



**W.A. Courtenay papers, 1876-1906**  
**SCHS 1095.00**  
**Container 11/362**

**Creator:** Courtenay, William Ashmead

**Description:** 0.25 linear ft.

**Biographical/Historical Note:** Charleston and Columbia, S.C. businessman and newspaper editor. He served as mayor of Charleston from 1879 to 1887.

**Scope and Content:** Papers chiefly consist of personal correspondence.

Correspondence includes letters (1897-1898) from Sallie Ogier Lynah and others regarding William J. Grayson and the publication of his writings; correspondence (1899-1901) concerning the Timrod monument in Trinity Church yard (Columbia (S.C.)); letters (1902-1904) from Thomas Addis Emmett of New York (N.Y.) and Bishop H.P. Northrop regarding a medal and Courtenay's efforts to obtain a copy of a painting by Rubens for the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist (Charleston, S.C.); letters (1904-1905) between Courtenay and Thomas Nelson Page about an advisory council for a University of Virginia endowment fund and Courtenay's objections to a "change in the management of the University"; letters (1905-1906) between Courtenay and Charles Francis Adams, president of the Massachusetts Historical Society, about a misunderstanding over the acknowledgement of a contribution by Courtenay; letters (1905) between Courtenay, Rev. Robert Wilson, Andrew Carnegie, and others regarding funding for a new building for the Charleston Library Society; and letters (1906) from Rev. Robert Wilson concerning portraits donated to the Charleston Library Society by Courtenay.

Other items include cartes-de-visit and other images of Courtenay family members.

**Preferred Citation:** Courtenay, William Ashmead, 1831-1908. W.A. Courtenay papers, 1876-1906. (1095.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

**Search terms:**

Adams, Charles Francis, 1835-1915.

Carnegie, Andrew, 1835-1919.

Courtenay, William Ashmead, 1831-1908.

Emmett, Thomas Addis, 1828-1919.

Grayson, William J. (William John), 1788-1863.

Lynah, Sallie Ogier.

Northrop, Henry Pinckney, 1842-1916.

Page, Thomas Nelson, 1853-1922.

Timrod, Henry, 1828-1867 -- Monuments -- South Carolina -- Colombia.

Wilson, Robert, 1838-1924.

Courtenay family.  
Cathedral of St. John the Baptist (Charleston, S.C.)  
Charleston Library Society (Charleston, S.C.)  
Massachusetts Historical Society.  
University of Virginia.  
Charleston (S.C.) -- History.  
South Carolina -- History.  
Letters (correspondence)  
Photographs.

**11/362 Courtenay, William Ashmead, 1831-1908**

**Correspondence, 1897-1906. Approx. 50 items**

Charlestonian. Correspondence of WAC (1897-1906). Letters (1897-1898) with T.L. Olinger and Sallie O. Lynah concerning republication of William J. Grayson's books. Letters (1899-1901) regarding Timrod memorial in Columbia. Letters (1902-1904) regarding attempts to acquire art for the Cathedral of St. John's, Charleston. Letters (1904-1905) with Thomas N. Page regarding University of Virginia. Letters (1905-1906) with Charleston Francis Adams regarding an alleged rudeness suffered by WAC at the hands of the Mass. Historical Society. Letters (1905) with Andrew Carnegie, Robert Wilson, and R. Goodwyn Rhett regarding Charlestonians attempts to get Carnegie to donate money for a new building for the Charleston Library Society with reference to a possible public library for Charleston and segregation in the libraries. Letters (1906) regarding gifts of portrait to the Library Society. Also other letters and Courtenay family photographs and genealogy notes.