housed in folders within the Dickinson College photo collection. The photos appear to all be images of individual family members and friends, however many of the photos remain unidentified. The first three folders contain images that are identified, and these have been arranged alphabetically. The remaining six folders all contain miscellaneous unidentified images.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

BOX 1 - MC 1998.8

BUSINESS MATERIAL

- Guerrero, Benicio
 - Folder 01) Financial material - 1870-1885
- Lord, John Carlisle
 - Folder 02) Accident insurance certificate of John Carlisle Lord - 1907
- Lord, Mary Agnes Guerrero
 - Folder 03) Legal papers concerning sale of estate - 1942-1943
- Potter, Henry Cardwell
 - Folder 04) Financial papers - 1858-1883
 - Folder 05) Financial papers - 1884-1887
 - Folder 06) Financial papers - 1888-1893
 - Folder 07) Financial papers - 1894-1895
 - Folder 08) Notebook - 1892-1895

CORRESPONDENCE

- Guerrero, Lorenzo Henry Cardwell
 - Folder 09) Letters received - 1910-1911
- James, Henrietta Augusta Potter Guerrero
 - Folder 10) Letter to Henry Cardwell Potter - 1875
 - Folder 11) Letters to Mary Agnes Guerrero - 1938
 - Folder 12) Letters to Dr. Walter M. James - 1904
 - Folder 13) Letters received - 1892-1910
 - Folder 14) Letters received - 1902, 1910
- James, Dr. Walter M.
 - Folder 15) Miscellaneous medical letters received - 1894, 1902-1904
 - Folder 16) Miscellaneous medical letters received - 1905
 - Folder 17) Personal business of Dr. Walter M. James - 1904-1905
- Lord, John Carlisle
 - Folder 18) Letters to Mary Agnes Guerrero - 1905

BOX 2 - MC 1998.8

CORRESPONDENCE (cont.)

- Lord, John Carlisle
 - Folder 01) Letters to Mary Agnes Guerrero Lord - Jan.- May 1906
 - Folder 02) Letters to Mary Agnes Guerrero Lord - June - Dec. 1906
 - Folder 03) Letters to Mary Agnes Guerrero Lord - 1907-1908
 - Folder 04) Letters to Mary Agnes Guerrero Lord - 1909-1911
 - Folder 05) Letters received - 1903-1908

BOX 2 - 1998.8 (cont.)

Lord, Mary Agnes Guerrero

- Folder 06) Letters to Henrietta Potter James - no date
- Folder 07) Letters from Mary Agnes (Guerrero) Lord - 1942
- Folder 08) Letters received from Mrs. Elinor Lord Hopkins - 1942
- Folder 09) Letters received - 1894-1943

Potter, Amanda Inskeep Moore

- Folder 10) Letters to Henrietta A. Potter James - 1884 & no date
- Folder 11) Letters received - 1894-1902

Potter, Henry Cardwell

- Folder 12) Letters received - 1855-1901
- Folder 13) Miscellaneous letters to and from non-family members - 1872-1914

MISCELLANEOUS MATERIALS

- Folder 14) James, Henrietta Augusta Potter Guerrero
- Folder 15) James, Dr. Walter M.
- Folder 16) Lord, Mary Agnes (Guerrero)
- Folder 17) Potter, Henry Cardwell, death certificate – 1902
- Folder 18) Memorabilia
- Folder 19) Newspaper clippings

BOX 3 - MC 1998.8

SCRAPBOOK

Dr. Walter M. James - 1895-1897

PHOTOGRAPHS - PC 1998.8

- Folder 01) Alvarez, Emilio
Basten, F. Guerrero
Bourough, E. (2)
Chamorro, Don Fernando
Chamorro, Don Pedro
- Folder 02) Guerrero, D.
James, Henrietta Augusta (Potter Guerrero) (4)
Guerrero, Zacharias
Guerrero
- Folder 03) Potter, Alfred
Trego, Anna L. (2)
Trego, Annie
Trego, Sr. Don
Vaughan, Annie (2)

PC 1998.8 (cont.)

Folder 04)	Unknown (8)
Folder 05)	Unknown (9)
Folder 06)	Unknown (9)
Folder 07)	Unknown (9)
Folder 08)	Unknown (6)
Folder 09)	Unknown (3)

This collection register was prepared by Sarah W. Dunham, November 1998.