

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION
ACCESSION SHEET

Accession # * 88 M30

Location 4-h-4 (L)

Title Davis, Gherardi, 1858-1941

Approximate inclusive dates 1828-1940

Date of receipt November 15, 1941

Received from Major Chandler Davis, Gift

Volume on arrival

Number of boxes (after reboxing) 8 boxes. 3 linear ft.

Condition Good.

Restrictions

Description

Davis - who was named for an Italian grandfather - was a lawyer, New York politician, and author. He was born in San Francisco in 1858. In 1868 he went with his family to live in Europe, where he attended schools in Berlin, Heidelberg, and Paris. Davis returned to the United States in 1879. He graduated from Columbia Law School in 1881, then practiced law in New York first, from 1880-1885, as a student at Evarts, Southmayd, and Choate, then in partnership with William Cary Sanger as Sanger and Davis then, from 1886, on his own.

Davis was active in Republican politics in New York City from about 1880. He was president of the 27th Assembly District Republican Club from 1906-1908, and was State Assemblyman from that district from 1898-1902. In 1903 Davis was appointed Third Deputy Police Commissioner in New York City.

Davis's books included memoirs, accounts of travels, The South Side

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

Temporary catalog card added entries

See attached

Accessioned by JM

Date November 16, 1988

Sportsman's Club of Long Island, 1909 (a history of the club), Regimental Colors in the War of the Revolution, 1909, and Regimental Colors of the German Armies in the War of 1870-1871. Many of these were privately printed, and some were written with his wife, Alice King Davis, who he married in 1894.

DESCRIPTION

The bulk of the papers consists of research material generated by Davis during the preparation of his Regimental Colors in the War of the Revolution and Regimental Colors of the German Armies in the War of 1870-1871, and by research into flags of some additional countries, including Austria-Hungary, France, and Russia. Included is correspondence in German, English, and French, 1896-1927 (including acknowledgements from recipients of his books), photographs and illustrations of flags, notes, printed material, and fabric samples.

The two remaining boxes contain general correspondence, some papers, and a group of volumes. The general correspondence, 1883-1940 (sparse) consists of drafts of Davis' letters, and letters he received. It chiefly concerns New York political matters - particularly those of the 27th Assembly District in New York City. Of note are five letters and cards, 1908-1918, to Davis from the French artist Edouard Detaille (in French). Also of note are typescript drafts of two letters by Davis, July 26 and 27, 1906, to President Theodore Roosevelt, with Roosevelt's reply, October 29, 1906, concerning Davis and Roosevelt's opposition to William Randolph Hearst's 1906 New York gubernatorial candidacy.

Also included are: some family correspondence, 1828 and 1857; acknowledgements from recipients of Davis' South Side Sportsman's Club of Long Island, 1909-1911; a list of his writings; and clippings and printed material, including palm cards issued by the 27th Assembly District Republican Club during elections in which Davis was running for office.

The volumes consist of: a typescript of an autobiography, The Story of My Life; typescript of a book, Bible Studies; two physics notebooks, in French; a typescript essay on Paris by Philemon Tecumseh Sherman dedicated to Davis, 1926; and a typescript of a journal following the movements of the Sixth United States Regiment of Engineers to which

Davis - 3

Captain Chandler Davis, Gherardi's brother, belonged, 1917-1918.

Davis - Container list

Box

I. Papers, 1828-1940

- 1 General correspondence, 1883-1940; papers; The story of my life; Bible Studies
- 2 Physics notebooks; Sherman's Paris notes; Chandler Davis World War One journal

II. Regimental Colors in the War of the Revolution

- 2 1897-1906
- 3 1907 - 1927; notes, illustrations, printed material
- 4 acknowledgements, 1907-1913; 1922

III. Regimental Colors of the German Armies in the War of 1870-1871

- 5 Vols. II and IV, 1897-1904 (NYPL did not receive Vols. I and III)
- 6 Vols. V and VI, 1896-1904
- 7 Vols. VII-IX, 1892-1905
- 8 Misc. German flag corr., 1905-1913; acknowledgements, 1911-1913

- 8 IV. Flag correspondence, other countries, 1896-1913
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