Letters of Luminaries:

Notable Correspondence in the Collections of the
Ward M. Canaday Center
An Exhibition

Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections
The University of Toledo Libraries
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Introduction

“Letters and documents are the most direct link we have to the heroes and heroines, villains, and ordinary people of the past. They show these men and women as human beings, dealing with matters on a scale that all of us can relate. We begin to appreciate that their lives may not be all that different from our own—that people of the past confronted the same feelings and fears that we all do, and that they persevered to achieve the goals—both great and small—of their lives.”

Kenneth W. Rendell, History Comes to Life: Collecting Historical Letters and Documents

The simple act of signing your name to a piece of paper can change one’s life. A signature verifies identity, assures authenticity, and attests to agreement. A signature marks all of life’s significant events—a doctor’s signature on a birth certificate, a principal’s signature on a diploma, a couple’s signature on a wedding license, a coroner’s signature on a death certificate. Signatures also mark the great events of human history. It was John Hancock who, through his large, unmistakable signature, led the patriots who founded our country in their first revolutionary act. Today, signing your “John Hancock” means signing your name to a paper freely, proudly, and meaningfully.

Because signatures carry such meaning, it is not surprising that signatures of famous people are collectable. If authenticated, they are a singular, proven connection to a significant individual’s life. Having a person’s signature is a way of preserving a small bit of the signer. And if that signature is affixed to a letter that describes an event of historical significance, the signature is all the more important. As scholar Rendell noted, there is an impalpable quality in a great man’s (or woman’s) handwriting that draws one to it.

Today, “signatures” and “letters” are more likely to be electronic than real. While there is no doubt that the electronic delivery of information has changed the world, it has done so at the expense of the contemplative, eloquent letter. We no longer carefully commit our thoughts to paper, but rather dash off our ideas quickly, immediately, and often without sufficient consideration of the content. Because communication happens instantaneously, we keep it short and to the point—sometimes in less than 140 characters. We do not use complete sentences or even complete words—OMG, LOL, BFF—these have become universally understood in the age of digital communication in the same way “yours truly,” “dear,” “sincerely,” “to whom it may concern” and “with regards” were understood in the correspondence of the past.

Whether you believe emails and tweets are good or bad, we do recognize that a written letter signed by someone from the past is a precious item—perhaps made even more precious by its outdated form. What are displayed in this exhibit are the thoughts and authentic signatures of political leaders, foreign dignitaries, intellectuals, authors, entertainers, sports figures, business leaders, and important Toledoans. Some of the correspondence is routine, with the impact coming from the signature alone. Other letters are important for both the content and the signature of the author.
In addition to letters from famous individuals, there is a special part of this exhibition that celebrates the lives of the uncelebrated of our past. From the letters of these individuals we glimpse extraordinary moments from the lives of ordinary people. It is in these few items that perhaps the real value of letter writing can be appreciated. Pouring out one’s love for another, recalling tragedies, describing the acts of birth and death—these are words that speak to the commonality of the human experience. We may not know the last names of Belle or Matilda, or how George was known to either, but when Belle writes to Matilda in May 1862, “George has enlisted and gone to war he went this morning at six o’clock we all cried and bid him good by and he almost cried to,” and we see the water smudged stains of the ink on the page, we know the tragedy of war that goes beyond the experience of Belle, Matilda, and George. Belle’s comments that her mother gave George “some nice sheets of paper and envelops and gave him a towel and some cloth to bandage up his hand or finger if it got hurt” could bring tears to even the most hardened soul. And because Belle took the time to express her sadness in writing, today we know of the circumstances of George’s departure, even if we do not know whether he ever returned to Belle after his service in the bloody Civil War.

For nearly 35 years, the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections has collected materials that document important historical events, and made these materials available to scholars locally, nationally, and globally. While our focus is on collections that support in-depth research, we are also proud of the singular items that document precise events. One of the most unique items displayed in this exhibit is a page from a guest book from the U.S. ambassador’s residence in Moscow from December 1963 which includes the signatures of all of the Soviet Union’s leaders who came to pay their respects on the occasion of the death of President John F. Kennedy. It is an example of how a single piece of paper can come with so much significance, and document so much history. And it is but one example. Other extraordinary items include a copy of Thomas Paine’s *Common Sense* published in 1776 that includes the signature of the person who once held it in his possession—Benjamin Franklin. And there is a small piece of paper that is an IOU from S. H. and David McCord for the slaves Davy and Queen, who they purchased in 1847.

In addition to the letters and signatures in the “Letters of Luminaries” exhibit, the Canaday Center has also put together an accompanying exhibit in our art gallery area titled “Celebrity Sightings.” This exhibit includes signed photographs of celebrities who have appeared in Toledo, many of them as part of the “Town Hall” series coordinated by Flora Ward Hineline that brought leading stars and intellectuals to the city from 1932 to 1956. Also displayed are copies of pages from scrapbooks created and maintained by the special events staff of the former Centennial (now Savage) Hall on the campus of The University of Toledo. These scrapbooks contain photographs, signatures, and often the warm sentiments of many celebrities who performed in that hall from 1976 until the late 1990s. While mostly for fun, these items also provide documentation that Toledoans have enjoyed a rich cultural life.

—Barbara Floyd  
Director, Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections  
The University of Toledo, September 2013
Acknowledgments

As with all of our Canaday Center exhibitions, this one was a team project. It reflects the work of not only our regular staff, but also our student assistants.

The exhibition began by searching for individual letters by significant people in the thousands of feet of manuscript materials we preserve in the Center. All of the staff participated in locating materials to feature in the exhibit. This work not only depended on their detective skills, but also on their immeasurable knowledge of our collections. All of the cataloging records, databases, and finding aids in the world are no substitute for the knowledge that our staff has developed about the content of our collections. Once we identified the letters we wanted to feature in the exhibit, everyone participated in drafting descriptions of the letters and biographical information about the correspondents.

The responsibility for curating this exhibit was given to Kayla Utendorf, a graduate student in the public history program at Middle Tennessee State University. Ms. Utendorf worked for the Canaday Center this summer as an intern, and in this capacity, graciously accepted the responsibility for bringing the exhibit’s many elements together. She also wrote a thoughtful essay for this catalog on the topic of how communication is rapidly changing in our society, and how these changes are likely to impact future efforts to showcase “letters of luminaries.” While her summer internship ended before the work of mounting the exhibition began, what you see here today is a reflection of her work. The future of history is in good hands. Many thanks, Kayla, for all that you did to make this a success.

In addition to Kayla, Patrick Cook also deserves special note. Mr. Cook is the Center’s digital resources technician, and in this capacity, he helped to scan the letters displayed in the exhibit and add copies of the individual signatures to the exhibit labels. The digital scans of the letters will be used by Arjun Sabharwal, our digital initiatives librarian, to create an on-line version of the exhibit, which will become available at the conclusion of the actual exhibit. Tamara Jones and Sara Mouch did much to locate and describe the letters displayed in the exhibit while also continuing to carry out all of their other numerous responsibilities. Also thanks to UT’s Marketing and Communication office for the design of this catalog, and to Emily Hickey for overseeing its production.

This marks the first Canaday Center exhibition in our newly remodeled exhibit gallery. The installation of a new lighting system provides a more inviting environment for viewing our exhibits. My thanks to interim library director Marcia King-Blandford for finding the resources for this renovation, which will allow the Canaday Center to continue to display and interpret aspects of our collections for the education of the community for many years to come.

Lastly, my thanks to all of the people who have helped to develop the Canaday Center’s collections during the past 35 years. While this exhibit may only feature one or two items from any one collection, it does give a sense of the depth and breadth of our holdings. Hopefully, the letters shown here will entice viewers to come back to the Center to conduct in-depth research in our amazing collections. While many of the resources in UT’s libraries can be found in other academic libraries, the materials shown here are unique. As such, they help to create new knowledge, and contribute to the reputation of The University of Toledo. It is my privilege to have a hand in making sure they are preserved for future generations.

—Barbara Floyd
“Correspondence” for the Millennial Generation

By Kalya Utendorf, exhibit curator

As a part of the Millennial generation, I have grown up during the boom in personal technology and have seen its effects on communication. Previously, methods of long distance communication had remained relatively constant for hundreds of years—you wrote your message on paper and it was delivered by mail. When I was a child, however, new technologies became more affordable for everyday use; other innovations came along later, and these have drastically changed the ways we have communicated over the past few decades.

Growing up in the 1990s, I still wrote letters to my cousins because talking to them on our home telephone required pricey long distance connections, and cell phones were not yet common. My family bought our first computer when I was six, a giant dark green desktop that crashed more often than it ran. Learning to use the internet required some technological prowess, so my uncle helped my father to get online and set up an email account. My siblings and I used it mainly to play games and to look up entries in the CD-ROM versions of Webster's Dictionary and Encarta Encyclopedia, and to type papers for school.

When I was in high school, AOL instant messenger (AIM) and Myspace were the favorite forms of communication for my generation. AIM allowed users to “chat” back and forth in a series of short blurbs. Because of dial-up internet connections, however, being on the internet blocked the home telephone line and the slow speed of the connection and downloads meant that it was not always practical for long conversations. By the time I entered college, internet communication had entered its heyday and it has only moved rapidly forward since then. Smart phones allow their owners to make video calls and to access social media from anywhere. Now that cell phone plans make greater allowances for text messages, many of us are more likely to simply text our friends than to call them. What used to require a large desktop machine can now be done on a device held in your hand.

Social media has become its own form of communication; each site has its own unique twist. Twitter allows users to “tweet” short (less than 140 character) messages. Instagram and Flickr have turned photography into communication—by sharing photographs, users give friends an almost instantaneous visual representation of their lives. Facebook has completely changed internet communication. Users may choose to send their friends either short public messages, or longer private messages. It also has a private chat function, similar to AIM. Users also post photographs and can share information about their work, relationships, favorite foods, games, music, and businesses. In every way, users on Facebook are communicating some facet of themselves and their personalities, some on a daily or even hourly basis.

The rise of new means of communication poses problems in how to preserve and interpret this information. Paper can have a long life if cared for properly. But few people today continue the practice of writing down their thoughts in journals or letters. Digital information is not a tangible object, and the questions of storage and ownership are confusing. Archivists, librarians, and historians are still trying to decide on the best ways to preserve this information. One of the first questions to ask is what is even important to be saved out of all this mess? Many view social media as a complete waste of time; people joke that Twitter is only used for people to post what type of sandwich they ate for lunch. But social media has played an important role in many recent protest movements, notably the “Arab Spring” revolutions, by allowing users to quickly share information around the world. The Library of Congress is now archiving public tweets from Twitter in an effort to capture the thoughts that people are no longer writing down on paper.

Another problem is that of authorship. For historical research, it is useful to know at what stages a document was changed and edited, and its original author. With changing technologies, however, this can be difficult to determine. Blogs, articles, websites, and social media accounts may all use pseudonyms or screen names instead of the author's actual name. In addition, it is possible on blogs and websites to change the content without leaving any indication in the text—two users could view an article the same day and read two different stories. Microsoft Office allows multiple authors to share a document and make changes, leaving the reader clueless as to what author has written what lines.
Once digital information is stored, there is the issue of how to preserve it for the long term. Because the market drives technology to keep evolving and changing, older technologies, computers, and storage systems quickly become obsolete. Any information stored on these systems needs to be transferred to a newer model, or it might not be accessible in the future. Also, as our methods of communication evolve, so does our use of language itself. Remember Myspace and AIM? While both still exist, neither has a large user base anymore. I was listening one day to the radio when the DJ said, “Be sure to add us as a friend and write on our wall! And we have a contest going on in one of our posts; if you like that status you'll be entered into a prize drawing!” The internet may have thrown words and phrases like “blog,” “tweet,” “add me as a friend,” and “write on my wall” into our collective jargon, but if and when some of these social media sites die out, these words will likely lose their meaning. Anyone who wants to access any information about us, be it radio programs, television, news, advertisements, or the archives of social media sites, will need to be familiar with these terms.

Historians and archivists are trying to respond quickly to these changes in communication. Where before we preserved physical objects from the wear and tear of use and the environment, we now are scrambling to collect what we can from this information overload and figure out how to preserve it from being lost in cyberspace. Similar to the way that the letters in this exhibit were saved for future use, we hope to extract useful information out of the tweets, emails, and blog posts that have almost completely replaced letter and journal writing. As part of the exhibit, we encourage you to try both to contrast the benefits of the two. Write a letter, and either bring it home to mail to a friend or leave it with us to display. Then send a tweet, and decide whether you prefer the speed of digital communication, or the warmth and freedom of a personal letter.

Bibliography


Kayla Utendorf is a second-year student in the master’s in public history program at Middle Tennessee State University, specializing in archives. She also holds a bachelor’s degree in history from Bowling Green State University. She served as a summer intern in the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections in 2013, and was curator of the “Letters of Luminaries” exhibition.
A Brief History of Letter Writing

It is the development of writing that delineates history from pre-history. Prior to writing, important information that was required to be passed down from generation to generation was conveyed orally. Societies based on an oral tradition developed elaborate methods for ensuring that information was accurately transmitted, often through song or ritual.

But the written word was more durable and dynamic. It not only allowed for information to be easily transmitted over time, but also across distances. The written word could be contemplated and analyzed, disputed and refuted, savored or dismissed, quickly tossed or carefully preserved.

There are many reasons that mankind commits thoughts to paper, including personal, social, economic, legal, functional, and symbolic. Personal writing documents the private thoughts of individuals and family units. Social writing documents collective actions of groups of people focused on a similar mission. Economic writing documents how monetary units are acquired, managed, and spent. Legal writing documents the rights of individuals and the responsibilities of governments. Functional writing documents procedures used to carry out the activities of society. And symbolic writing expresses personal yet universal and timeless thoughts on the passages of life.

But while these may be the reasons we first commit words to paper, the historical meaning may be very different. Letters preserved from previous generations that may have been meant only to express conventional thoughts between two people are likely to have much more meaning today. They can tell us about people, places, and events of our past, and enlighten us about where we came from, and where we may be headed. Because of their historical significance, some people collect the written word as a hobby, particularly letters of historical figures. Some of our great research libraries of today were started by wealthy collectors like William L. Clements, Josiah K. Lilly, J. Pierpont Morgan, and Henry E. Huntington.

But before mankind could commit his or her thoughts to posterity, the methods of writing had to be invented. First, the medium for conveying writing had to be developed. Before paper was invented by the Chinese around 500 A.D., people used clay, papyrus, and treated animal skins as the medium for their words. But paper—first made by taking fibers from cotton or linen and suspending them in water and matting them into sheets—proved to be both durable and cheap to produce. By the late 18th century, the production of paper was mechanized, making it even cheaper and more plentiful. Unfortunately, automation also meant poorer quality paper which proved to be less durable over time.

To write on paper, man used twigs and reeds before settling on the most prevalent early instrument—a sharpened quill from a bird feather. This was the preferred writing tool up until the mid-19th century. As the quill was used, it had to be sharpened to maintain its point using a small knife. It was dipped into ink from a small bottle. Early inks were made from the juices of berry plants, from dyes, and even from blood, until a dependable medium using dried gall nuts mixed with fluid containing iron salts was invented. The advantages of iron gall ink were that it was very black, was long-lasting, and flowed easily. Unfortunately, early users did not realize that over time as the water evaporated from the ink, it changed its color from black to a rusty brown and began to fade. The acidic quality of the ink could also cause it to eat directly through the paper. Early steel pens also required dipping in ink, but in 1884, L.E. Waterman produced the first fountain pen which held its own ink reservoir. Fountain pens were replaced with ball point pens, becoming the norm after World War II when they were desired for their ease of use and cleanliness.

Mechanical writing processes were driven by the industrial revolution and the expansion of the business economy. There was a need for a machine that could quickly produce correspondence that was not dependent on the quirks of an individual's handwriting for legibility. The first practical typewriter is credited to Carlos Glidden and Samuel W. Soule. In 1873, they signed a contract with E. Remington and Son, the arms manufacturer, to mass produce the typewriter. It was so popular that it was featured at the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial Exposition.

Popular culture books of the Victorian era loved to instruct the masses on the correct way of doing many common activities—from how to raise children to how to keep house to how to dress and how to behave in public and private. Not surprisingly, there was a market for books on how to write letters. Letters requesting a visit, letters announcing a party, and letters expressing love, anger, grief, and joy all required the correct form, nuance, and grammar. And as letter writing became democratized with the expansion of public education, the manner in which Americans expressed themselves became a symbol of their status in society.
Many of the manuals of letter writing provided examples of how one might phrase words most eloquently, particularly when the words were sensitive and had the potential to embarrass the writer. The examples in the books might be from anonymous writers, or they might be from famous individuals. Each was intended as a lesson in decorum. Many books published by different publishers offered the same examples as illustrations of effective communication, thus indicating how ubiquitous these guides were among the middle class—and how profitable such guides were for publishers.

The books were often small in size so that they could be easily carried and held close at hand. Some were aimed at men, but most were aimed at a female audience since it was the woman of the house who handled the arrangements for most social engagements.

In the post-Civil War industrial boom, letter writing manuals also included those aimed at proper business writing styles. These manuals would include examples of how to communicate with banks and commercial enterprises, how to address difficult issues with employees, and how to apply for a job.

Today, these books are not just cultural artifacts that can tell us about the social structures of the Victorian era. Because many of the examples cited in the books are from well-known individuals, they also provide glimpses into historical events. There is also a prurient aspect to the books—who does not like to read the letters of others who are dealing with difficult or emotional issues?

Examples of letter writing manuals of the Victorian period include:

**The Fashionable American Letter Writer: Or, the Art of Polite Correspondence.** Brookfield, MA: E.L. Merriam, 1835.

An early letter writing manual, this one includes both letters from anonymous sources as well as those from historical figures. It includes a poignant letter from the Earl of Stafford to his son just before the Earl's execution that begins, “These are the last lines that you are to receive from a father that tenderly loves you.”


While containing examples of letters of all types and subject matter, this manual focuses on appropriate grammar and composition.


In addition to how to write socially appropriate letters, this book includes etiquette instructions for other situations such as dinners, traveling, and general conversation.


Examples are provided of not only how adults should write letters, but also children.

**A New Letter-Writer for the Use of Gentlemen.** Philadelphia: Porter & Coates, 187?.

**A New Letter-Writer for the Use of Ladies.** Philadelphia: Porter & Coates, 187?

This single volume includes both a book for men and for women. Most of the examples provided for men concern business communication, while those aimed at women include “To an accepted suitor,” “After a misunderstanding,” and “Confessing a change of feeling.”

**The Fashionable Letter-Writer; Or, Art of Polite Correspondence in Original Letters with Complimentary Invitation Notes, etc.** London: William Tegg, 1880.

Examples provided include a complete exchange of letters between a man, the women he professes his love to, and his mother.

**Webman's Complete Letterwriter for Ladies and Gentlemen.** New York: Henry J. Webman, Publisher, 1885.

This book includes as an example a letter from Toledo concerning the topic of how to open a business account.


This volume includes not only forms of polite letters, but also rules on the etiquette of courtship and engagement, weddings, and the marriage ceremony.


Indicative of later letter-writing guides, this one includes significant discussion and examples of business correspondence. Also included is information on how to address letters written to the President of the United States and other high-ranking elected officials.
The Fashionable American Letter Writer: Or, the Art of Polite Correspondence.

Webman's Complete Letterwriter for Ladies and Gentlemen.

The Polite Letter Writer: Or, How to Correspond on all Subjects.

Significant Recipients

Many of the letters displayed in this exhibition were sent to a relatively small group of recipients. While the correspondents may be famous, so too are many of those who received the letters. Others were collectors who devoted their lives to acquiring historical autographs and correspondence. Below are brief descriptions of the lives of some of the recipients of the letters displayed in this exhibit.

**John D. Biggers**

John D. Biggers was born in 1888, the same year that Edward Drummond Libbey brought his New England Glass Company to Toledo and ushered in the city's development as the Glass Capital of the World. In 1911, Biggers moved to Toledo to become secretary of the Toledo Chamber of Commerce, but he was soon recruited away to become assistant treasurer of the Owens Bottle Machine Company. In 1930, Biggers became president of the new Libbey-Owens-Ford Company, makers of flat and plate glass. In this capacity, Biggers negotiated the contract between L-O-F and General Motors to supply all automotive glass to GM, an effort that made L-O-F the second-largest producer of flat glass in the country. At the request of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, from 1937 to 1938 Biggers oversaw the first census of the unemployed in the country. Before the United States entered World War II, Biggers again served his country in England working with W. Averill Harriman on the Lend-Lease Program that provided needed military equipment to the British in their fight against the Nazis. He retired from L-O-F in 1960 after thirty years as president. He was an acquaintance of many national and international figures, and records of his presidency of L-O-F contain letters from these individuals. See MSS-066, Libbey-Owens-Ford Records.

**Harold Boeschenstein**

Harold Boeschenstein was born in Edwardsville, Illinois, in 1896. After attending the University of Illinois and serving in World War I, he began working in 1927 at the Illinois Glass Company for his friend, William Levis. When the company merged in 1929 with the Owens Bottle Company to create Owens-Illinois, Inc., Boeschenstein moved to Toledo to become vice president of the new company. In 1938, when O-I spun off its fiberglass operations as Owens-Corning Fiberglas, Boeschenstein became president of the new company, a position he retained until 1963. During World War II, he served on the War Production Board, and after the war, on many national business advisory boards. In 1958, he was appointed by President Eisenhower to a committee that sought to establish trade with the Soviet Union. In this capacity, he accompanied Vice President Richard Nixon on Nixon's trip to the Soviet Union in 1959. Boeschenstein was friends with many political leaders, and in 2004 it was revealed that he had been secretly appointed by President Eisenhower as one of six U.S. businessmen who were to lead the government in the case of a nuclear attack. He died in 1972. See MSS-200, Owens-Illinois Records; and MSS-222, Owens Corning Records.

**Sripati Chandrasekhar**

Dr. Sripati Chandrasekhar was a well-known international sociologist and demographer from India who was concerned about that nation's population explosion in the 1950s through the 1970s. He spent much of his life working to solve this problem, which he believed threatened India's future and its democracy. He served in India's parliament and was appointed Minister of Health and Family Planning in 1967, and through these platforms was able to further spread his message. Because of the positions he held in government and his work as a researcher, he was in contact with many famous individuals. Whether discussing foreign affairs with a politician or a new book with an author, many of the letters in the exhibit come from his collection. See MSS-189, Sripati Chandrasekhar Papers.

**Donald D. Duhaime**

Donald D. Duhaime was a 1940 graduate of The University of Toledo, and after service in World War II, was employed by the Chevron Corporation in Toledo. An avid collector, Mr. Duhaime focused on acquiring books, manuscripts, and ephemera related to Abraham Lincoln, the Civil War, and 19th century America. His collection was donated to the Canaday Center beginning in 1990. It includes many letters of individuals from the 19th century—some of them famous, some of them not. Mr. Duhaime died in 2012. See MSS-077, Donald D. Duhaime Collection.
Mary M. Einhart
Mary Margaret Einhart of Toledo is a collector of autographs of famous people. She began her collection as a result of sending a congratulatory card on the birth of John F. Kennedy, Jr. to President and Mrs. Kennedy. In return she received a signed thank-you note. She has been writing personal letters requesting signed photographs or notes ever since. Her personal collection contains over 2000 signatures and autographs from famous people from around the world. The collection of her papers housed in the Canaday Center focuses on autographs of the individuals involved in the Watergate scandal of 1972 that led to the resignation of President Richard M. Nixon in 1974. See MSS-146, Mary M. Einhart Collection.

Hugh Gregory Gallagher
Hugh Gregory Gallagher was born in California in 1932. In 1952, at the age of 19, he contracted polio and nearly died from the disease. It left him unable to walk for the rest of his life. Despite his physical limitation, Gallagher was determined to live his life independently. He worked in Washington, D.C. as an aid for several Congressional representatives, and while working for Senator E.L. Bob Bartlett, wrote the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968. This was the first federal law that treated the rights of the disabled as a civil rights issue, and is considered the predecessor of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Gallagher became an historian, writing a biography of Franklin Delano Roosevelt entitled Splendid Deception. It was praised for being the first book to look at how Roosevelt hid his disability from the American public. Gallagher died in 2004. See MSS-185, Hugh Gregory Gallagher Papers.

Jean Gould
Jean Gould was born in 1909, and came to Toledo at a young age. She graduated from The University of Toledo in 1937, and moved to New York where she became a writer. She specialized in writing biographies of authors, artists, poets, and political leaders. Some of the correspondence in her collection of papers housed in the Canaday Center is with the famous people she wrote about as well as their close family members. She died in 1993. See MSS-014, the Jean Gould Papers.

John P. Kelly
John P. Kelly was born in Toledo in 1896. Active in Democratic Party politics, he held many elected and appointed positions in Toledo and Lucas County government, including deputy sheriff, deputy county engineer, county commissioner, member of the Toledo City Council, and clerk of the Lucas County Board of Elections. From 1945 to 1966, he was chair of the executive committee of the Lucas County Democratic Party. In this position, he came to know many national political leaders who recognized the importance of Lucas County to winning national elections. His papers in the Canaday Center include correspondence with many national Democrats, including John F. Kennedy and his brothers Robert and Edward. See MSS-055, John P. Kelly Papers.

Etheridge Knight
Etheridge Knight was born in Mississippi in 1931, and lived his early life there and in Kentucky. From a poor family where he was abused, Knight dropped out of school in the eighth grade despite his considerable academic ability. After service in the Korean War, he moved to Indianapolis, where he fell into a life of drugs and crime. He was sentenced to 20 to 30 years in the Indiana Reformatory for armed robbery in 1960, where he studied poetry and found his voice as a poet. He was released after serving six years. His first book, Poems from Prison, was published in 1968. He became a nationally-known poet of the Black Arts Movement, a movement of urban African Americans of the 1960s and 1970s that celebrated working-class black culture. Knight corresponded with many other African American writers and poets. Knight died in 1991 of lung cancer in Indianapolis. See MSS-016, Etheridge Knight Papers.

Foy D. Kohler
Foy D. Kohler was a career diplomat. In 1959, he was appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs, and coordinated the visit of Vice President Richard Nixon to the Soviet Union. There, he witnessed the famous “kitchen cabinet” debate between Nixon and Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev over which country was more advanced. In 1962, Kohler was appointed by President John F. Kennedy as ambassador to the U.S.S.R., where Kohler experienced the events of the Cuban Missile Crisis first-hand. After retiring from the State Department, he continued to be active in issues related to foreign affairs, including as a professor at the Center for Advanced International Studies at the University of Miami in Florida. Kohler attended The University of Toledo from 1924 to 1927, and was awarded an honorary doctoral degree in 1964. Many of the items in this exhibit from foreign
dignitaries are from his collection of papers housed in the Ward M. Canaday Center, including the guest book from the memorial service for President Kennedy, signed by all of the heads of the Soviet Union. See MSS-036, Foy D. Kohler Papers.

**Amy Maher and the Maher Family**

Amy Grace Maher was born in Toledo in 1883. She was an active reformer and became the first president of the League of Women Voters of Toledo in 1921. She and her family were also autograph collectors, and many of the unique items from 18th and 19th century figures on display in this exhibit are from her collection. Her father was a partner in the Maher and Grosh, a wholesale hardware and cutlery business, and he became a prominent businessman and president of the Young Men's Club. Amy Maher continued to work for social causes throughout her life, including founding and serving as the first president of the Toledo Consumers' League. She died in Toledo in 1965. See MSS-005, Maher Family Papers.

**Herbert Woodward Martin**

Herbert Woodward Martin was born in Alabama, but his family moved to Toledo in 1945 when he was 12 years old. He graduated from The University of Toledo in 1964 with a degree in English and the desire to become a poet. He moved to New York, and in 1969 published his first book of poetry. He has become a respected African American poet, and recently retired from the faculty of the University of Dayton. In addition to his own poetry, he is a scholar of Paul Lawrence Dunbar. Martin's collection of personal papers housed in the Canaday Center includes correspondence with many noted African American poets and authors. See MSS-015 and MSS-095, Herbert Woodward Martin Papers.

**Gustavus Ohlinger**

Gustavus Ohlinger was a well-known lawyer in Toledo who knew many national and international leaders. He was born in Chefoo, China, in 1877, where his parents were missionaries. He attended law school at the University of Michigan, where he had the chance to interview Winston Churchill when Churchill was still a young man. Ohlinger also testified before Congress in support of Prohibition, and his testimony helped to gain passage of the 18th amendment. He was a personal friend of Theodore Roosevelt, and was active in many organizations devoted to understanding world affairs. Ohlinger died in Toledo in 1972. See MSS-013, Gustavus Ohlinger Papers.

**Ruby T. Scott**

Ruby T. Scott became an assistant professor of English at The University of Toledo in 1924. In addition to her teaching and writing career, Scott was interested in poetry, antiques, genealogy, and travel. Another of her interests was collecting autographs from 19th-century British authors, particularly women. Her papers housed in the Canaday Center include a collection of letters dating from 1690 to 1905 that includes letters from many long-forgotten British women authors as well as aristocrats, military leaders, and politicians. See MSS-006, Ruby T. Scott Papers.

**Edward F. Weber**

Edward F. Weber was born in Toledo in 1931. A graduate of Scott High School, Denison University, and the Harvard School of Law, he became a lawyer in Toledo in 1956 after service in the military. In 1980, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Ohio's ninth district, defeating the powerful and long-serving Thomas Ludlow Ashley. In Congress, he served on the House Banking Committee and the House Small Business Committee. He was defeated in his re-election bid by Marcy Kaptur in 1982. He returned to Toledo and joined the law firm of Marshall and Melhorn. See MSS-058, Edward F. Weber Papers.
Letters from United States Political Leaders

John Quincy Adams to Jeremy Robinson, Department of State, Washington, D.C., November 6, 1817. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers

As Secretary of State, Adams sent this letter to Robinson, an “agent of the United States,” in response to the latter's request for a new certificate of appointment and passport before he left for South America. Robinson was unsure if it was wise to make the request as Adams had only just filled the position of Secretary of State and to do so may have been an inconvenience. Adams instructs Robinson to present the letter to Captain Biddle when he reached New York, should it be necessary.

Thomas Ludlow Ashley to Joseph Scalzo, Washington, D.C., June 3, 1975. From MSS-083, Joseph R. Scalzo Papers

Joseph Scalzo began his career at Sun Oil in Philadelphia before being transferred to the Toledo refinery. In addition to this job, he also served as a coach, referee, or judge at the 1952, 1956, 1960, 1964, and 1968 Olympic Games. He eventually became involved with the Amateur Athletic Association (AAU), directing two world championships in Toledo in 1962 and 1966. After first serving as president of the Ohio AAU, he became president of the national AAU in 1973. This letter from Ohio's ninth district Congressman Ashley acknowledges a postcard sent to him by Scalzo as well as Scalzo's work with the AAU.

Julian Bond to Jan Waggoner Suter, Atlanta, GA, August 4, 1975. From MSS-059, Jan Waggoner Suter Papers

A former instructor at The University of Toledo Community and Technical College, Suter considered himself both a “radical libertarian” and “socialist anarchist.” He was active in various pacifist activities, including the anti-Vietnam and anti-draft protests. After 1975, he became interested in gay rights. Julian Bond served in the Georgia House of Representatives and later made an unsuccessful run for president, which is addressed in this letter to Suter. Bond mentions that lack of sufficient funds led to his decision not to run, and that Suter's contribution to Bond's campaign arrived too late, so it was returned. After his failed presidential campaign, Bond went on to serve in the Georgia Senate until 1987.

Letter and signed photograph from Clarence J. Brown to Walter J. Duhaime, Columbus, OH, September 21, 1928. From MSS-077, Donald Duhaime Collection

Brown, who was elected Lieutenant Governor of Ohio at the age of 25 (the youngest man ever to hold this office), also served as Ohio's Secretary of State from 1927 to 1933, and as Congressional representative from 1939 to 1965. A Republican, he was a segregationist his entire life until his last year in Congress when he checked himself out of the hospital in order to vote in favor of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. In this letter, he asks Duhaime, a Toledo Municipal Court judge, for his support and help in the upcoming election.

William Jennings Bryan to unknown recipient, Mission, TX, April 8, --. From MSS-077, Donald D. Duhaime Collection

William Jennings Bryan was a leading American politician in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. His served as Congressman from Nebraska, as Secretary of State under Woodrow Wilson, and he attempted many unsuccessful campaigns for the presidency. He is most well known as one of the lawyers in the Scopes Trial, which centered on Tennessee's law concerning the teaching of evolution in school. Bryan argued for the prosecution and during the trial his devout religious beliefs became a topic of examination. Bryan penned this letter to an unidentified woman, expressing his regret for being unable to meet with her in the near future. He goes on to assure her that he will lock her letters away and if he is able to meet with her at some future time, he will notify her.

James Buchanan to Thomas Elder, Esq., Washington D.C., December 13, 1827. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers

During his tenure in Congress, Buchanan sent this letter to Thomas Elder requesting that he bring Buchanan up to date on a claim made by W. Whittlesey.
From MSS-189, Sripati Chandrasekhar Papers
Ellsworth Bunker, an American diplomat and recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, writes to Sripati Chandrasekhar about Chandrasekhar's studies on population control in India. Bunker writes to state that as ambassador to the Organization of American States, he is interested in Chandrasekhar's work on population control.

Aaron Burr to unidentified recipient, unknown location, January 30, 1807.
From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
According to the date of the letter, at this time there was a warrant out for the arrest of the former Vice President of the United States on conspiracy charges, issued by President Jefferson. This letter, however, refers only to a request by Burr to an unidentified recipient for a twenty day furlough to be issued to a gentleman by the name of Dunbar. Burr is confident that Dunbar will conform to the terms of the agreement.

Then-Vice President George Bush writes to Ohio Ninth District Congressman Weber about regulatory issues affecting small businesses. Bush served on the Presidential Task Force on Regulatory Relief.


Asa S. Bushnell to Mrs. Orr, Springfield, OH, November 9, 1897. From MSS-077, Donald Duhaime Collection
A Republican, Bushnell served as Ohio's 40th governor from 1896-1900. In office, he signed into law the Valentine Anti-Trust Act, one of the first efforts to break up monopolies that preceded the national Sherman Anti-Trust Act, written by Ohio's Senator John Sherman. In this letter, Bushnell thanks Mrs. Orr for her invitation extended to him and the members of his staff.

President Carter sent this letter to author Gould thanking her for her gift of a copy of Amy, Gould's biography about Imagist poet Amy Lowell. He also expresses appreciation for her support and kind wishes, ostensibly for his term as President, which he had begun three months before this letter was written.

Salmon P. Chase to Robert F. Paine, Cincinnati, OH, March 4, 1845. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
Prior to his positions as a United States Senator, Ohio governor, Secretary of the Treasury, and 6th Chief Justice of the United States, Salmon P. Chase led the Liberty Party. In this letter, Chase forwards a copy of an article in support of the Habeas Corpus amendment to Paine, who at the time was serving a term in the Ohio House of Representatives. Chase was confident that the bill would pass. He asks Paine to inform him of the outcome.

Warren Christopher to Ralph Siu, Washington, D.C., October 15, 1968. From MSS-237, Ralph Siu Papers
In this letter, Warren Christopher, who held political posts under presidents Lyndon Johnson (Deputy Attorney General), Jimmy Carter (Deputy Secretary of State), and Bill Clinton (Secretary of State), writes to Ralph Siu thanking him for a copy of Siu's book The Man of Many Qualities. Siu was an author; research scientist; military and civil servant; and philosopher, as well as a founding member of the International Society for Panetics (ISP), an organization dedicated to measuring and relieving the suffering of people throughout the world.

Frank Church was a senator from Idaho who famously opposed the Vietnam War, investigated abuse by intelligence agencies, and supported protected wilderness areas. In this letter, he writes to Sripati Chandrasekhar to thank him for a previous letter in which Chandrasekhar agreed with Church's stance on Vietnam.
**Signed photograph of Ramsey Clark, to Ralph Siu. From MSS-237, Ralph Siu Papers**
This signed photograph from lawyer, activist, and public official Clark includes a short message to Siu “with thanks for his concern for justice & the best wishes of his friend.” Clark served in the Justice Department as U.S. Attorney General under President Lyndon Johnson, and played important roles in the passage of both the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the Civil Rights Act of 1968. In his later years, he opposed the war on terror and advocated for the impeachment of President George W. Bush.

**Check signed by Henry Clay, Lexington, KY, May 12, 1849. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers**
This check for $11,467 was signed by Henry Clay. Clay was an important 19th century politician, serving as both a Representative and Senator from Kentucky, Speaker of the House, and Secretary of State. He was known for negotiating compromises between the Federalists and the Democratic Republicans, and later between the Democrats and the Whigs. The check is also signed by Leslie Combs, who was a state politician and lawyer in Kentucky and fought at the River Raisin and Fort Meigs in the War of 1812.

**George Clinton to Samuel Moyce, Greenwich, NY, October 27, 1799. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers**
First governor of New York and soon-to-be Vice President of the United States, in this letter Clinton demanded money owed to him. He states that if payment is not received by the middle of December, measures will be taken to recover it.

**John Connelly to Harold Boeschenstein, Austin, TX, November 5, 1963. From MSS-222, Owens Corning Records**
In this letter, Texas governor John Connelly expresses his appreciation for being invited to the dedication of a new Owens-Corning Fiberglas plant in Waxahachie, Texas. Less than three weeks later, Connelly was severely injured during the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

In this letter, Alan Cranston, a Democratic senator from California, responds to a question from Indian sociologist Sripati Chandrasekhar. Cranston discusses laws regarding the number of immigrants allowed to enter the United States from India in the 1970s.

**Jefferson Davis to D.H. Maury, New Orleans, LA, May 20, 1876. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers**
The former President of the Confederate States of America wrote this letter to Confederate General Maury to decline the latter's invitation to attend a reunion of soldiers. Davis was set to sail to England on a business matter and could not guarantee his return in time for the event.

**Michael DiSalle to Edward Ames, Columbus, OH, January 14, 1960. From MSS-026, Edward C. Ames Papers**
Michael DiSalle served as mayor of Toledo from 1948 to 1950 before unsuccessfully running for the U.S. Senate. He ran for Governor of Ohio in 1956, but lost before winning the office in 1958. He was also a candidate for the Democratic nominee for the presidency in 1960, although he only campaigned in Ohio. He ran for Ohio governor again in 1962, but was defeated. In this letter, DiSalle thanks Ames for providing glassware for the Governor's Mansion so that the DiSalles would no longer have to rely on their personal glasses (which were often taken by souvenir hunters) when entertaining legislators.

Stricken by polio that left him paralyzed from the chest down, Gallagher may be best known for his efforts to gain equal rights for people with disabilities. One of his major accomplishments was the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, often considered the predecessor to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. He also wrote two books about Franklin Roosevelt. In this letter, U.S. Senator and 1996 Republican presidential candidate Bob Dole thanks Gallagher for providing him with a signed copy of one of these books, *FDR's Splendid Deception*. Dole cites two sentences from the book that inspired a speech he made to the Senate floor. Dole himself suffered serious injuries during World War II that left him partially disabled.

From MSS-222, Owens Corning Records

This letter is an invitation from President Eisenhower to Boeschenstein to discuss the Crusade for Freedom, a campaign that operated from 1950 to 1960 and purportedly funded Radio Free Europe but which also served as propaganda in support of America's Cold War policies. The purpose of both the Crusade for Freedom and Radio Free Europe was to promote opposition to Communism. The Crusade for Freedom was also used to conceal the fact that Radio Free Europe was funded by the CIA.

Mamie Eisenhower to Harold Boeschenstein, Gettysburg, PA, April 14, 1970. From MSS-222, Owens Corning Records

In this letter, the former First Lady expresses her appreciation for Boeschenstein's comments regarding her appearance on the Today show. Mrs. Eisenhower admits that the interview with Barbara Walters was difficult, as it was the first formal television interview she had done. The latter portion of the letter thanks Boeschenstein for his report on the Eisenhowers' son John, who was serving as the U.S. Ambassador to Belgium at the time.

Certificate of Appointment signed by Millard Fillmore, August 29, 1850. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers

This certificate indicates that John D. Whitford has been appointed as collector of customs for the District of Newbern, North Carolina. It is signed by Millard Fillmore, the thirteenth president of the United States.


Ford, serving as House Minority Leader, thanks Boeschenstein for his letter regarding House Bill 13718, also known as the Federal Savings Institution Act. Ford mentions that the proposed bill was approved by the House Committee on Banking and Currency, but notes it had not yet been acted on by the Committee on Rules. Ultimately, the bill narrowly failed, although portions of it were attached to other bills.

Benjamin Franklin to David Rittenhouse, Esq., Philadelphia, PA, October 9, 1787. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers

Benjamin Franklin sent this notice to the treasurer of Pennsylvania during the period when Franklin served as governor. He requested thirty pounds be paid to Henry McCormick for information he provided on disturbances in Lucerne County.


J. William Fulbright began his political career in 1942, when he was elected to the House of Representatives from Arkansas. He later served in the U.S. Senate, as chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, and as chairman of the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency. He also played a role in the establishment of the Fulbright Program, which awards prestigious fellowships and scholarships to Americans to study abroad. His connection to Huey Huhn—a former Libbey-Owens-Ford employee—is likely due to Huhn moving to Arkansas after his retirement from Libbey-Owens-Ford and unsuccessfully running for a seat in the Arkansas state legislature. This letter to Huhn on the subject of busing students to address racial segregation includes Fulbright's promises both to support legislation dealing with this politically sensitive issue and any measures aimed at providing equal education for all Arkansas children, as well as two education-related proposals President Nixon sent to Congress.


In 1962, John Glenn became the first American to orbit the Earth. He later resigned from NASA to begin a career in politics. This letter to Suter states Glenn's support of the Equal Rights Amendment, including a resolution to extend the deadline for states to ratify the amendment. Glenn notes that a filibuster against the resolution was threatened, and that he would vote to prevent that from happening. Ultimately, the amendment failed, as not enough states ratified it before the deadline expired.
From MSS-222, Owens Corning Records  
Barry Goldwater was U.S. Senator from Arizona who represented his state for five terms (1953-1965, 1969-1987). He was the Republican nominee for president in 1964, but lost by a landslide to incumbent Lyndon B. Johnson. This brief letter from Goldwater thanks Boeschenstein for a letter and photographs he sent to Goldwater.

From MSS-189, Sripati Chandrasekhar Papers  
In this letter, Al Gore, Jr., vice president of the United States, writes to Sripati Chandrasekhar, a sociologist from India who was interested in population control, to thank him for sending Gore a copy of Chandrasekhar's book. At this time, Gore was in the running for President of the United States.

Marcus A. Hanna to General Orr, Cleveland, OH, November 6, 1897. From MSS-077, Donald Duhaime Collection  
Hanna was a close advisor to President William McKinley, and managed McKinley's presidential campaigns. When John Sherman was appointed Secretary of State, Hanna was appointed to Sherman's seat, and was elected to the Senate in 1898 and 1904. Hanna was with McKinley in Buffalo, New York, when the President was assassinated, and oversaw the return of McKinley's body to his hometown of Canton, Ohio. Hanna was also an early supporter of the Panama Canal. This letter, written from Hanna's mining company in Cleveland, sends his regrets for being unable to attend a reception with Ohio Governor Asa Bushnell and his wife.

Then-Senator Warren G. Harding thanks Sigmond Sanger for his message of congratulations with reference to being elected as U. S. Senator from Ohio. Harding served as President of the United States from 1921 to 1923.

From MSS-189, Sripati Chandrasekhar Papers  
William Averill Harriman was a politician and diplomat from New York who held various positions throughout his career. He was known for being an ambassador, the Secretary of Commerce, and Governor of New York, among other diplomatic activities. Here he writes to Sripati Chandrasekhar, a sociologist who advocated for population control in India. Harriman writes that President Kennedy was unable to find time to speak with Chandrasekhar, and discusses a book he wrote recently, including the reviews it was given in the Soviet Union.

Rutherford B. Hayes, signed pardon, Washington D.C., March 16, 1878. From MSS-047s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection  
The 19th President of the United States, Rutherford B. Hayes pardoned Moritz Hempel, one of 893 people he pardoned, commuted, or rescinded convictions for during his term as president.

Rutherford B. Hayes to William H. Maher, Fremont, OH, September 2, 1887. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers  
Nearly eight years after his term as President of the United States ended, Hayes was elected to the Board of Members of Ohio State University. He sent this letter to William Maher to thank Maher for his comments regarding a talk Hayes had given. Hayes also asks about what other topics of discussion Maher would like to hear.

This letter from Senator Helms addresses the issue of busing. Helms was noted for his opposition to federal efforts to integrate schools and other facilities, although, in this letter, he phrases this opposition in terms of saving energy.

Oliver Wendell Holmes to William H. Maher, Boston, MA, February 28, 1889. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers  
Physician, professor, poet, and author, Holmes sent this letter to Maher describing the contents of the accompanying envelope: the best photo of himself that had ever been taken and a copy of the poem “Old Ironsides”. He describes the circumstances around the composition of the poem (which was about the proposal to scrap the USS Constitution) and its publication, though he cannot pinpoint the actual year, 1831 or 1832.
Herbert Hoover to Harold Boeschenstein, Stanford, CA, August 18, 1955. From MSS-222, Owens Corning Records
Former president Hoover thanks Boeschenstein for his message on Hoover's 81th birthday.

J. Edgar Hoover to Frank Canaday, Washington, D.C., July 2, 1940. From MSS-031, Frank H. Canaday Papers
This brief letter from controversial FBI director J. Edgar Hoover includes Hoover's acknowledgement of receipt of a letter and some unknown additional materials sent to him by Canaday.

Hubert H. Humphrey to John P. Kelly, Washington, D.C., June 8, 1964. From MSS-055, John P. Kelly Papers
In this letter, Senate Majority Whip Hubert Humphrey thanks Kelly for a letter Kelly wrote about Humphrey's remarks to the Lucas County Democrats, and adds that he enjoyed his visit to Toledo. He also encourages Kelly to continue building the Democratic Party and expresses his wish that the two work together. Humphrey later served as senator from Minnesota and as vice president under Lyndon B. Johnson.

Land deed signed by Andrew Jackson, April 1, 1831. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
This deed is signed by Andrew Jackson, the seventh president of the United States. It confirms that the holder, Allen C. Tindall, has purchased land in St. Louis, Missouri.

One of the many topics Huhn wrote to politicians about was the Panama Canal. This letter from New York senator Jacob Javits states that any agreement between the United States and Panama must protect U.S. interests and be satisfactory to both nations. Negotiations over the canal eventually led to the signing of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties in 1977, which provided for Panama's takeover of the canal in 1999.

Thomas Jefferson, proclamation, unknown location, December 31, 1816. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
Thomas Jefferson declared his appointment of John Barnes as his attorney and gives Barnes the authority to transfer all of his stock in both the United States and Bank of Columbia to Thaddeus Kosciwzko, an American general, Polish patriot, and friend of Jefferson's. There is no indication as to why Jefferson was transferring his financial assets to Kosciwzko, though the latter had also involved Jefferson in his own financial dealings, naming him executor of his will upon his death, which took place one year later.

President Johnson thanks Boeschenstein, chairman of Owens-Corning Fiberglas, for a telegram and promises to do his best for the American people as president of the United States.

Marcy Kaptur to Mike Ferner, September 12, 1993. From MSS-241, Mike Ferner Papers
Mike Ferner served in the Navy before his honorable discharge as a conscientious objector in 1973. He first ran for Toledo City Council in 1987 and lost, but won a seat in 1989 and again in 1991. Ferner ran for mayor of Toledo in 1993. This letter from Marcy Kaptur was written before the results were known, and congratulates Ferner on his campaign for the mayor's office. Unfortunately, Ferner lost by 672 votes to Carleton Finkbeiner.

Edward M. “Ted” Kennedy was one of the most important political leaders in recent decades, serving as a U.S. senator from Massachusetts for almost 50 years. At the time of his death, he was the second-most senior Senate member and fourth-longest-serving senator. This brief message thanks Kelly for his congratulations after Kennedy was elected Senate Majority Whip.

Jacqueline Kennedy, thank you card, unknown location, 1963. From MSS-036, Foy D. Kohler Papers
A printed card expressing gratitude from Mrs. Kennedy for mourners' condolences after the President's assassination.
From MSS-222, Owens Corning Records
In this letter, President Kennedy thanks Owens-Corning Fiberglas president Harold Boeschenstein for his comments regarding Kennedy's speech to the Economic Club of New York. Kennedy also expresses his appreciation for the feedback provided by Boeschenstein and others, and states his hope that the economic goals for 1963 can be reached.

This photograph was taken during a conversation between the 35th President and Kohler during Kohler's term as ambassador to the Soviet Union. Based on recordings released by the JFK Library in 2012, the conversation was likely regarding U.S.-U.S.S.R. space cooperation.

This letter written by President-elect Kennedy to Toledo lawyer Ohlinger expresses Kennedy's thanks for Ohlinger's work for the organization Citizens for Kennedy and Johnson.

The younger brother of John F. Kennedy, Robert Kennedy first served as U.S. Attorney General before being elected senator from New York. In March 1968, he declared his candidacy for president. This letter thanks Kelly for his part in a reception in Columbus and Kennedy's plan to visit Kelly again after the state primaries end. Less than a month later, however, Robert Kennedy was assassinated shortly after winning the California primary.

This letter appears to have been written just two months after Kissinger, who would later serve as Secretary of State, became United States National Security Advisor. He apologizes to Kohler for his late response and expresses his appreciation for the latter's congratulations which, based on the date of the letter, may have been for Kissinger's new job.

Henry Knox to a friend, Philadelphia, PA, January 5, 1793. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
Henry Knox was an artillery officer in the Revolutionary War, and later became the first Secretary of War. In this letter he writes to a friend concerning a legal issue, saying that the woman they are discussing has "no legal claim" but that he still hopes to settle with her. He may be referring to a land dispute. Near the end of his life, Knox entered into many business ventures to try to expand his fortune.

At the time a Congressman, Koch replies to Gallagher about architectural accessibility and parking problems at the Library of Congress. While the director of the library was not in favor of making changes, Koch writes that he had added their correspondence to the Congressional Record and hopes that changes would follow soon. Koch later served as mayor of New York from 1978 to 1989.

Foy Kohler to A.A. Gromyko, American Embassy, Moscow, Russia, November 23, 1963. From MSS-036, Foy D. Kohler Papers
Kohler sent this letter to the Soviet Minister for Foreign Affairs as a formal announcement of President Kennedy's assassination, wherein he advises Gromyko that the American Embassy will observe thirty days of mourning. Additionally, Kohler thanks Gromyko for his phone call the previous night expressing his sympathy.

Frank J. Lausche to Harold Boeschenstein, unknown location, November 7, 1952. From MSS-222, Owens Corning Records
A Democrat from Ohio, Lausche served three terms as governor of the state from the late 1940s to the late 1950s. This letter was written during his second term in response to Boeschenstein's support for Lausche's campaign.
James Madison to Robert R. Livingston, Esq., Department of State, Washington, D.C., February 23, 1803. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers

James Madison, at the time Secretary of State, wrote to U.S. Minister to France Livingston regarding concerns in the United States' relations with the French government. These concerns included the need for more rights in the Southwestern states, and the unfavorable French navigation laws. Madison encourages Livingston to work with his French representatives in creating a mutually beneficial relationship with the United States.


Ohio Senator Howard Metzenbaum reports to Toledo City Councilman Ujvagi about the impact of Congress bills and Supreme Court rulings on the communities in Ujvagi's district. The letter goes into detail about "comp-time" for local government employees, which caused hardships. The letter also reported on the progress to overturn President Ronald Reagan's veto of a funding bill for highway construction, which would bring jobs and federal funds.

Land deed signed by James Monroe, May 23, 1822. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers

This deed is signed by James Monroe, the fifth president of the United States. The deed is to state that Ephraim Cutler purchased one hundred sixty acres of land in Marietta, Ohio.

Daniel P. Moynihan to Sripati Chandrasekhar, New Delhi, India, August 2, 1974. From MSS-189, Sripati Chandrasekhar Papers

Daniel P. Moynihan was an American sociologist, diplomat, and senator from New York. This letter, written during his term as Ambassador to India, states that he looks forward to meeting with Indian demographer Sripati Chandrasekhar and receiving copies of his books.


Nixon wrote this letter while Vice President. In a short note, he congratulates Kohler on the latter's recent assignment to the post of Assistant Secretary for European Affairs. Nixon further acknowledges Kohler's skill and his own pleasure at Kohler's success.


In this letter to the former U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union, President Nixon acknowledges a need to reshape America's role in the world and hopes that his recent trip to China and future journey to Moscow will aid in that objective.

Carmel Offie to Frank Canaday, Washington, D.C., August 7, 1940. From MSS-031, Frank H. Canaday Papers

At the time this letter was written, France was under German occupation. Frank Canaday, an advertising executive from Toledo and the brother of Willys-Overland chairman Ward M. Canaday, was serving as the Consular Agent for the Republic of France and also owned property in that country. Offie, working for the U.S. State Department, writes Canaday at the request of U.S. Ambassador to France William C. Bullitt regarding the status of the property. Offie concludes the letter by advising Canaday to write to the U.S. Embassy about this matter.

Frances Perkins to Amy Maher, Washington, D.C., February 16, 1934. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers

Perkins, the first female Cabinet member as Secretary of Labor, wrote this note to Maher thanking Maher for her offer of hospitality during her visit to Toledo. But Perkins notes that since her trip is very short, she will establish her own accommodations.

Rufus Putnam to Dudley Woodbridge via George Simpson, Marietta, OH, June 20, 1801. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers

A general in the Revolutionary War and instrumental to the settling of the Northwest Territory, Putnam drafted this document instructing the cashier of the Bank of the United States to pay Dudley Woodbridge for his governmental service. Woodbridge responds five days later, asking that it be paid to Harvey Worth.
John Randolph of Roanoke to Fish, Grinnell, & Co., Washington, D.C., April 1, 1825. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers

John Randolph was a Congressman from Virginia between 1799 and 1833, and also served a term as Minister to Russia. He came from a long line of aristocratic planters, but upon his death he freed his slaves and provided them land in Southern Ohio. Here, Randolph writes Fish, Grinnell, & Co., a shipping company, concerning an order of books.


This letter was written a year after Reagan was elected governor of California (he served from 1967 to 1975) and thanks Boeschenstein for his written comments regarding a speech Reagan gave at the Economic Club.

Ronald and Nancy Reagan to Thomas Koslovsky, unknown location, n.d. From MSS-139s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection

Christmas card signed by the President and First Lady.

James A. Rhodes to Edward C. Ames, Columbus, OH, April 25, 1966. From MSS-026, Edward C. Ames Papers

In this letter, Governor Rhodes expresses his concern to Edward Ames—public relations director of Owens-Illinois, Inc. and member of the Ohio State Board of Education—regarding Ohio’s continued ability to maintain a healthy economy. Rhodes mentions a shortage of skilled support personnel and concludes the letter by inviting Ames to a conference to discuss the state’s manpower needs. Rhodes served four terms as Ohio’s governor, from 1963 to 1971, and from 1975 to 1983.

Nelson A. Rockefeller to Harold Boeschenstein, Albany, NY, October 18, 1960. From MSS-222, Owens Corning Records

During his lifetime, Nelson Rockefeller held many political offices, including Assistant Secretary of State for American Republic Affairs; Under Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare; Governor of New York; and Vice President of the United States (under Gerald Ford). This letter thanks Boeschenstein for a previous message sent during the first of Rockefeller’s four terms as governor.


This letter was written when Romney, former governor of Michigan and Republican presidential candidate, was serving as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The letter concerns effort by Chandrasekhar to have President Richard Nixon participate in an awards ceremony for the Margaret Sanger Gold Medal Committee. Romney states that because it is an election year, the president is unable to participate in an activity that pertains to population control because of the political sensitivity of the subject.


John D. Biggers served as president of Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Company from 1930 to 1953. This letter from President Roosevelt instructs Biggers to travel to Great Britain with W. Averell Harriman, who served as Roosevelt’s special envoy to Europe, in order to help implement Roosevelt’s Lend-Lease Program. The program provided equipment to the Allies in the fight against the Germans prior to the U.S. entrance into the war. Harriman later served as U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union (1943-1946) and the United Kingdom (1946).

James Roosevelt to Hugh Gallagher, Irvine, CA, May 2, 1984. From MSS-185, Hugh Gregory Gallagher Papers

The oldest son of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, James Roosevelt served as an aide to his father and in several political offices, including Secretary to the President, Chairman of the California Democratic Party, and U.S. Representative from California’s 26th district. He was also involved in various business ventures throughout his life, which is the reason he offers for not responding sooner to a letter sent by Gallagher. Roosevelt notifies Gallagher that he received the final chapters of a book Gallagher had written about Franklin Roosevelt, and wishes him luck in having the manuscript published.
James Roosevelt to Hugh Gallagher, Irvine, CA, November 14, 1984. From MSS-185, Hugh Gallagher Papers
James Roosevelt grants permission to Gallagher to include a muscle test chart of his late father for a book Gallagher is writing on FDR’s fight with polio. Roosevelt urges Gallagher to approach the Institute at Warm Springs (Warm Springs Foundation) where the charts were produced.

Theodore Roosevelt to Gustavus Oblinger, New York, NY, March 2, 1917. From MSS-013, Gustavus Ohlinger Papers
In this letter, former president Theodore Roosevelt writes to Ohlinger regarding the contested presidential election of 1916 between incumbent Woodrow Wilson and challenger Charles Evans Hughes (a contest Wilson narrowly won). Roosevelt also criticizes both candidates’ attitude towards Germans-Americans, believing that Wilson should have appealed to their sense of patriotism as a means of supporting America’s entry into World War I.

Theodore Roosevelt to Gustavus Oblinger, New York, NY, April 15, 1918. From MSS-013, Gustavus Ohlinger Papers
This second letter written by Roosevelt to Ohlinger complains that the Wilson administration is spending less time attacking spies and more time persecuting those who criticize the government. Communists, anarchists, and anti-war unions were among the groups targeted by the Department of Justice for protesting America’s involvement in World War I.

Dean Rusk to His Holiness Aleksii, Washington, D.C., November 30, 1963. From MSS-036, Foy D. Kohler Papers
Dean Rusk served as U.S. Secretary of State under presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson. He sent this letter to the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, Aleskii II, in appreciation for the latter’s expression of condolence regarding President Kennedy’s assassination. He adds that President Johnson will continue Kennedy’s goal of peace.

Patent of Confirmation signed by Arthur St. Clair, September 17, 1796. From MSS-042s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection
This document signifies a deed of land to the heirs of David Guise in Randolph, Ohio. The document is signed by Arthur St. Clair, who was a Major General in the Continental Army during the American Revolution, and served as President of the Continental Congress in 1787. His term ended early when the Northwest Territory was formed out of the lands that later became Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, and parts of Michigan and Wisconsin, and he was appointed governor of the Territory. During this time, he led the expedition against Miami and Shawnee in which Native American forces were vastly triumphant; the battle became known as St. Clair’s Defeat.

Paul Sarbanes, senator from Maryland, responds to Gallagher’s concerns about insufficient accessibility for persons in wheelchairs at the Social Security Office in Silver Springs, Maryland. Sarbanes wrote that he would investigate and make corrections. Gallagher, who had polio, was an advocate for increased access to government buildings.

Philip Schuyler to Stephen Van Rensselaer, New York, October 1, 1786. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
In this letter Schuyler writes to Rensselaer about local government. He was a captain in the French and Indian Wars and a general in the American Revolution, and was a New York senator to the first U.S. Congress. Rensselaer would also have a path in politics, becoming a state senator and Lieutenant Governor of New York. In the War of 1812, he commanded the American defeat at the Battle of Queenston Heights.

R. Sargent Shriver to Michael Damas, unknown location, April 16, 1976. From MSS-055, John P. Kelly Papers
A member of the Kennedy family, Robert Sargent Shriver was a statesman who served in both the Kennedy and Johnson administrations. He was the U.S. Ambassador to France, played an important role in the creation of the Peace Corps, and founded both Head Start and the Job Corps as part of Lyndon Johnson’s “War on Poverty.” This letter, written to former Toledo mayor Michael Damas, is an apology for missing the testimonial dinner for John Kelly because Shriver was out of the country. He concludes the letter by asking Damas to convey his greetings to Kelly as well as his appreciation of Kelly’s support for Shriver’s brief candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1976.
Alaska Senator Stevens replies to Hugh Gallagher, thanking him for a copy of a letter to the Library of Congress regarding handicap accessibility at the library. Stevens writes that he requested information from the library about its plans to implement the necessary changes.

Adlai E. Stevenson to John P. Kelly, Chicago, IL, July 17, 1956. From MSS-055, John P. Kelly Papers
In 1956, Toledo Democratic Party leader John Kelly served as a delegate to the party's national convention. Adlai Stevenson, the Democrat's presidential nominee, wrote to Kelly stressing the importance of a Democratic victory to ensure that not only the party but also the country would benefit.

Noah H. Swayne to Charles Lanman, Washington, D.C., February 25, 1865; December 7, 1867; and March 28, 1868. From MSS-094s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection
Noah Swayne was the first Republican appointed as a justice to the U.S. Supreme Court and figured in the boundary dispute between Ohio and the Michigan Territory known as the Toledo War (as a member of the delegation that travelled from Ohio to Washington, D.C. to present Ohio's case to President Andrew Jackson). Later, he became one of only two dissenters in the Dred Scott case that declared the legality of slavery. These letters concern the addition of Swayne's biography to Charles Lanman's dictionary. Lanman served as librarian for the U.S. War Department, U.S. House of Representatives, and the Washington, D.C. Library. He also collected biographical information for his Dictionary of the United States Congress, later known as the Biographical Directory of the United States Congress.

Sweeney, a Congressman from Ohio, assures Mrs. Gosser that he will go to great lengths to expedite the release of Gosser's husband Richard from prison. Richard Gosser, former president of Local 12 of the United Automobile Workers, was found guilty of conspiracy in 1965 for obtaining a secret Internal Revenue Service report on his personal finances. In this letter, Sweeney notes Gosser's deteriorating health, which may be in further jeopardy if the administration in Washington turns down the request to release Gosser. Sweeney expresses his admiration of Gosser's accomplishments, and thanks Mrs. Gosser for supporting Sweeney's current congressional campaigns.

Robert Taft was the son of former president William Howard Taft and one of many Taft family members active in politics. He was elected U.S. Senator from Ohio three times. A conservative Republican, he opposed Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal programs as well as America's involvement in World War II. This letter to Ohlinger thanks him for making Taft's visit to Lucas County a success. Later in the year, Taft would be re-elected as a senator for the third and final time; he died after serving less than half of his third term.

Strom Thurmond to Harold Boeschenstein, Washington, D.C., October 12, 1971. From MSS-222, Owens Corning Records
Representing South Carolina in the Senate from 1954 to 2003, Thurmond was one of its longest-serving members. He was known for his opposition to federal efforts to end segregation and ensure voting rights for African Americans. This letter thanks Boeschenstein for a donation he made to Thurmond's re-election campaign.

Samuel J. Tilden to Mr. Manning, Yonkers, NY, January 6, 1882. From MSS-098s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection
Samuel Tilden was a member of the New York State Assembly in 1846, and later became famous for his involvement in the presidential election of 1876. Tilden ran as the Democratic candidate against Republican Rutherford B. Hayes and won the popular vote, but lost the election due to the decision of a specially-appointed electoral commission to award all disputed electoral votes to Hayes. This letter to a Mr. Manning was written after Tilden had retired from politics following his loss in 1876, and concerns a man named Ward Gregory. Tilden encourages Manning to show favor to Gregory, who ran a newspaper Tilden describes as "able, independent, effective, and true to principle."
Jonathan Trumbull to the Honorable Committee of the Pays Table at Hartford, Lebanon, CT, April 27, 1757. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
Jonathan Trumbull was both a colonial and state governor of Connecticut. This letter was written during the French and Indian War, before Trumbull became governor. Trumbull writes to the Committee of the Pay Table concerning receipts for weapons. He mentions Captain Israel Putnam, a member of Roger’s Rangers, a group that specialized in gathering intelligence.

Truman acknowledges his receipt of a letter from Boeschenstein in addition to letters related to John W. Snyder, former U.S. Secretary of the Treasury (and a close friend of Truman’s.) Truman also mentions that he sent a signed photograph to Boeschenstein, which is included in this exhibit.

John Tyler, official order, Washington, D.C., March 21, 1843. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
Tyler signed this order to appoint Arthur Otis as midshipman of the United States Navy.

Martin Van Buren, official order, Washington, D.C., June 16, 1840. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
The eighth President of the United States signed this order authorizing the Secretary of State to remit the fine in the case of Seneca Higgins, whose offense is not indicated.

Alabama Governor Wallace asks Congressman Weber to reconsider the Surface Transportation Assistance Act 1982 (HR-6211), which will have a detrimental effect on truckers, the transportation business, and the farmers who depend on them. Wallace states that the increase in user taxes and fees will place a heavy burden on drivers and could bankrupt some.

Warren had been Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court for less than a year when he wrote this letter to Boeschenstein concerning an invitation to a Business Advisory Council dinner meeting. Although not a political gathering, Warren nevertheless declines to address the group, fearing that some may, in fact, choose to consider the meeting as such.

Daniel Webster to Richard Smith, Boston, MA, August 29, 1843. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
In this letter, Daniel Webster, senator from Massachusetts, asks Richard Smith to join him in New York for a day or two during his time away from Boston the following September. He concludes the letter with a request to know if Smith can meet with him.

Woodrow Wilson to F.H. Aldrich, Sea Girt, NJ, July 9, 1912. From MSS-111s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection
Wilson, the 28th President of the United States (1913 to 1921), thanks F.H. Aldrich for a congratulatory message Aldrich sent.
John Quincy Adams to Jeremy Robinson, Department of State, Washington, D.C., November 6, 1817. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers

Marcus A. Hanna to General Orr, Cleveland, OH, November 6, 1897. From MSS-077, Donald Duhaime Collection

Land deed signed by James Monroe, May 23, 1822. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
Letters from Figures in the Watergate Scandal

On June 17, 1972, five men were caught breaking into the national Democratic Party campaign offices in the Watergate complex, a hotel and apartment building in Washington D.C. Little did anyone know that Watergate, as it was later called, would be one of the biggest political scandals in American history. Two reporters, Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein from the Washington Post, were the first individuals to find connections from the burglary to the administration of President Richard Nixon. They found one of the burglars was employed by Nixon's administration to obtain information about Nixon's political enemies. As the investigation continued, the reporters uncovered more activities perpetrated by the White House. As the scandal intensified, Nixon himself tried to cover up his own involvement. Ultimately, prosecutors forced Nixon to give up tapes recorded in the White House which contained details on these crimes. Impeachment proceedings against Nixon began, but he resigned before he could ever be impeached. Many of the others involved in Watergate and the cover up were sent to trial and were found guilty of wiretapping, conspiracy, obstruction of justice, and/or perjury. Mary M. Einhart, a Toledo autograph collector, wrote to all of the individuals involved in the Watergate scandal and requested a letter from each. Displayed here are some of the letters she received in response to her request.

Dwight Chapin to Mary M. Einhart, unknown location, April 15, 1974. From MSS-146, Mary M. Einhart Papers

Dwight Chapin was hired as Richard Nixon's special assistant with help from H.R. Halderman, who was Nixon's chief of staff. Chapin was also responsible for hiring and supervising Nixon's advance men. These advance men were later accused of political sabotage connected to Watergate. Chapin testified in a grand jury hearing against the advance men, but he denied any involvement. He was found guilty of lying to the grand jury and was sentenced 10 to 30 months in jail.

William Cohen to Mary M. Einhart, Washington, D.C., August 21, 1974. From MSS-146, Mary M. Einhart Papers

William Cohen was elected from Maine to both the House of Representatives and the Senate between the years of 1973 to 1997. He served on the Senate Intelligence Committee which was responsible for investigating the Watergate scandal. From 1997 to 2001, he served as the Secretary of Defense under President Bill Clinton.

John Conyers Jr. to Mary M. Einhart, Washington, D.C., August 23, 1974. From MSS-146, Mary M. Einhart Papers

Congressman John Conyers of Michigan served on the impeachment committee for President Richard Nixon. In his letter, Conyers stated that there was evidence against Nixon showing that he was guilty of various crimes of corruption. He states, "The massive body of evidence that has been evaluated by the Judiciary Committee establishes conclusively that the administration of Mr. Nixon was the most politically and criminally corrupt in our history."

John Dean to Mary M. Einhart, Toledo, OH, October 24, 1977. From MSS-146, Mary M. Einhart Papers

Richard Nixon appointed John Dean as counsel to the President in 1970. As allegations of involvement of the President's office in Watergate began to spread, Nixon tried to convince Dean to resign in order to appear guilty of being involved with Watergate. When Dean refused, Nixon fired him, but Dean went on to testify against the President. It was Dean who revealed the existence of tape recordings made by Nixon of conversations in the Oval Office of the White House.

John D. Ehrlichman to Mary M. Einhart, unknown location, August 26, 1974. From MSS-146, Mary M. Einhart Papers

When Richard Nixon was elected president in 1969, John D. Ehrlichman was appointed presidential counsel, but later became presidential assistant for domestic affairs. Ehrlichman, along with H.R. Halderman, was forced to resign because of his role in the Watergate scandal. During the investigation, Ehrlichman claimed Nixon had misled him about details of the cover-up.


Sam J. Ervin Jr. from North Carolina was elected to the Senate in 1954. In 1973, the Senate voted to create a select committee on presidential campaign affairs, later known as the Senate Watergate Committee. Ervin was chosen to be the chairman of this group, which investigated the Watergate scandal. The committee collected evidence which lead to the prosecution of many involved, including evidence for President Nixon's impeachment.
H.R. Halderman to Mary M. Einhart, Washington, D.C. From MSS-146, Mary M. Einhart Papers
H.R. Halderman was President Nixon's chief of staff. Halderman was involved in the Watergate cover-up, and was forced to resign. He was later convicted of perjury, obstruction of justice, and conspiracy, and sentenced to 18 months in jail.

Howard Hunt to Mary M. Einhart, unknown location, January 15, 1974. From MSS-146, Mary M. Einhart Papers
Howard Hunt, a former CIA agent, became a member of the Special Investigations Group (SIG), informally known as “The Plumbers,” during the Nixon administration. This group broke into several locations to steal information that would have either hurt the President and the Republican Party or could be used to incriminate enemies of the White House. While he did not break into the Watergate hotel himself, he helped plan the burglary. Hunt pleaded guilty to burglary and wiretapping and served 33 months in jail.

Leon Jaworski to Mary M. Einhart, Washington, D.C., February 21, 1974. From MSS-146, Mary M. Einhart Papers
Leon Jaworski became the second Watergate special prosecutor, after the original prosecutor, Archibald Cox, was dismissed by Nixon. Jaworski presented the Nixon case to the Supreme Court, which ruled that Nixon could be sued by the special prosecutor. This led to the release of many of the Watergate tapes. But once the Watergate cover-up trial began, Jaworski resigned.

Barbara Jordan to Mary M. Einhart, Washington, D.C., September 17, 1974. From MSS-146, Mary M. Einhart Papers
In 1966, Barbara Jordan was the first African American woman elected to the Texas State Senate. In 1973, she was elected to the United States House of Representatives. During her time in Congress, Jordan was a member of the House Judiciary Committee, which approved the articles of impeachment for President Nixon. She became known for her booming voice, eloquence, and her no-nonsense style.

G. Gordon Liddy to Mary M. Einhart, unknown location, July 25, 1973. From MSS-146, Mary M. Einhart Papers
G. Gordon Liddy, a former FBI agent, was a member of “The Plumbers.” Liddy was found to have taken part in the execution and cover-up of Watergate. He was later charged and found guilty of wiretapping, burglary, and conspiracy. He was sentenced to 20 years in jail, but only served 4 because President Jimmy Carter released him.

James W. McCord to Judge John Sirica, later sent to Mary M. Einhart, unknown location, March 19, 1973. From MSS-146, Mary M. Einhart Papers
James W. McCord, a former FBI and CIA agent, was one of the men who broke into the Watergate hotel. He was convicted of burglary, wiretapping, and conspiracy. This letter states that the defendants were pressured to plead guilty and that perjury had been committed. This letter was originally written to Judge John Sirica, who was overseeing the case.

Richard Nixon to Mary M. Einhart, Washington, D.C., October 27, 1969. From MSS-146, Mary M. Einhart Papers
Richard Nixon served as President of the United States from 1969 to 1974. While president, he sought to identify and punish his political enemies, acts which led directly to the break-in at the Watergate hotel and the scandal that resulted. After losing the support of the public when Congress moved toward impeachment, Nixon ultimately decided to resign.

Elliot Richardson to Mary M. Einhart, Toledo, OH, November 1, 1974. From MSS-146, Mary M. Einhart Papers
Elliot Richardson was U.S. Attorney General when President Richard Nixon requested that Richardson fire Watergate special prosecutor Archibald Cox. Rather than follow the president's orders, Richardson resigned.

Peter W. Rodino Jr. to Mary M. Einhart, Washington, D.C., August 2, 1974. From MSS-146, Mary M. Einhart Papers
Peter W. Rodino Jr. served in the House of Representatives from New Jersey from 1949 to 1989. Rodino also served on the House Impeachment Committee for President Richard Nixon.
Letters from Leaders of Business and Industry

In this letter, Walter G. Benz writes to the Spicer Manufacturing Corporation, a company which made automobile parts, to say that he does not feel that the company should change its name. Benz argues that Spicer was an established brand and that the company was known for quality parts. The company did eventually change its name to the Dana Corporation in honor of Charles Dana, who was one of the first financiers and had worked with the corporation for many years.

Canaday, the president of Willys-Overland Motors, writes to Roulet, a former mayor of Toledo. Canaday states that he had just returned from a trip to Puerto Rico and he discusses the importance of Roulet's leadership to the city of Toledo.

Charles A. Dana to J.V., Miami, FL, March 24, 1930. From MSS-242, Dana Holding Corporation Records
This letter from Charles A. Dana, president of the Spicer Manufacturing Company (later known as the Dana Corporation), discusses company stock and Dana's vacation.

Charles A. Dana Jr., to Frank J. Voss, New York, NY, October 23, 1974. From MSS-242, Dana Holding Corporation Records
Charles A. Dana Jr., like his father, was a businessman and philanthropist. In this letter he writes to Frank J. Voss, an executive in the Dana Corporation, to convince him to advertise Dana stock to investors. Dana feels that the corporation is being overlooked because of the instability of the automobile industry, but that the Dana Corporation's history proves it to be a worthwhile investment.

Thomas A. DeVilbiss to Gustavus Ohlinger, Toledo, OH, April 19 and May 21, 1918. From MSS-013, Gustavus Ohlinger Papers
In these letters, Thomas A. DeVilbiss, a local inventor and officer in the DeVilbiss Corporation, writes to Toledo lawyer Gustavus Ohlinger. DeVilbiss notes that the government is starting to award wartime manufacturing contracts for World War I to cities with proven capabilities, and DeVilbiss has put together a committee to demonstrate Toledo's eligibility for contracts. In the first letter, DeVilbiss encourages Ohlinger to join the committee, and in the second letter, he encourages Ohlinger to attend important upcoming meetings.

Edgar F. Kaiser was a business leader who worked in the automotive industry in Michigan before taking over his father's company, Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corporation, in California. Here he writes Richard Gosser, the president of Local 12 of the United Automobile Workers in Toledo, to answer questions from a previous letter received from Gosser.

William S. Knudsen was an automotive industry leader who worked for the Ford Motor Company and General Motors before eventually working his way up to president of the General Motors Company. In this letter, he writes to John (Jack) D. Biggers, saying how much their lives and prospects have improved during the first year of America's involvement in World War II, and wishing Biggers prosperity in the year to come.

Edward Drummond Libbey to S.E. Eichman, Toledo, OH, January 13, 1919. From MSS-178s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection
Edward Drummond Libbey, president of the Owens Bottle Machine Company, writes to a new employee, S.E. Eichman, to discuss the workplace environment that he expects. Libbey writes to Eichman that it is important for every individual to know their responsibilities and be "generous" and co-operative when in the workplace.
Owens Bottle Machine Company Certificate of Subscription, Toledo, OH, December 16, 1907. From MSS-200, Owens-Illinois Company Records

This document from the Owens Bottle Company (which later became Owens-Illinois, Inc.) announces that the company is ready to begin issuing stock. The record is signed by incorporators Edward Drummond Libbey and Michael J. Owens, the founders of the glass industry in Toledo.

Michael Owens to William Boshart, Los Angeles, CA, January 4, 1923. From MSS-200, Owens-Illinois Records

Michael Owens, inventor of the machine that would lead to the founding of the Owens Bottle Machine Company, writes to congratulate William Boshart for being appointed president of the company by Edward Drummond Libbey. Owens also complains about the inability to get a contract with the Heinz Company for a new bottle. He admonishes Boshart to remember that outside his family, his only commitment is to “Bottles & the Co. Success.” Boshart responded to Owens in a letter the following week expressing concern about Owens’s health. Michael Owens could die before the end of the year of a heart condition.

Michael Owens to Edward Drummond Libbey, Toledo, OH, December 5, 1921. From MSS-200, Owens-Illinois Records

While Michael Owens had invented the automatic bottle machine that helped to make Edward Drummond Libbey a wealthy man, Owens himself believed he had benefitted little from the invention. In his letter he requests, as a personal favor, that Libbey agree to pay he or his heirs a royalty on every bottle made on the machine. While Libbey agreed to this—which made over $100,000 a year for Owens—after Owens’s death the company would refuse to continue to pay the royalty.

G. L. Pilkington to William Levis, St. Helens, Lancashire, Great Britain, January 19, 1938. From MSS-077, Donald Duhaime Collection

Pilkington Brothers Ltd. is one of the oldest glass manufacturers in the world. It was founded in St. Helens in 1826. This letter, from the chairman of the company to William Levis, president of Owens-Illinois in Toledo, accompanied a book published by the company titled Glass in Architecture and Decoration.

Release of Mortgage held by Jesup W. and Susan Scott, Toledo, OH, January 17, 1896. From the University of Toledo Archives

Jesup Scott, author of Toledo: The Future Great City of the World and founder of what would become The University of Toledo, owned vast tracts of real estate in Toledo. This document, filed by his sons Frank, Maurice, and William nearly 20 years after Scott’s death, notes that a mortgage on some of that land had been paid in full. While Jesup Scott was more famous, his three sons all were prominent men. Frank became a nationally known landscape architect, Maurice became a wealthy land owner (and father of Florence Scott Libbey, wife of Edward Drummond Libbey) who owned the land where the Toledo Museum of Art is located, and William became a successful businessman who helped to create what became the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library.


The Stranahan family founded the Champion Spark Plug Company. In this letter, R.A. Stranahan Jr. writes to Toledo Congressman Ed Weber explaining his view on economic issues. Stranahan was displeased with the way that taxes and imports were being handled, and complained that he was being forced to lay off employees because of government policies.

Willys-Overland Motors, Inc.
Toledo, Ohio

November 23, 1953

Dear Lloyd:

On my return from Puerto Rico today, I have your valued letter of November 17, and I want to take this opportunity to express my high gratitude to you, a citizen of Toledo, for the constant and faithful contribution you have made to the welfare of this city.

I know no town than one that with greater pride in the quality of their elected leaders. Your voice to this community has brought you into the class of an elder statesman; and I know the appreciation of your service will always be warm in the hearts of your fellow citizens.

With every good wish,

Sincerely yours,

Ward M. Canaday

The Honorable Lloyd E. Roulet
Mayor of the City of Toledo
110 Safety Building
Toledo, Ohio

Charles A. Dana to J.V., Miami, FL, March 24, 1930. From MSS-242, Dana Holding Corporation Records

March 24, 1930

Dear J.V.,

I have just been checking off my ship's stock & think on June 10 you had better

have 101.983 she for my ownership.

Having a glorious week with all water #1 win & much sunshine
every day - the easy life down here is very restful & not too hot. evenings always cool. We lost a fruit, which is very good.

Yrs sincerely,

Dr. Dana

Thomas A. DeVilbiss to Gustavus Ohlinger, Toledo, OH, April 19 and May 21, 1918. From MSS-013, Gustavus Ohlinger Papers

To: Dr. Gustavus Ohlinger

Subject: Toledo War Industries Commission

Dear Dr. Ohlinger,

I am happy to receive your letter. It is a pleasure to know that you are interested in the welfare of our community. The Toledo War Industries Commission will be meeting next week. I will be there to hear about the progress of the committee.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. DeVilbiss

President

 Toledo War Industries Commission
Edward Drummond Libbey to S.E. Eichman, Toledo, OH, January 13, 1919. From MSS-066, Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Company Records


Edward Drummond Libbey to S.E. Eichman, Toledo, OH, January 13, 1919. From MSS-178s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection
Letters from Intellectuals and Reformers

Louis Agassiz to William H. Maher, Nahant, MA, August 23, 1866. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
Louis Agassiz was a Swiss geologist who advanced the methods of teaching natural sciences by focusing on field experience rather than studying published texts. He also studied fossilized fishes and the historical movements of glaciers. In this letter, Agassiz declines an invitation from William H. Maher.

Susan B. Anthony to Albert E. Macomber, New York, NY, August 8, 1867. From MSS-008, Olive A. Colton Collection
Activist Susan B. Anthony worked for many causes, including woman's suffrage, abolition of slavery, and women's labor organizations from the 1850s to the early 1900s. Anthony sent this letter asking for funds from the "good friends of Toledo" in order to print documents advocating for woman's suffrage. She admits the American Equal Rights Association is low on funds, inhibiting their members from traveling to visit the Suffrage Association of Kansas meeting.

John Burroughs, handwritten stanza from "Waiting," first written in November, 1862. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
The significance of this piece is the signature of John Burroughs, an essayist and naturalist who was crucial to the development of the U.S. conservation movement. The stanza of poetry that accompanies his signature is from "Waiting," which was originally published in 1863. Years later, in an essay, "What Makes a Poem," he asserts that "Waiting" is his nearest approach to a true poem.

Carrie Chapman Catt to Philip Nash, New York, NY, October 21, 1933. From UR PA/44, The Office of the President, University of Toledo Archives
Carrie Chapman Catt worked for and helped found several woman's suffrage organizations during the late 19th and early 20th century. In 1933, she gathered signatures for a letter to send to Adolf Hitler concerning the Nazi's treatment of Jews. This letter thanks Philip Nash, president of The University of Toledo, for assisting with the project.

Joseph Cornell to Dorothy Benzian, no location, n.d. From MSS-105, Suzanne Miller Papers
A Surrealist, Joseph Cornell was a noted artist and filmmaker. He is well known for making collages and boxes assembled from found objects. This letter, in the form of a poem, discusses the idea of going sailing.

Ève Curie to Margot Sanger. From MSS-140, Margot Sanger Papers
The youngest child of Marie and Pierre Curie, Ève was a journalist, writer, and pianist. Unlike her parents and siblings, she did not pursue a career in science, focusing instead on journalism and giving lectures. After Marie Curie's death, Ève withdrew from public life to write her mother's biography, which was published as Marie Curie. This autographed flyer to Toledoan Margot Sanger announces a lecture given by Ève at the Toledo Woman's Club.

Charles Darwin to unknown recipient, Beckenham, Kent, England June 29. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
Charles Darwin was an English naturalist who greatly advanced the study of evolution when he developed the theory of natural selection. He explained his theories in the book On the Origin of Species. In this letter, Darwin apologizes for a misunderstanding.

An engineer and architect, Buckminster Fuller was also known as a poet and a philosopher. He is most famous for inventing the geodesic dome and the Dymaxion House. This letter is addressed to Sripati Chandrasekhar, an Indian demographer, and discusses a speech Fuller gave concerning population control.

John Kenneth Galbraith was a well-known economist during the late 20th century, writing dozens of books. He also served for a time as ambassador to India. In this letter, Galbraith turns down a request from Chandrasekhar to write the introduction to his book.

Henry Louis Gates is an author, scholar, educator, literary critic, and director of the W.E.B. DuBois Institute for African and African American Research. In this letter to University of Dayton English professor Herbert Martin, Gates wishes Martin a happy New Year and asks him to consider Gates's book and television series *Wonders of the African World*. He also wishes Martin, a well-known scholar of poet Paul Laurence Dunbar, luck on a collection he was working on regarding Dunbar.


Julian Huxley (brother of author Aldous Huxley) was a noted biologist who was the first director of UNESCO and helped found the World Wildlife Fund. This letter is written to the demographer who advocated birth and population control in India.

Helen Keller to Ruby T. Scott, New York, NY, February 20, 1952. From MSS-006, Ruby T. Scott Papers

Blind and deaf since infancy, Helen Keller championed the cause of the visually impaired. In this letter to Ruby Scott, Keller describes the suffering of blind people she encountered during a trip she made to Africa. She argues that blind people can contribute to society if given the opportunity, and asks Scott if she would consider contributing to the American Foundation for Overseas Blind, an organization dedicated to providing services for blind people in underdeveloped countries.

Helen Keller to Mr. Smithers, New York, NY, November 18, 1952. From MSS-077, Donald Duhaime Collection

Signed in her distinctive printed style, this letter from Keller describes the plight of visually impaired persons around the world. The letter requests a donation to the American Foundation for Overseas Blind, Inc.

Signed photograph of Martin Luther King Jr., Maumee, OH, September 22, 1967. From MSS-171s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection

King, the famous leader of the Civil Rights Movement, dedicated his life to combating racial inequality. On September 22, 1967, he spoke at a rally at Scott High School, addressing segregation, civil rights, and the Vietnam War. This photograph was taken at a reception held in his honor the same day. King was assassinated less than seven months later.

Margaret Mead to Dave Garroway, New York, NY, November 28, 1977. From MSS-174, Lee Lawrence Papers

Margaret Mead was a cultural anthropologist as well as a prominent speaker and writer during the 1960s and 1970s. In this letter to Dave Garroway (by way of Lee Lawrence), Mead reminisces about the years working with Garroway, the original host and anchor of the *Today* show from 1952 to 1961.

Scott Nearing to unknown recipient, Harborside, Maine, March 25, 1972. From MSS-062, Scott Nearing Collection

Scott Nearing was a political activist, radical economist, and early member of the homestead movement. He was dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at The University of Toledo for a brief time before being dismissed in 1917 for being a socialist and a pacifist. This letter discusses the publishing and distribution of his book *The Making of a Radical*.

Georgia O'Keeffe to Jean Gould, Abiquiu, NM, May 26, 1972. From MSS-014, Jean Gould Papers

The artist Georgia O'Keeffe was part of the American Modernism art movement in the early to mid-1900s, but continued to produce works of art until her death in the 1980s. She is best known for her close ups of various natural objects, such as flowers and landscapes. O'Keeffe writes to Jean Gould thanking her for several books Gould sent to her. It can be assumed that these books were biographies of O'Keeffe. She states that she does not like reading biographies of herself because she does not like the idea of sharing her personal life with others.


Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, was a social activist championing children's causes, equal rights for women, and human rights in general. After leaving the White House, she also authored several books. In the letter to Jean Gould, Mrs. Roosevelt thanks Gould for comments made on her book *Growing Toward Peace*. She also apologizes to Gould for not yet reading her book *The Good Fight*, which was about FDR's struggle with polio.
Eleanor Roosevelt to Mrs. Herbert Schering, Hyde Park, NY, September 17, 1952. From MSS-115s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection
This letter was written in response to an inquiry by the correspondent about the location of the grave of President Roosevelt's dog, Fala, shortly after Fala's death. Mrs. Roosevelt indicates that the dog was buried in the family's garden at Springwood Estate in Hyde Park, New York, with a small stone marking his birth and death dates. Today, Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt are buried nearby in the same garden.

Bertrand Russell to Sripati Chandrasekhar, Penrhyndeudraeth, Merioneth, Wales, July 4 1962. From MSS-189, Sripati Chandrasekhar Papers
Bertrand Russell was an English philosopher and logician who took an active role in social concerns, especially anti-war activities. He also worked to prevent nuclear war. In this letter, Russell turns down a request from Chandrasekhar to write an article for the journal Population Review.

Margaret Sanger to Sripati Chandrasekhar, Tucson, AZ, April 19, 1952. From MSS-189, Sripati Chandrasekhar Papers
Margaret Sanger was a nurse who advocated for reproductive rights and access to birth control for women. She was often persecuted for her distribution of birth control, but she went on to found Planned Parenthood. In this letter to sociologist Chandrasekhar, Sanger discusses population control.

Benjamin M. Spock to Ella B. Gosline, Pittsburgh, PA, October 18, 1951. From MSS-092s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection
This letter was written when Dr. Spock served as professor of child development at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, five years after publishing his most famous book, The Common Sense Book of Baby and Child Care. The letter concerns a question by Gosline of the Southern Seminary and Junior College in Buena Vista, VA, regarding the correlation between left handedness and stuttering. Spock states that there may be a correlation, as addressed in his book, but because of a division among experts regarding the subject, he advises against instructing parents to force a change in the handedness of their child.

Born in Romania, Elie Wiesel is a well-known Holocaust survivor and author. He has written dozens of books, many about his experiences during the Holocaust, including Night. In this letter, Wiesel turns down a request to write a foreward for Chandrasekhar's upcoming book.
Louis Agassiz to William H. Maher, Nahant, MA, August 23, 1866. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers

Carrie Chapman Catt to Philip Nash, New York, NY, October 21, 1933. From UR PA/44, The Office of the President, University of Toledo Archives

Charles Darwin to unknown recipient, Beckenham, Kent, England, June 29. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
Letters from Celebrities and Sports Figures

**Steve Allen to Judith Friebert, Van Nuys, CA, December 8, 1994. From MSS-105, Suzanne Miller Papers**

Steve Allen was a well-known television personality and musician, composer, comedian, actor, and writer. In 1954, he became the first host of *The Tonight Show*, which he hosted until 1957. Toledo-born actress Suzanne Miller was a frequent guest on Allen's *The Tonight Show*, and was featured in *Life* magazine as a result. She also appeared in other television programs, including "The Honeymooners" starring Jackie Gleason. This letter from Allen is in response to Miller's death from cancer in 1994. He indicates that he wanted to donate some film footage of her performances on the show to The University of Toledo Libraries, but these were lost when the person in charge of NBC's storage facility burned much of what was stored in order to make room for other material. Unfortunately, almost everything from Allen's years as host of the show was lost.

**Marian Anderson, signed program, Bowling Green, OH, January 17, 1960. From MSS-015,095, Herbert Woodward Martin Papers**

Marian Anderson was one of the 20th century's most celebrated singers. When the Daughters of the American Revolution refused to allow her to sing in Constitution Hall in 1939, Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt arranged for her to perform at an open air concert on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. Over 75,000 attended the performance and millions more listened to the radio broadcast. She also served as a delegate to the United Nations Human Rights Council as a goodwill ambassador for the U.S. Department of State, and was active in the civil rights movement. This signed program from Bowling Green State University's Golden Anniversary Artists Series features Anderson.

**Photograph signed by Neil Armstrong, from MCO/MUO collection**

In 1969, Neil Armstrong became the first person to walk on the moon. After serving in the Navy during the Korean War, he joined the NASA Astronaut Corps in 1962, becoming command pilot of Gemini 8 four years later. The Apollo 11 moon landing was his second and final spaceflight. He resigned from NASA in 1971 and held a variety of careers over the next few decades: as a teacher in the Department of Aerospace Engineering at the University of Cincinnati, a spaceflight accident investigator, a spokesman for various businesses, and even a voice actor. Unlike former astronaut John Glenn, Armstrong never had a career in politics and refused all offers to do so. This signed photograph was addressed to Dr. Glidden L. Brooks as thanks for his service as chairman of the 1970 Ohio State Cancer Crusade.

**P.T. Barnum to William H. Maher, Bridgeport, CT, September 5, 1866. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers**

This letter from P.T. Barnum was written while Maher was president of the Young Men's Club in Windsor Locks, Connecticut, and is a response to Maher's request that Barnum give a lecture, presumably to the club. Barnum explains that he is engaged to lecture in the west until December but might possibly be available later that month or in February, and lists a fee of $100 (but does offer to pay his own expenses). Although best known as a showman and entertainer, as well as for founding what is now known as the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, Barnum was also involved in politics, serving in the Connecticut legislature in 1865 and as mayor of Bridgeport in 1875.

**Eleanor Belmont to Jean Gould, New York, NY, April 26, 1974. From MSS-014, Jean Gould Papers**

This letter from actress Eleanor Belmont to Toledo author Jean Gould contains a poem titled “Immortality,” which was written by fellow actress Ada Dwyer, a friend of Belmont's. Belmont sent the poem to Gould in hopes of cheering her up.

**Signed photograph/drawing of Joe E. Brown to Flora Ward Hineline, August 2, 1946(?). From MSS-007, Flora Ward Hineline Papers**

Joe E. Brown was born near Toledo and spent most of his childhood here. He was both a circus and vaudeville performer and played professional baseball briefly before returning to the entertainment industry. He starred in several movies during the 1920s and 1930s, and entertained American soldiers during World War II. This is a signed drawing given to Flora Ward Hineline, who founded the Town Hall Series of lectures and the Town Hall Concert Series that were held in Toledo.
Bette Davis, signed guidebook, Toledo, OH, 1959. From MSS-015,095, Herbert Woodward Martin Papers

Bette Davis began her career on Broadway before making the leap to Hollywood in 1930, where she appeared in numerous film and television productions, including the thriller What Ever Happened to Baby Jane? Here Davis appears on the cover of a Toledo entertainment guidebook announcing a showing of the stage presentation The World of Carl Sandburg.

Sammy Davis Jr., signed program, Toledo, OH, n.d. From MSS-015,095, Herbert Woodward Martin Papers

Sammy Davis, Jr. began entertaining at the age of 3, performing in vaudeville with his father and Will Mastin as part of the Will Mastin Trio. The group performed from the 1920s to the 1960s. In 1959, the younger Davis became a member of the famous “Rat Pack” along with Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Joey Bishop, and Peter Lawford. This signed program features a performance of the Will Mastin Trio at Toledo's Paramount Theatre.

Signed photograph of Joe Paterno to Sandy Isenberg, n.d. From MSS-173, Sandy Isenberg Collection

A Democrat, Isenberg accomplished several firsts during her political career: first female ward chairman (1974), first female Lucas County Recorder (1980), first female Lucas County Commissioner (1985), and first female president of the Board of Lucas County Commissioners (1992). In this photograph, she poses with Penn State football coach Joe Paterno.

Drawing signed by Augustus Saint-Gaudens, n.d. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers

Augustus Saint-Gaudens was a Beaux-Arts generation sculptor best known for his sculptures of Civil War heroes and for the haunting depiction of the wife of Henry Adams that adorns her grave in Washington, D.C. He later founded the “Cornish Colony” in Cornish, New Hampshire, a community consisting of sculptors, painters, writers, and architects. This signed catalog picture depicts Saint-Gaudens at work.

Signed photograph of Don Shula to Sandy Isenberg, n.d. From MSS-173, Sandy Isenberg Collection

In this photograph, Isenberg poses with Don Shula, head coach of the Baltimore Colts (1963 to 1969) and Miami Dolphins (1970 to 1996).

Spyros P. Skouras to Foy Kohler, New York, NY, December 24, 1943. From MSS-036, Foy D. Kohler Papers

Spyros Skouras came to the United States with his brothers in 1910. He became president of 20th Century Fox in 1942, a position he held until resigning in 1962. This letter to Foy Kohler mentions Skouras’s connection with the Greek War Relief Association, which was founded by the Greek Orthodox Church to provide food and medicine to Greeks suffering during that country's occupation by Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy. The letter also thanks Kohler for assistance provided in connection with the relief effort.

Signed program featuring Arturo Toscanini, New York, NY, November 8, 1952. From MSS-140, Margot Sanger Papers

Toscanini was a renowned Italian composer of the late 19th to mid-20th century. He was the music director of the La Scala opera house in Milan, Italy; the Metropolitan Opera of New York; and the New York Philharmonic. From 1937 to 1954, he was the music director of the NBC Symphony Orchestra, and it was in this capacity that he became well-known to audiences in the United States. This signed program is for a performance by the NBC Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Toscanini.

Photograph signed by Gene Tunney, n.d. From MSS-066, Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Company Records

Gene Tunney, nicknamed “The Fighting Marine,” was a professional boxer most famous for his two bouts with Jack Dempsey in 1926 and 1927, both of which he won. He retired undefeated as the world heavyweight champion after defeating New Zealander Tom Heeney in 1928. This undated photograph shows Tunney with several L-O-F executives, including John Biggers.


Jack Valenti served as a special assistant under President Lyndon Johnson before becoming president of the Motion Picture Association of America in 1966. This letter congratulates Kohler for winning the Rockefeller Public Service Award.
Photograph signed by Gene Tunney, n.d. From MSS-066, Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Company Records

Bette Davis, signed guidebook, Toledo, OH, 1959. From MSS-015,095, Herbert Woodward Martin Papers

Signed program featuring Arturo Toscanini, New York, NY, November 8, 1952. From MSS-140, Margot Sanger Papers
Letters from Literary Figures

Correspondence

Edward Albee to Herbert Woodward Martin, unknown location, August 15, 1961. From MSS 015, 095, Herbert Woodward Martin Papers
Playwright Edward Albee, author of Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?, writes to future poet Herbert Woodward Martin. Albee offers Martin writing advice, critiquing a play that Martin had written.

Isaac Asimov was a biochemist and a well-known author of books on science and science fiction. This letter is from Asimov to sociologist Sripati Chandrasekhar, and Asimov writes to Chandrasekhar to inform him of the death of an acquaintance.

In his letter to biographer Jean Gould, W. H. Auden argues against writing biographies of authors and artists since the relationship between life and art is “either so obvious that nothing needs to be said, or so complex that nothing can said.” The public should only be interested in the artist’s works, but not in private life and personality, Auden states. Auden was a British poet who later moved to America and became a United States citizen. He is considered one of the greatest poets of the 20th century.

W.H. Auden to Meary Tambimuttu, Ischia, Italy, July 30, --. From MSS-125s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection
Auden writes to Tambimuttu, an editor, offering a poem for publication called “The Sabbath.”

Cleanth Brooks to George Core, Northford, CT, February 10, 1873. From MSS-092, Cleanth Brooks Papers
Yale literary critic and professor Cleanth Brooks addresses George Core who, according to the letter, was preparing a chapter on Brooks for a book. Brooks apologizes for his delay in responding to an inquiry because of his excessive workload. He continues with gratitude over Core’s defense of his work.

Gwendolyn Brooks to Jean Gould, unknown location, October 5, 1981. From MSS-014, Jean Gould Papers
Gwendolyn Brooks was an accomplished poet. She was recognized during her lifetime as the Poet Laureate of Illinois, and her second book, Annie Allen (written in 1950), earned her the Pulitzer Prize, which she was the first African American to receive. This letter is to author Jean Gould. Brooks praises a letter and a poem that Gould sent previously, and offers advice on how to improve the poem further.

Gwendolyn Brooks to unknown recipient, unknown location, n.d. From MSS-010s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection
This Christmas card includes a signed photograph and two poems.

William Cullen Bryant, New York, NY, April 4, 1874. From MSS-012s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection
William Cullen Bryant was a poet and the editor of the New York Evening Post. In this memorandum, he lists “Changes to be made for the Reading Room at Roslyn.” He was likely referring to the public reading room he built in Roslyn, New York, which after his death became known as The Bryant Library.

This letter is from noted author Pearl S. Buck to advertiser and author Frank H. Canaday. Buck spent her childhood and early adult life in China, and many of her novels focus on the country. She also spent much of her life working to improve American views on China. In this letter, Buck asks for Canaday’s assistance with an organization called East Wind, and discusses American world views.
Pearl S. Buck to Sripati Chandrasekhar, Perkasie, PA, November 11, 1946. From MSS-189, Sripati Chandrasekhar Papers
In this letter, Buck tells Sripati Chandrasekhar that she is sending him a copy of a letter that she sent to Jawaharlal Nehru, the first prime minister of India.

Frances Hodgson Burnett to unknown recipient, not dated. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
Burnett, a popular English-American novelist, sent this letter to a friend. She discussed her current life in London, where she had a home, noting that she also had homes in Washington, D.C. and in Surrey. She also discusses her concern over the health of her son, Lionel. This letter was likely written in late 1889 or early 1890, before her son died of tuberculosis.

Wilkie Collins to [illegible], Broadstairs, Kent, England, July 29, 1862. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
In this letter, author Wilkie Collins writes to discuss the publication of his book *No Name*. In the letter, Collins offers specifics regarding the copyright and binding of the book, as well as potential distribution dates.

Theodore Dreiser to Herbert Schering, Vienna, Austria, August 24, 1926. From MSS-030s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection
Here author Theodore Dreiser responds to Schering, who evidently offered to translate a book. Dreiser notes that each publisher he has met with has their own preferred translators. He apologizes and thanks Schering for his offer, but declines. The book is likely *An American Tragedy*, a popular novel first published in America in 1925.

Poet T.S. Eliot writes to John J. Munson about including Eliot's works in an anthology. Eliot reminds Munson that he owns the copyright to his works, and mentions that he does not like producing signed editions.

This letter from T.S. Eliot to Noel Stock, Ezra Pound scholar and University of Toledo faculty member, discusses the idea of publishing a volume of Pound's letters. Eliot reminds Stock of the copyright concerns involved, as well as difficulties with obtaining letters from a variety of sources.

Robert Frost dictated this letter to Jean Gould while he was in the hospital. He gave an account of his travels and experiences in the southern United States in 1894. His journey began in New York, took him through Norfolk, Elizabeth City, Bull Run, and Baltimore, where he found a job in a grocery store.

Donald Gallup to Noel Stock, New Haven, CT, December 8, 1972. From MSS-009, Noel Stock Papers
In this letter, Donald Gallup writes to Ezra Pound scholar Noel Stock to discuss the authenticity of a poem attributed to Pound. The poem is called “Ezra on the Strike,” and a similar poem was published later under a different name.

Allen Ginsberg to Herbert Woodward Martin, Dayton, OH, March 1, 1985. From MSS-015, Herbert Woodward Martin Papers
American beat poet Allen Ginsberg sent this note to fellow poet Martin about Ginsberg's book of essays regarding conversations with Ezra Pound, *Composed on the Tongue*. He provides a blurb for Martin and encloses a paper regarding Pound's *Cantos*.

Nikki Giovanni to Herbert Woodward Martin, unknown location, January 20, 1973. From MSS-015,095, Herbert Woodward Martin Papers
This correspondence is between Nikki Giovanni and Herbert Woodward Martin, both nationally known poets. Giovanni begins by telling Martin she enjoyed reading his poems, and finishes by thanking him for an event in Dayton, where Martin was on the faculty at the University of Dayton. Giovanni teaches at Virginia Tech University.
William Henry Harrison Murray to Mrs. W.H. Maher, Guilford, CT, November 23, 1891. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers

W.H.H. Murray was a Connecticut minister who also wrote a series of books and articles about the Adirondacks, leading to his nickname “Adirondack Murray.” Murray's writings inspired many to visit the region; some 200 “Great Camps” (family compounds built and owned by the wealthy) were established within five years of the publication of his first book, Camp-Life in the Adirondacks. Murray was an acquaintance of Mrs. Maher, and in this letter he expresses his regret that he was unable to visit her during the summer because he did not have her address at the time. He continues by describing his writing career, and asks her to suggest any literary or benevolent societies which may assist him with giving a reading tour. Murray concludes by hoping that such an engagement might be held in Toledo, giving him the opportunity to visit Maher as he had intended.

Mary Howitt to Emma Roberts, [undated, 1820s-1830s]. From MSS-006, Ruby T. Scott Papers

Mary Howitt was an English poet and author who is most famous for the poem The Spider and the Fly. She was acquainted with many literary figures of her time including Alfred Lord Tennyson, Charles Dickens, and Elizabeth Gaskell. In this letter, she responds to a request for an autograph.

Julia Ward Howe to Mrs. Landers, Boston, MA, not dated. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers

Julia Ward Howe, author of “The Battle Hymn of the Republic,” dictated this letter to Mrs. Landers, apologizing for not receiving her visit on the previous day. She insists that she would have been happy to see her had Landers sent up her name. Howe invites Landers to an informal lunch the following Friday and begs her to stay over since “death and desertion has made it difficult” for friends to get together.

William Dean Howells to Mr. Ely, Hotel----, January 12, 1907. From MSS-053s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection

William Dean Howells was an Ohio-born author and critic, known for his Realist style of writing. This letter to a Mr. Ely expresses Howells's thanks for asking his wife or daughter to attend a luncheon with him the following week. Howells says that his daughter will be pleased to accompany him, but that his wife is an invalid who does not leave the house (she suffered from neuritis, an inflammation of the nervous system).

Langston Hughes to Dr. and Mrs. L. Goodloe, unknown location, n.d. From MSS-054s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection

This item is a Christmas card from noted poet Langston Hughes to the Goodloes of Toledo. The card features an altered image of Hughes holding his own head in his hand, and includes a message inside stating that Hughes has lost his head.

Tudor Jenks to Amy Maher, December 1896. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers

Tudor Jenks was an author, poet, journalist, and lawyer. He was chiefly known for his works geared towards children. He refers to one such work, The Century World’s Fair Book, in a note to young Amy Maher, with a wish for a Merry Christmas. Jenks accompanies the letter with a sketch of a little girl crying in frustration.

Leroy Jones to David Ossman, New York, NY, June 6 [1960?]. From MSS-032, David Ossman Tapes

In his letter, Leroy Jones (who later published under the name Amiri Baraka) approached David Ossman about broadcasting poetry and prose readings over the air via WBAI. Jones lists the readers he had lined up, and asked for Ossman's advice.

Rockwell Kent to George and Gladys, Au Sable Forks, NY, December 24, 1969. From MSS-055s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection

Kent writes to friends George and Gladys to thank them for sending a plant as a gift. He notes that he will not be having any guests for Christmas, but he will cherish the plant imagining his friends are there in spirit. Kent was a writer and artist who was well known for writing adventure memoirs, illustrating books, and painting murals and landscape and ocean scenes.


Poet Etheridge Knight writes a letter of motivation to various individuals concerning plans to take out a full page ad in the New York Times to protest human rights violations in South Africa. He is encouraging others to help with his actions and to spread the word of the effort.
Pinkie Gordon Lane to Etheridge Knight, Baton Rouge, LA, December 21, 1975.
From MSS-016, Etheridge Knight Papers
This letter from poet Pinkie Gordon Lane to poet Etheridge Knight is a confirmation to Knight that she wrote a letter of recommendation for him.

Max Lerner to Hugh Gallagher, New York, NY, August 14, 1970. From MSS-185, Hugh Gallagher Collection
Max Lerner, an author and a journalist, writes to Hugh Gallagher, author and disability advocate. Lerner first offers Gallagher the use of one of his quotes for a book, and then discusses the merit of future book ideas.

From MSS-009, Noel Stock Papers
Wyndham Lewis, artist and author, discusses travel plans with Ezra Pound. Lewis and Pound are both planning to go to America, and Lewis said he would like to stay in the same hotels. Lewis goes on to discuss a portrait he has painted.

Amy Lowell to Mr. Ely, Brookline, MA, March 13, 1916. From MSS-058s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection
Amy Lowell accepts an invitation from a Mr. Ely to speak at a Civic Forum Dinner. Lowell was an American poet who was deeply involved in the Imagist movement started by Ezra Pound.

Jack London to Maher and Grosh Cutlery Company, Glen Ellen, CA, August 1, 1906.
From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
In this letter, author Jack London places an order with Maher and Grosh Cutlery Company, a Toledo company founded by William H. Maher and Emil Grosh. London explains that he will be using the items for trade when he takes a long cruise.

Klaus Mann to Jean Gould, Princeton, NJ, November 14, 1939. From MSS-014, Jean Gould Papers
German writer Klaus Mann, son of Thomas Mann, expresses support for Jean Gould's portrayal of the Germans amidst the aggressive expansionism of Hitler, Göring, and Stalin; the anti-communist posturing of Daladier; and Churchill's British imperialism. He notes the pro-Hitler sentiments among some American "confused fellows," and supports Gould's idea of doing a play about Robert and Clara Schumann who represent the qualities of Germans and humanity in general.

Toni Morrison to Etheridge Knight, New York, NY, September 17, 1974. From MSS-016, Etheridge Knight Papers
Author and editor Toni Morrison writes to poet Etheridge Knight to request his participation in a project. Morrison tells Knight of Henry Dumas, a poet who was recently killed by a police officer for jumping over a subway turnstile. Morrison published collections of Dumas's poetry and short stories.

Frank A. Munsey, signature.
From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
Frank Munsey was a well known author and magazine publisher in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. He published Munsey's Magazine and was the inventor of the "pulp magazine," printed on lower quality paper covering sensational topics. These were sold at a low cost and became enormously popular. Munsey also wrote several novels and was financially supportive of Teddy Roosevelt's "Bull Moose" Party.

From MSS-007s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection
In a letter to Maxwell Bodenheim, a white writer, C.A. Pollard of Doubleday & Company Inc. Publishers asks permission to use two of his poems "Negros" and "Poem to Negros and Whites" in an upcoming poetry book complied by Arna Bontemps and Langston Hughes, two prominent black writers. Bodenheim wrote back to request compensation for his poems. The next letters states that Bodenheim will allow the poems to be used in exchange for $10 for each poem.

Dudley Randall to Etheridge Knight, Detroit, MI, August 9, 1968. From MSS-016, Etheridge Knight Papers
This letter is from poet and publisher Dudley Randall to poet Etheridge Knight. In the 1960s and 1970s, the Broadside Press published nearly one hundred broadsides from prominent African American writers, many reflecting themes from the Civil Rights and Black Power movements. Randall closes by asking Knight where he would like Randall to send copies of Knight's book.
James Whitcomb Riley, Christmas greeting poem, unknown location, 1896. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers

James Whitcomb Riley was known in the late 19th and early 20th centuries as a popular writer of poetry. Most of his poems were written in an Indiana dialect, and he also wrote many poems for children. Here he writes a poem to 13-year old Amy Grace Maher. He describes the meaning of a “bee-bag” (from his poem, “The Bee-Bag”) as a bee’s little honey bag.

Sonia Sanchez to Etheridge Knight, San Francisco, CA, June 10, 1968. From MSS-016, Etheridge Knight Papers

Poet Sonia Sanchez writes to Etheridge Knight, who would later become her husband. Sanchez discusses spending a day full of preparation work to teach courses at San Francisco State College, and asks Knight if he still loves her as much as she loves him.

Anna Seward to a Mr. Cadell, Lichfield, November 10, 1791. From MSS-006, Ruby T. Scott Papers

In her letter to Mr. Cadill, Anna Seward, an English poet, expresses hope for the publication of her poems, the cost of which would otherwise be prohibitive. Seward wrote mainly sonnets and elegies about people from her hometown of Lichfield, England, and was friends with Erasmus Darwin, grandfather of evolutionary biologist Charles Darwin.

Lydia H. Sigourney to Mary Skinner, Hartford, CT, March 8, 1848. From MSS-006, Ruby T. Scott Papers

Lydia Sigourney was an American poet whose works were often written to appeal to young women and feminine ideals. She was a popular writer in her lifetime, but much of her fame has faded (although one of her poems was recently set to music by Natalie Merchant for the album Leave Your Sleep.) In her letter, Lydia Sigourney thanks Mrs. Skinner for the enclosed autographs. She makes reference to the epistolary style of Lady Mary Wortley Montague to describe Mrs. Skinner’s writing style.

Charlotte Smith to a Mr. Cadell, March 31, 1793. From MSS-006, Ruby T. Scott Papers

Charlotte Smith was a British poet and author who entered an unhappy and abusive marriage at a young age because of her father’s debts. She left her husband in 1787 after being married for twenty-two years. Her writings often reflect the plight of women. Smith also boldly signed her works with her own name, rather than using a penname at a time when it was considered inappropriate for female authors to be published. Here, Smith communicates with Mr. [Thomas] Cadell, her publisher, about the status of her work in progress. She complains that banks are reluctant to issue credit unless the work is completed and that she would have to vacate her home because she had no money. She is asking Cadell to extend credit toward the publication of her works, but will not blame him if he does not.

Check from Robert Louis Stevenson, London, England, March 31, 1887. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers

This is a check from Stevenson to Willis & Trantum. Stevenson was a Scottish writer who was famous for writing Treasure Island and The Strange Case of Doctor Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.

Allen Tate to Jerome Mazzaro, Florence, Italy, June 8, 1961. From MSS-095s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection

Allen Tate was a well-known Southern poet in the early 20th century. He is most well-known for the poem “Ode to the Confederate Dead.” Here, he writes to Jerome Mazzaro, a poet and journal editor. Tate writes concerning the promising poetry of a young poet, but says that he feels it is too soon for a poet of the “older generation” to write an article endorsing him.
Inscribed Books


Jane Addams was born the youngest child of a prosperous family. Inspired by the works of Charles Dickens, she decided to become a doctor in order to help the poor. When health problems kept her from completing her medical degree, she became depressed and unsure about her future, but was eventually inspired to establish Hull-House in Chicago in 1889. It provided educational, recreational, and support services to the working class, mostly European immigrant women who lived in the surrounding neighborhood. This reprint of Addams' autobiography *Twenty Years at Hull-House* is signed by Addams. Addams worked at Hull House until her death in 1935.


A poet and author, Maya Angelou's literary career has spanned more than fifty years. In 1969, she wrote her first autobiography, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, which details her life from ages 3 to 17. *The Heart of a Woman* is the fourth of her six autobiographies and focuses on her life from 1957 to 1962, during time she raises her son, becomes a published author, and participates in the Civil Right Movement.


Gwendolyn Brooks published her first poem at age thirteen and three years later had compiled a portfolio of 75 published poems ranging in style from sonnets to free verse. At seventeen, she began submitting her poems to the African American newspaper *Chicago Defender*. *A Street in Bronzeville* was her first published book of poetry and was critically acclaimed. This copy was signed by Brooks for The University of Toledo.


Eugene Joseph "E.J." Dionne is a journalist and an op-ed columnist for *The Washington Post* and the progressive Catholic opinion journal *Commonweal* who has also written several books on American politics. *Our Divided Political Heart*, his most recent work, discusses the difficulties that Americans have in agreeing with each other and makes the argument that hyper-individualism is tearing the country apart politically.


T.S. Eliot's love of literature began during his childhood, when health problems prevented him from participating in many physical activities. He began writing poetry when he was fourteen and published his first poem in 1905. From there, he went on to write numerous poems, plays, nonfiction, and works of literary criticism. This copy of *Religious Drama* is one of three hundred numbered copies signed by the author.


Born in Oxford, Mississippi, Faulkner is one of the most important American writers of Southern literature. Although best known for his novels and short stories (among which are *The Sound and the Fury* and *Absalom, Absalom!*), he also wrote screenplays, essays, and poetry. His first work was published in 1919, but he did not receive much recognition until 1949, when he received the Nobel Prize in Literature. *The Reivers* was his last novel and won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. This copy is one of five hundred of the first edition of *The Reivers*, each of which was signed and numbered by the author.


Thomas Paine was born in England but later immigrated to the British Colonies. His famous pamphlet *Common Sense* advocated for American independence and was a best-seller (Paine donated the royalties from its sale to the Continental Army, preferring to help the Colonists' cause rather than make a profit). This copy of *Common Sense*—published the year the American Revolution began—was signed by Benjamin Franklin, who helped Paine leave England.


The signature and address were found in (and removed from) the book.

Often associated with the Harlem Renaissance, Langston Hughes wrote poetry, novels, short stories, plays, and children's books. Along with several of his contemporaries, Hughes's works depicted the lives of black people at the lower end of the economic spectrum. His book *Famous Negro Music Makers* was part of the *Famous Biographies for Young People* series of books. This copy was signed by Hughes and dedicated to Lucille E. Goodloe.


Five years after publishing her best-selling autobiography *The Story of My Life*, Helen Keller wrote *The World I Live In*, which describes her feelings about the world. This copy was signed by the blind Keller and addressed to an unknown recipient.


*Handbook of Glass Technology* describes the history, manufacture, and science of glass. This copy was signed by Dominick Labino, who was internationally renowned as a glass researcher and artisan. He began his career at Owens-Illinois, Inc. in Pennsylvania before moving to Toledo and working for Johns-Manville. He held over 60 patents in the United States, and three of his inventions involving fiberglass were used in both the Gemini and Apollo space crafts. Along with Harvey Littleton, Labino founded the Studio Glass Movement, which allowed artisans to produce glass in their own studios rather than in glass factories.


Harper Lee's only book, *To Kill a Mockingbird* addressed racism as observed by Lee in her Alabama hometown. Her father once unsuccessfully defended two black men accused of murdering a white storekeeper. Although she did not expect the book to be a success, it eventually earned her the Presidential Medal of Freedom for her contribution to literature.


A native of Lorain, Ohio, some of Morrison's favorite authors were Jane Austen and Leo Tolstoy, and her writings were influenced by the folktales her father would tell her as a child. She began writing while a student at Howard University; one short story she presented to the poets' and writers' meetings she attended became *The Bluest Eye*, her first novel. Her novel *Sula*, first published in 1973, was nominated for the National Book Award in 1975. This first English edition copy of *Sula* was signed by Morrison “for Natalie.”


In 1955, Jonas Salk announced to the world that he had developed a vaccine to prevent polio. Together with Albert Sabin's oral vaccine, the disease has been eliminated throughout much of the world. In addition to his famous discovery, Salk wrote four books, of which *Man Unfolding* was his first. This copy is signed by Salk and addressed to Indian demographer Sripati Chandrasekhar.


Alice Walker is a well-known poet and author, most notably of *The Color Purple* (1982). This book of poetry discusses the themes of love and revolution and is addressed to Herbert Woodward Martin, a poet and graduate of The University of Toledo, with thanks for his help in overcoming her fear of speaking in public.


Eudora Welty was a Southern writer who became influential after the publication of *A Curtain of Green*, her first book of short stories. Her novel *The Optimist's Daughter* won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1973. *The Ponder Heart* is the story of a wealthy heir as told by his niece. The story was turned into Broadway play.


Thomas Lanier “Tennessee” Williams III was primarily a playwright, but also wrote novels, short stories, and memoirs. Many of his creations became plays, and some of his best known works (*The Glass Menagerie, A Streetcar Named Desire, and Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*) were adapted to film. This copy of the book signed by the author is one of only five hundred copies published.
Edward Albee to Herbert Woodward Martin, unknown location, August 15, 1961. From MSS 015, 095, Herbert Woodward Martin Papers

W.H. Auden to Meary Tambimuttu, Ischia, Italy, July 30, --. From MSS-125s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection


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Nikki Giovanni to Herbert Woodward Martin, unknown location, January 20, 1973. From MSS-015,095, Herbert Woodward Martin Papers

William Dean Howells to Mr. Ely, Hotel----, January 12, 1907. From MSS-053s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection

James Whitcomb Riley, Christmas greeting poem, unknown location, 1896. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
Letters from Foreign Dignitaries

Winston Churchill, interview with Gustavus Ohlinger, January 9, 1901. From MSS-013, Gustavus Ohlinger Papers

Gustavus Ohlinger was a Toledo lawyer. As a young law student at the University of Michigan, he interviewed Winston Churchill, who later became Prime Minister of England during World War II. Churchill begins by describing his experiences in the army.

Henry Clinton to Rear Admiral Graves, New York, August 29, 1781. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers

Henry Clinton was an important British military officer in the Revolutionary War. He fought at Bunker Hill and when General Howe resigned in 1777, Clinton was appointed to replace him as Commander-in-Chief of the Army in North America. After the war, he was re-elected to a position in Parliament. He was later appointed Governor of Gibraltar, but he died before he was able to take the position. In this letter to Rear-Admiral Thomas Graves, who was Commander-in-Chief of the North American Squadron in 1781, he writes about troop movements, and asks him to direct the 6th Regiment, currently on board a ship, to be landed to assist the army.

Indira Gandhi to Sripati Chandrasekhar, New Delhi, India, July 19, August 2, and September 30, 1968. From MSS-189, Sripati Chandrasekhar Papers

In these letters, Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India, discusses her concerns over the way that population control in the country is presented. First she expresses concern about the facts relayed by Sripati Chandrasekhar in an interview, then she cautions Chandrasekhar not to offend the Pope, and finally she criticizes contraceptives policy that she considers to lack tact.

King George V to United States Soldiers, Berkshire, England, April 1918. From MSS-096, Herbert White Papers

In this letter, George V, who reigned from 1910-1936, thanks U.S. soldiers on behalf of the people of the British Isles for joining the Allies in World War I. The American forces were entering Paris at the time, and the king expresses his regret that he cannot congratulate each soldier personally.

Signed photograph of Andrei Gromyko and Foy D. Kohler at a signing, Moscow, Russia, 1964. From MSS-036, Foy D. Kohler Papers

The photograph depicts Kohler and Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko seated at a table, signing a document. While the photograph itself is undated, an attached note regarding Kohler's meeting with Gromyko refers to November 28, 1964.

Lady Flora Elizabeth Hastings to unknown recipient, unknown location, n.d. From MSS-006, Ruby T. Scott Papers

Lady Flora Hastings served as Lady-in-Waiting to the Duchess of Kent, Queen Victoria's mother. This short letter makes mention of the number of members of the family of a man known only as “Patriarch.” She concludes the letter by giving her regards to relatives.

King Henry VII of England to unknown recipient, Tower of London, January 11, 1497. From MSS-134s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection

Henry was the son of Edmund Tudor, the 1st Earl of Richmond. In order to claim the English throne, he went to war against Richard III and defeated him at the Battle of Bosworth Field in 1485, ending the Wars of the Roses that had lasted for the previous 30 years. This letter is a warrant to deliver a pair of satin shoes with velvet lining to the king.


Howley was a clergyman who served as the Archbishop of Canterbury (the leader of the Church of England) from 1828-1848. Writing from his official residence at Lambeth Palace, the Archbishop mentions that the Bishop of Winchester is on his way to a church consecration, and requests that the unknown recipient of this letter meet him.
**Portrait of Princess Ileana of Romania, n.d. From MSS-007, Flora Ward Hineline Papers**
Princess Ileana of Romania (1909-1991) was the youngest daughter of King Ferdinand of Romania. At a young age, she organized the Romanian Girl Guide Movement, and was also the organizer of the Girl Reserves of the Red Cross. After moving to the United States, she founded the Orthodox Monastery of the Transfiguration in Ellwood City, Pennsylvania. She died in Youngstown, Ohio.

**Foy D. Kohler and Nikita Khrushchev schedule and notes, unknown location, October 16, 1962. From MSS-036, Foy D. Kohler Papers**
This is a copy of the schedule of a meeting between U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union Foy D. Kohler and head of the Soviet government Nikita Khrushchev, which took place during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Also included are reminder notes for Kohler. It is signed by Madame Khrushchev and their daughter, Rada Adzhbei.

**Various ambassadors to Foy D. Kohler, Moscow, Russia, November 23-25, 1963. From MSS-036, Foy D. Kohler Papers**
A series of letters from foreign ambassadors of various countries, including Canada, Pakistan, Thailand, Denmark, Turkey, Israel, and Japan, expressing condolences to the United States on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. All of the ambassadors were stationed in Moscow and thus addressed their letters to Foy D. Kohler, the U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union.

**Guest list from the Kennedy Memorial Service, Moscow, Russia, December 7, 1963. From MSS-036, Foy D. Kohler Papers**
This page is from a leather bound volume used to record the signatures of guests who attended a memorial service for slain American president John F. Kennedy that took place in the residence of American ambassador Foy Kohler. Signatures include Nikita Khrushchev, Andrei Gromyko, M.N. Smirnovsky, L.F. Teplov, and Mme. N.P. Krushcheva (wife of the premier).

**Marquis de Lafayette to the Duke of Bedford, Paris, April 17, 1826.** From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
Lafayette writes to the Duke of Bedford introducing the Baron Bastareche, distinguished young member of the Chamber of Deputies. Lafayette was well-known in American history as the Major General from France who assisted in the American Revolution, fighting at battles such as Brandywine and Yorktown. He also fought for liberty in France as the leader of la Guarda Nationale (the French National Guard) in the French Révolution.

**Henry John Temple (Viscount Palmerston) to Militia Commandant, April 2, 1812. From MSS-006, Ruby T. Scott Papers**
Nicknamed “The Mongoose,” Lord Palmerston served in office almost continuously from 1807 to 1865; the final post he held was that of Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. This letter to the Commandant of the local militia is a request to send a statement to the War Office (Palmerston served as Secretary at War from 1809-1828) detailing the amount of the allowance for a regiment of a local militia for 1808-1811.

**Henry John Temple (Viscount Palmerston) to unknown recipient, Hampshire, England, February 3, 1826. From MSS-006, Ruby T. Scott Papers**
This short letter acknowledges receipt of a letter and enclosure from an unknown recipient.

Although there were other men who held the title Duke of Wellington, Arthur Wellesley—the first Duke—is perhaps the most famous of all because of his victory over Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo. This letter (written by the Duke's secretary) sends the Duke's good wishes to Lloyd and the members of an unnamed society who wish for him to be the patron of said society. The Duke, however, declines, apparently feeling that accepting such a position would imply vanity on his part.
Indira Gandhi to Sripati Chandrasekhar, New Delhi, India, July 19, August 2, and September 30, 1968. From MSS-189, Sripati Chandrasekhar Papers

King Henry VII of England to unknown recipient, Tower of London, January 11, 1497. From MSS-134s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection

Marquis de Lafayette to the Duke of Bedford, Paris, April 17, 1826. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers

King George V to United States Soldiers, Berkshire, England, April 1918. From MSS-096, Herbert White Papers

Marquis de Lafayette to the Duke of Bedford, Paris, April 17, 1826. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
Letters from Famous Toledoans


James Mitchell Ashley was a Republican Congressman from Toledo during the 1860s. While in Congress, he introduced the first bill calling for the abolition of slavery and is considered the author of the 13th amendment to the U.S. Constitution that outlawed slavery. Here, in the introduction of his memoirs, he laments that many of his papers were destroyed in a fire in his library and says that he at first attempted to remember and re-write all of the correspondence, but that this was too difficult. Because of the fire, few of Ashley’s personal papers remain.


U. S. Congressman Thomas Ludlow Ashley (1955 to 1981) writes in hopes of encouraging Foy D. Kohler, former U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union, to accept the opportunity to speak at an Engineers Week Banquet.

Paul Block Jr. to Gustavus Ohlinger, Toledo, Ohio, August 28, 1953. From MSS-013, Gustavus Ohlinger Papers

Paul Block Jr. informs Gustavus Ohlinger about plans to open a news bureau in Europe, which will be headed by New York-based foreign affairs correspondent Blair Bolles. Block and his brother William were co-publishers of the Toledo Blade from 1942 to 1987.

Harold Boeschenstein to Foy D. Kohler, Toledo, OH, December 14, 1959. From MSS-036, Foy D. Kohler Papers

This letter congratulates Foy D. Kohler on becoming Assistant Secretary for Foreign Affairs. The writer, Harold Boeschenstein, was president, of Owens-Corning Fiberglas from 1938 to 1963.

William S. Carlson to Foy D. Kohler, Toledo, OH, December 8, 1964. From MSS-036, Foy D. Kohler Papers

William S. Carlson, president of The University of Toledo from 1958 to 1972, writes to Foy D. Kohler, ambassador to the Soviet Union, to thank him for his visit to UT in 1964.


Olive Colton was a world traveler who later became interested in the fight for woman's suffrage. She was a founder of the League of Women Voters of Toledo and was elected honorary president for life. This book detailing women's struggle for the right to vote was signed by the author.


Gene Cook, vice mayor of Toledo, writes to Toledo Congressman Ed Weber asking for help in having a constituent named as a charter boat captain on Lake Erie.

Jamie Farr, Twentieth Century-Fox Television, August 18, 1975. From MSS-024, Jamie Farr Scripts

A script from the television series M*A*S*H, which was about a team of doctors in the Korean War that aired from 1972 to 1983. The front page of the script is signed by Jamie Farr, a Toledo native who played Corporal Maxwell Klinger in the series.

Adam Grant to Harold Hasselschwert, Toledo, OH, July 29, 1968. From MSS-106, Adam Grant Papers

A Polish-born survivor of the Holocaust, Adam Grant emigrated to America and began working for paint-by-number companies, as well as producing his own art. Here he writes to Harold Hasselschwert, a professor at Bowling Green State University, accepting an invitation to exhibit his works there.

Edward Lamb to Foy D. Kohler, Toledo, OH, June 22, 1964. MSS-036, Foy D. Kohler Papers

The letter thanks Foy D. Kohler, former U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union, for an article he sent to Lamb. Lamb was a labor lawyer in Toledo and helped defend workers during the violent Toledo Auto-Lite Strike of 1934. He became a prominent businessman and activist.
Betty Montgomery to Toledo Suffrage Celebration Committee, Columbus, OH, August 26, 1995. From MSS-035, National Organization for Women Toledo, Ohio Chapter Records

Betty Montgomery, attorney general of the State of Ohio, writes to the Toledo Suffrage Celebration Committee to offer congratulations for their efforts in celebrating the 75th anniversary of woman's suffrage. She also offers them a Certificate of Recognition.

Richard Mott to John [?], Toledo, OH, [?] 25, 1857. From MSS-070s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection

Richard Mott writes to a man named John about mending a gold pen that he desperately wants fixed for “it suits [him] exactly.” Richard Mott was the first mayor of Toledo, serving from 1845 and 1846, and then was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. The man John, who Mott is writing, was likely his brother for he signed it “Thy Brother, Rich Mott.”

Marriage Certificate: Jacques D. Navarre and Catharine Couture, February 20, 1815. From MSS-042, Navarre-Williams Family Papers

This marriage certificate between Jacques (James) Navarre and Catharine Couture documents an event in the lives of the Navarre family, one of the first white families in northwest Ohio. The marriage was certified by Father Gabriel Richard, an early Catholic missionary to the native Americans in the territory of Michigan.

Grove Patterson to Gustavus Ohlinger, Toledo, Ohio, December 20, 1917. From MSS-013, Gustavus Ohlinger Papers

Toledo Blade's Managing Editor Grove Patterson writes to thank Ohlinger for using "Invisible Empire" as an expression in his speech, which The Toledo Blade then used as a foundation for an editorial.

Barney Quilter to Rufus E. Wallace, Columbus, OH, September 1, 1971. From MSS-198s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection

Barney Quilter, a Democratic member of the Ohio House of Representatives, replies to a letter from Rufus E. Wallace about liquor sales on Sunday. Quilter states that he is the only legislator from Lucas County to vote against a ban on liquor sales on Sunday.

Frazier Reams to Gustavus Ohlinger, Columbus, OH, October 8, 1936. From MSS-013, Gustavus Ohlinger Papers

Frazier Reams, a Democratic politician and Ohio Congressman from 1951 to 1955, wrote to Toledo lawyer Gustavus Ohlinger. Reams asks Ohlinger if he could share a previous letter written to him by Ohlinger with various newspapers, and then invited Ohlinger to a “Good Neighbor League” meeting in Columbus.

Joseph R. Scalzo to Jose I. Palomino LL., Toledo, OH, July 15, 1985. From MSS-083, Joseph R. Scalzo Papers

In this letter, Scalzo thanks Jose Palomino for his work to promote wrestling in Colombia.

Marigene Valiquette to John P. Burns, Columbus, OH, December 9, 1977. From MSS-034, Mary Boyle Burns Papers

Marigene Valiquette, Ohio State Senator who served from 1969 to 1986, writes to John Burns to tell him of a resolution adopted by the Ohio Senate in honor of his wife, Mary Boyle Burns, a Toledo official who served on the Lucas County Board of Elections as deputy clerk and clerk.

Toledo Mayors

Ollie Czelusta to John P. Kelly, Toledo, OH, May 2, 1945. From MSS-055, John P. Kelly Papers

Ollie Czelusta, a Republican city councilman, writes to congratulate John P. Kelly on becoming the Democratic Party leader in Toledo, saying that Democrats, Republicans, and non-partisans are all rejoicing at his nomination. Czelusta served as mayor of Toledo from 1951-1952 and again from 1954-1957.

Michael J. Damas to Ted Jasin, Toledo, OH, November 29, 1960. From MSS-061, Toledo Mayoral Papers

In this letter, Damas writes to Jasin, an attorney, to forward a constituent's question asking if there is any reimbursement for her father's death. Damas, a Democrat, served as mayor from 1959-1961.
In this letter, Doug DeGood, mayor of Toledo, informs Republican Congressman Edward Weber about the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and plans to construct low income housing. DeGood asks for the Congressman's help in helping attain more funding to complete the project.

Michael V. DiSalle to John W. Potter, Columbus, OH, July 1, 1959. From MSS-061, Toledo Mayoral Papers
Michael DiSalle was elected mayor of Toledo in 1948, serving until 1950. In 1958, he defeated C. William O'Neill to become the 60th governor of Ohio. This letter to then-mayor John Potter thanks Potter for receipt of a key to the city, a rarity due to their generous distribution by former mayors Ollie Czelusta and Lloyd Roulet.

Michael V. Di Salle to John W. Yager, Columbus, OH, July 1, 1959. From MSS-061, Toledo Mayoral Papers
In this letter, he writes to John W. Yager, who had since become Toledo's mayor, to thank him for the gift of a glass key.

William J. Ensign to Vice Mayor Robert C. Savage, Toledo, OH, March 13, 1968. From MSS-061, Toledo Mayoral Papers
William Ensign was born in Cleveland, Ohio. He served in the military for three years before moving to Toledo to take a job as a probation officer in 1951. In 1967, he defeated incumbent John Potter to become mayor of Toledo and was re-elected two years later. Ensign's multipage letter to Savage refers to a William J. Goss, who is to be considered for the position of City Manager. Ensign describes the process of candidate selection for the position and provides an explanation for why he believes Goss to be the best candidate.

William T. Jackson to Olive Colton, Toledo, OH, November 25, 1931. From MSS-008, Olive Colton Papers
A Republican, Jackson served as mayor of Toledo from 1928 to 1931. His tenure was marked by numerous citywide improvements, including paved roads; a safety building; a convention hall; park improvements; and, most well-known of all, the Anthony Wayne Bridge. This letter from Mayor Jackson to Olive Colton thanks her for a letter she sent expressing her appreciation for the city's administration. Mayor Jackson also mentions his relief at the recent election results and the importance of wise leadership in governing the city.

Deed of City Cemetery Plot signed by Samuel M. Jones, Toledo, OH, July 28, 1898. From MSS-077, Donald D. Duhaime Collection
This deed represents proof that the bearer, Hieronymus Bolli, paid thirty dollars to obtain a lot in Forest Cemetery in Toledo. The deed is signed by Mayor Samuel M. Jones, who is known as Toledo's Progressive Era reform mayor. Jones supported many of the ideals Progressivism, and implemented some of these reforms in Toledo, such as the eight hour work day, public parks, and opening free kindergartens.

Harry Kessler to Cal Lakin, Toledo, OH, February 23, 1972. From MSS-061, Toledo Mayoral Papers
Harry Kessler began his political career in 1965 on Toledo's City Council and was elected vice mayor in 1969. He later became mayor when William Ensign resigned in 1971, and was re-elected three times. In this letter, Kessler discusses with Lakin a program in which The University of Toledo provides education to Toledo-area inmates serving sentences in the Mansfield State Reformatory.

Donna Owens to Mike Ferner, Toledo, OH, November 15, 1989. From MSS- 241, Mike Ferner Papers
In this letter, Donna Owens, mayor of Toledo, congratulates Mike Ferner, an activist who had recently been elected to City Council.

John Potter to Arthur Steele, Toledo, OH, December 26, 1973. From MSS-071, Association of the Two Toledos Collection
Republican John Potter was mayor of Toledo from 1961 to 1967. After his term as mayor, he became a judge, eventually receiving an appointment to the U.S. District Court from President Ronald Reagan. This letter, concerning the Committee on Relations with Toledo, Spain, draws attention to the need to discuss how to handle a visit from a Catholic priest.
**Brand Whitlock to Adrienne Curtis, Summit, NJ, March 21, 1923. From MSS-117, Adrienne Curtis Collection**

This letter was written in response to a series of questions posed by Adrienne Curtis who, at the time, was completing her undergraduate thesis at The University of Toledo on Whitlock. In the letter, Whitlock addresses several of his publications, including a novel he was in the process of completing. He also refers to his political views, including mention of the men who opposed him politically when he was mayor of Toledo.

**Brand Whitlock to William Maher, Toledo, OH, November 13, 1906. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers**

Mayor of Toledo between 1905 and 1911, and later an honored ambassador to Belgium, Brand Whitlock composed this letter to businessman William Maher, indicating that he had assigned Maher to a board of examiners to investigate the state of the city’s Health Department. Whitlock expresses a desire “to make the Health Department as efficient and modern in every respect and as great a protection to the people of Toledo as possible.”

**John W. Yager to a friend, Toledo, OH, May 4, 1967. From MSS-071, Association of Two Toledos Collection**

John W. Yager, Democrat, served as mayor from 1957-1959. He was perhaps most well known for restarting the Committee on Relations with Toledo, Spain, an organization to foster relations between Toledo, Ohio, and Toledo, Spain. This letter is an invitation to the annual meeting for the Committee on Relations with Toledo, Spain.

**Paul Block Jr. to Gustavus Ohlinger, Toledo, Ohio, August 28, 1953. From MSS-013, Gustavus Ohlinger Papers**

**Jamie Farr, Twentieth Century-Fox Television, August 18, 1975. From MSS-024, Jamie Farr Scripts**
Edward Lamb to Foy D. Kohler, Toledo, OH, June 22, 1964. From MSS-036, Foy D. Kohler Papers

Richard Mott to John [?], Toledo, OH, [?], 1857. From MSS-070s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection

John Potter to Arthur Steele, Toledo, OH, December 26, 1973. From MSS-071, Association of the Two Toledos Collection

Brand Whitlock to William Maher, Toledo, OH, November 13, 1906. From MSS-005, Maher Family Papers
Ordinary People, Extraordinary Letters

**Leo Barlow to family, Korea, March 17, 1951. From MSS-219, Barlow Letters**

Leo Barlow, brother to William Barlow, was a soldier in the Korean War. In this letter, Leo describes troop movements of both the Americans and the Koreans. He also says that everyone received the first fresh bread they had eaten in a long time the night before.

**Leo Barlow to family, Pusan, Korea, June 11, 1951. From MSS-219, Barlow Letters**

In this letter, Leo Barlow informs his parents that he has not written to them recently because he has been sent to a hospital ship in southern Korea for combat fatigue. He says he is suffering from headaches, nervousness, stomach pains, and vomiting. Barlow might have had what is now called combat stress reaction—an immediate reaction to the stress of battle that generally lasts only a few days but can develop into post traumatic stress disorder. Barlow was sent to Japan to continue his recovery, and then sent to America to finish his service with non-combat duties, where he continued to have stomach problems. In his letter he also notes that his friend Clark was seriously injured and being sent back to America. In a later letter, he writes that he heard a rumor that Clark had lost part of a lung to shrapnel.

**William Barlow to parents, Mindanao, Philippine Islands, July 20, 1945. From MSS-219, Barlow Letters**

William Barlow, served in World War II. In this letter, Billy writes home to his parents discussing life in the Philippines, specifically the food. He says he does not like cheese anymore because he ate so much canned cheese in his ration packs that he grew tired of it. He also notes that the last letters he received took 11 to 12 days to arrive, which he thought seemed relatively fast.

**William Barlow to parents, Philippine Islands, August 22, 1945. From MSS-219, Barlow Letters**

This letter from Barlow to his parents is written on V-Mail, a form developed to reduce space and the lessen risk of espionage in letter writing. V-Mail letters were censored, photographed, and transported in a negative microfilm. At arrival, the letters would be reprinted. In this letter, Barlow writes to ask for news from home, as well as for paper and envelopes.

**William Barlow to parents, Philippine Islands, September 8, 1945. From MSS-219, Barlow Letters**

In this letter, Barlow writes about the Japanese prisoners that he is guarding. He says many of them are civilians, including some children whom he describes as being as small as one of his younger siblings.

**Belgian schoolchildren to the people of the United States, Ghent, Belgium, March 1915. From MSS-023, Brand Whitlock Letters**

These letters are part of at least 7000 written by Belgium schoolchildren to the United States in gratitude for food and supplies provided when Belgium's ports were closed after the Germans invaded the country in 1914. Facing starvation, the people and children of Belgium depended on the aid for survival. The humanitarian effort was organized by Brand Whitlock, former mayor of Toledo, in his role as ambassador to Belgium and head of the Committee for Relief. The letters display careful penmanship, genuine gratitude and, in some cases, beautiful illustrations.

**Belle to Matilda, place unknown, Friday, [date unknown,] May 1862. From MSS-077, Donald Duhaime Collection**

A personal but nearly universal commentary about the pain of men going off to war—in this case, the Civil War. Belle informs Matilda, “George has enlisted and gone to war he went this morning at six o'clock we all cried and bid him good by and he almost cried to.”

**Priscilla Brown to William Brown, Bremen (state unknown), February 12, 1865. From MSS-256, William and Priscilla Brown Letters**

Priscilla Brown writes to her husband William who was serving on a Union steamer in the Civil War. “Pricill,” as she signs her letter, is at home dealing with several sick family members. First their daughter Lucy was ill with diphtheria, and then her brother Charles became ill. She also writes that her father has been feeble that winter, so she had not had anyone to help her around the house, not even to sit up at night with sick children.
Alva Bunker to Mr. Feilbach, Farmington, MI, June 17, 1918. From MSS-145, Toledo Rotary Club Records
Alva Bunker was born in Toledo in 1901 with no hands and one severely deformed foot. When he was a teenager, members of the Rotary Club found him playing near his home and discovered that he had never been taught to read or write. The Rotary sent him to Detroit to be fitted with artificial limbs and to attend school. His story became an inspiration for many to begin to view disability in a more positive light. In this letter, Bunker writes that he would like to come home for a visit, and afterwards he would like to return to Michigan for summer school. He also notes that the Rotary Club members will not recognize him when he returns home, because with his artificial limbs, he is now 5'7." Also included are a photograph of Bunker and his handwriting book.

J. P. Cummings to Mr. Kuenning, Omaha, Nebraska, March 24, 1932. From MSS-077, Donald Duhaime Collection
This letter describes progress on the construction of the Black Canyon Dam, later renamed the Hoover Dam. Cummings, the general passenger agent for the Union Pacific system, points out that his system is the only railroad serving Hoover Dam.

Eddie to Lollie Labey, Toledo, OH, September 6, 1926. From MSS-206s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection
A man who identifies himself only as Eddie writes to his friend Lollie Labey in Bowling Green, Ohio. Eddie confesses his love for Lollie, and that he respects and admires her more than anyone else he has ever met.

Ernest to Grace, Big Salmon River, Yukon Territory, January 20, 1898. From MSS-027s-055s (034s), Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection
Identified only as Ernest, the sender of this letter responds to Grace, who may be his sister. Ernest expresses hope that his venture in the Yukon will be successful and that he will be able to help his poor family and to finance Grace’s wedding. He goes on to describe his time at the Big Salmon River, indicating that he and his group are preparing to leave the area and head to Dawson, hoping to travel 10 miles a day while hauling 500 pounds of supplies each. Ernest insists that, with temperatures regularly at minus 45 degrees and group infighting, the Yukon experience has been vastly overrated. He concludes the letter with observations about the relationships of the people in his hometown and well wishes.

Partial telegram from the United States government to Mathias Esp[il]n, place unknown, ca. 1898. From MSS-077, Donald Duhaime Collection
This brief telegram informs a father of the death of his son from pneumonia during the Spanish-American War. The communication also requests to know whether or not the family would like the body returned home or sent to the national cemetery.

Hugh Gallagher to Friends, Washington, D.C., January 25, 1953. From MSS-185, Hugh Gallagher Papers
This letter, written while Gallagher was still in the hospital recovering from polio, thanks his friends for their support and friendship throughout his illness. He also describes his progress, and that he hopes to leave for Warm Springs soon. He adds that he is able to move between his bed and his wheelchair, and between the car and his wheelchair, with only one person helping.

Hugh Gallagher to Mr. Cadbury, Bethesda, MD, April 26, 1954. MSS-185, Hugh Gallagher Papers
Hugh Gallagher was an historian and disability rights advocate. When Gallagher was in college, he contracted polio. Here he writes to a faculty member at Haverford College, the institution he attended before becoming ill. He apologizes for having taken so long to write, but says that he will not be able to come back to Haverford because it would mean giving up the independence that he worked to achieve. He says that he will instead be looking for a campus where he will not need so much assistance to get around.

Janet Gallagher to Hugh Gallagher, Washington, D.C., September 3, 1953. From MSS-185, Hugh Gallagher Papers
In 1953, Hugh Gallagher was at Warm Springs recovering from polio and regaining his independence after becoming paralyzed from the disease. In this letter, his sister Janet writes to him about a car accident that occurred when she, her mother, and a friend were near their home in Washington, D.C. as they were returning from a visit to see Gallagher at Warm Springs. She says that she and her mother were not badly hurt, but that their friend Loraine died about three hours after the accident. Janet apologizes several times for having to give Hugh this bad news.
Harrison Gray to Joshua Gray, North Yarmouth, MA, October 29, 1827. From MSS-077, Donald Duhaime Collection

In this letter written to his parents, Gray, a sailor, describes the difficult weather his ship encountered in the gulf, including a hurricane. He also notes that, "We are going to Norfolk to load with slaves for Jamica and we dont wether we shall go to Cuba to load for New York or whether they will discharge us then."

Letters between Carl Joseph and Philip Nash, Toledo and various locations, 1943 to 1944. From PA/44, Office of the President, Philip Nash Papers, University of Toledo Archives

Carl Joseph was a troubled young man when he was admitted to The University of Toledo in 1941. He had been arrested several times for violent labor activities, and had been labeled a Communist. Some did not want him to be admitted to the university because of his past troubles. But UT President Philip Nash befriended Carl, a friendship that continued after Joseph enlisted in World War II as a paratrooper. These letters describe Carl's experience in the war, and Nash's responses. Carl Joseph was killed on D-Day, June 6, 1944.

S.H. and David L. McCord to J.W. Warren, unknown location, January 19, 1846. From MSS-170s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection

In this contract, the McCords agree to hire two slaves, Davy and Queen, and to pay $100 to J.W. Warren (presumably their owner). They also agree to supply clothes for them and to pay their taxes for the year of 1846. It was common for the owners of slaves to "hire" them to other people for profit.


This letter was written by Gordon Deye, a Storekeeper in the Navy during World War II who spent most of his service stationed in the Philippines. In this letter, he writes home to his parents to say that his packages full of Christmas presents had arrived (five months late). He thanks them and describes how he plans to use several of the items he received.

Gordon Meyers Deye to parents, Philippine Islands, August 9, 1945. From MSS-229, Gordon M. Deye Letters

In this letter, Deye discusses current news events, including the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and the potential end of the war. He also considers the idea of going to college on the G.I. Bill.

Gustavus Ohlinger to Papa, Chemulpo Korea, February 18 (no year). From MSS-013, Gustavus Ohlinger Papers

Gustavus Ohlinger was the son of missionaries and lived in China throughout his childhood. He spent his high school years (the early 1890s) at the Protestant Collegiate School of the China Inland Mission, also known as The Chefoo School, in Yantai, (Chefoo) China. The school was designed after the British preparatory schools, which prepared children for college in Britain. In this letter, Ohlinger describes a trip he took with a teacher which proved to be arduous. He notes that their horse fell several times and they had to try to help it back up. His right ear also became frostbitten.

Correspondence between Daniel and James Rock, Camp Graham, near Washington, D.C., January 31, 1863. From MSS-136-148 (145s), Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection

This letter is part of a series of letters exchanged between two brothers, Daniel and James Rock, soldiers who served in the Civil War. In this letter, one brother responds to the other in reaction to the news of their younger sister's death. He believes it was God's will and if they live right, they will meet her again in Heaven. He goes on to say that he will try his best, but that the Army is the worst place to be and he prays the war will be over soon. He also acknowledges that much death has occurred in their hometown due to sickness, though none have fallen in his Company.

Elizabeth Schauss to the Toledo Woman's Suffrage Association, Cleveland, OH, March 3, 1914. From MSS-091, Toledo Woman's Suffrage Association Records

Founded in 1869, the Toledo Woman's Suffrage Association was one of the first organizations to fight for voting rights for women. One of its members from the beginning, Sarah S. Bissell, was an associate of Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Lucy Stone. This letter from member Elizabeth Schauss mentions that many letters have been sent to senators and businessmen in Washington, D.C. asking them to support the organization's cause. Schauss also says that she is unable to attend that day's meeting, but that every member must “give their devotion to the cause undividedly.”
Cousin “Blossom” to Rev. Daniel W. Smith, Gettysburg, PA, June 19, 1863.
From MSS-077, Donald Duhaime Collection
Written to the author's cousin in Findlay, Ohio, weeks before the battle of Gettysburg, this letter states that Confederate forces are moving into the area, but expresses some sympathy with the Confederates. "I am happy this beautiful morning to write you a few lines, although my strength almost fails me. We are in the midst of dreadful excitement and intense commotion, yet I, for my own part, have had too much experience in this kind of excitement to be affected much by it,—but some of these big-mouthed 'union-loving,' 'loyal' people here are almost frantic and half-frightened to death by the presence of a few Rebs. Invading Penn. Oh, that they would only come and carry a few of them off as booty. Old Thad. Stevens, the old 'red-mouthed abolitionist' is here.”

Soviet Union citizens to Foy D. Kohler, Russia, November 23-25, 1963 and n.d.
From MSS-036, Foy D. Kohler Papers
News of John F. Kennedy's assassination shocked and saddened millions around the world. Premiers, presidents, and other world leaders expressed their condolences, as did many ordinary citizens. U.S. embassies and consulates were inundated with phone calls and letters. Many of the unclassified letters from the Russian people in this collection were addressed to Foy Kohler, the U.S. Ambassador to the USSR. While most are written as prose, some citizens chose to express their feelings through poetry. Correspondents range from middle school and college students to the Zootechnician of a poultry incubator.

Jesse Waltner to his wife, Tullahoma, TN, April 5, 1864. From MSS-077, Donald D. Duhaime Collection
This Civil War soldier, fighting for the North, wrote this letter to his wife before his unit was set to march to Chattanooga, a 90-mile trip they would make on foot. Despite discussing the war and the prospects for it ending soon, and expressing confidence that the North would fight Atlanta into the Gulf, Waltner is more insistent on encouraging his wife to write him every day, as it “is all the pleasure I have since we left home.”

Elisha Whittlesey to Charles Lanman, Canfield, OH, August 9, 1858. From MSS-109s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection
Whittlesey describes his life before he was appointed aide-de-camp to Elijah Wadsworth in the 4th Ohio Militia and later promotion to Brigadier General in the War of 1812. He does not describe the campaigns of the Ohio Militia, as he says he plans on publishing a book later.

Herbert “Chick” White to Mother, France, October 13, 1918. From MSS-096, Herbert B. White Papers
In this letter, White, an American soldier in World War 1, describes Army life. He writes about driving an American truck near enemy lines, but insists that there is not much danger. Many words and phrases have been scribbled out, and at the end of the letter it is written that it was “Censored by Charles J. Gregg.”

Herbert “Chick” White to Mother, Belgium, November 3, 1918. From MSS-096, Herbert B. White Papers
In this letter, White apologizes for not having time to write more often. He says that he is always busy, and also notes that his penmanship is poor because he is sitting on the ground writing on a pane of glass. White also talks about having moved further into what used to be German occupation, and laments the destruction he has seen, saying “Where we have been, showed the destruction caused by four years constant struggle. What a waste of land!”

Herbert “Chick” White to Dad, Belgium, November 20, 1918. From MSS-096, Herbert B. White Papers
Here, White writes to his father to say that he was recently in the field hospital for a cold and a sore mouth. He also discusses how France and Belgium were affected by the war. White notes that the French were boisterous in their celebrations, but the Belgians viewed it as the end of “four year's terror” and celebrated “quietly and reverently.”

Signed photograph of Jeanne and Ryan White. From MSS-188, David's House Compassion
Ryan White became the poster child for HIV/AIDS in the mid-1980s due to his expulsion from middle school after his diagnosis and the lengthy legal battle that ensued. He became a national spokesperson for AIDS research and education, and shortly after his death in 1990, Congress passed the Ryan White Care Act, a federally-funded program for individuals living with HIV/AIDS.
David’s House Compassion, founded in 1989, was the only support home for persons living with HIV/AIDS in northwest Ohio and also provided education and counseling services until its closure in 2004.

**W.R. Wilkins to Al Abrams, unknown location, February 22, 1977. From MSS-080s, Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection**

Wilkins, the secretary to Katherine Ann Porter, writes to Abrams to inform him that Porter will not yet be able to autograph his copy of her book *Flowering Judas and Other Stories* as requested because she suffered a stroke a few days before. Wilkins offers to either send the book back and send a signed card later, or to keep the book until Porter has recovered enough to sign it, offering the choice to Abrams.

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**Belle to Matilda, place unknown, Friday, [date unknown] May 1862. From MSS-077, Donald Duhaime Collection**

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**Hugh Gallagher to Friends, Washington, D.C., January 25, 1953. From MSS-185, Hugh Gallagher Papers**

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dear sir,

I wish my engagements made it possible for me to accept your invitation as I am always glad to do such objects as these are so near in view. But I have been very busy this past month and I am afraid I have not much time for writing soon. I remain

Very truly yours,

[Signature]