



## **Clelia M. Waring papers, 1900-1996 SCHS 500.00**

**Creator:** Waring, Clelia Peronneau Mathewes, 1906-1967.

**Description:** 2.25 linear ft. (6 boxes)

**Biographical/Historical note:** Clelia Peronneau Mathewes Waring was the daughter of Edward Miles Mathewes (1868-1952) and Mary Randolph Hubbard. A graduate of Converse College, she grew up in Spartanburg, South Carolina and worked in the newspaper industry. After World War II, she reorganized the Charleston branch of the English-Speaking Union; and she also served on the board of the South Carolina Historical Society. She married Thomas R. Waring, Jr. (1907-1993), a Charleston newspaper editor, and they had two children: Mary Randolph Waring (born 1939; later Mrs. Robert E. Berretta), and Thomas Waring (born 1944).

**Scope and content:** Papers consist chiefly of correspondence, mostly letters to Clelia M. Waring from her husband Thomas R. Waring, Jr. His sometimes gossipy letters concern topics such as family and household matters; social life in Charleston (S.C.); Clelia's health problems; rationing (during World War II); Josephine Pinckney, Frank Gilbreth and other friends; marriage problems; the Dock Street Theater and Footlight Players; the English-Speaking Union; the Carolian Yacht Club; and labor problems at the News & Courier newspaper. His letters mainly originate from Charleston (S.C.), and are addressed to Clelia at various locations including Spartanburg (S.C.), Tryon (N.C.), Saluda (N.C.), Doylestown (Pa.), New York (N.Y.), Richmond (Va.), the Mount Vernon Club (Maryland), and Boston (Mass.). There are also letters between Thomas R. Waring, Jr. and his children Tom and Randolph. Thomas R. Waring's letter of June 2, 1945, concerns the marital separation of his uncle Judge Julius Waties Waring and his wife ("Waties...is turning Annie out."); and his letter of July 8, 1945, reports that the judge is "going to marry Mrs. Hoffman, the lady who snuck out to Reno from her elderly husband." A few subsequent letters of this period mention the "Waties scandal" and the reaction of Charlestonians. Thomas R. Waring's letters of July 1952 concern a Republican political convention in Chicago (Ill.). Correspondence of the 1920s and 1930s includes letters from Clelia Peronneau Mathewes to her parents; letters from Thomas R. Waring, Jr. to his parents, some written while he was employed at the New York Herald Tribune newspaper; and correspondence (1937) about a Life magazine article covering the reopening of the Dock Street Theatre and photographer Alfred Eisenstaedt's visit to Charleston. Correspondence of the 1970s and later chiefly consists of letters from Thomas R. Waring, Jr. to his daughter Mary Randolph Waring Berretta.

Correspondence arranged by topic or correspondent consists of letters (1940s-1950s) of author Josephine Pinckney; letters by or about Monica Baldwin, a British nun who left her

religious order and wrote a book about it; letters relating to the English-Speaking Union; and letters (1940s) to Clelia M. Waring from British citizens thanking her for packages sent to England from Charleston.

Other material includes letters and cards of sympathy concerning the death of Thomas R. Waring, Jr.; a scrapbook about Thomas R. Waring, Sr.; a diary (1941-1945) of Clelia M. Waring; newspaper clippings; and photographs, including views of 36 Chalmers Street and the rear garden of 10 Atlantic Street; and images of Josephine Pinckney, William Raven Mathewes (Clelia's grandfather), Margaret Waring Harvey, Jane Ladson Waring Ancrum, and Edward Perry Waring.

There are two letters (June 17, 1949; and Sept. 29, 1949) to Clelia from Professor H. Olivecrona in Stockhom (Sweden), one of which mentions the Peronneau family and "Aunt Clelia" (Clelia Peronneau Mathewes McGowan). Her other correspondents, many of whom were British citizens, include Eliza Kammerer (Boston, New York, etc.), Wilmer Hoffman (Paris), Irene R. Guggenheim (Mrs. Solomon Guggenheim), [Aulcie] Hunnigher, B. Hunnigher (Holland), Mrs. George S. Huntington (New York), Mary Phelps (Cat Island, S.C.), Mrs. Stanley D. Jupp, Mrs. E. M. Mathewes, Dorothea de Ford, Eleanor C. Stewart, Mrs. Arthur Draper, Mary Emma Hershfield, Benjamin Kittredge, Ellen Hume Jervey, Dick Henneman, Cecil Hughes Hallett, Mrs. Victor Morawetz, Lady Nancy Dugdale, and John Selby, an editor at Rinehart Publishers in New York.

**Preferred citation:** Waring, Clelia Peronneau Mathewes, 1906-1967. Clelia M. Waring papers, 1900-1996. (500.00). South Carolina Historical Society.

**Provenance:** Gift of Randolph Waring Berretta; 2011.012 and 2011.035.

**Search terms:**

Baldwin, Monica, 1893-1975.  
Pinckney, Josephine, 1895-1957.  
Waring, Clelia Peronneau Mathewes, 1906-1967.  
Waring, Elizabeth Avery Mills Hoffman, 1895-1968.  
Waring, Julius Waties, 1880-1968.  
Waring, Thomas R.  
Warren family.  
Dock Street Theatre (Charleston, S.C.)  
English-Speaking Union of the United States.  
News and courier (Charleston, S.C.)  
Newspaper editors -- South Carolina -- Charleston.  
Charleston (S.C.) -- Social life and customs -- 20th century.

**Container list:**

**Box 1**

- 01 Correspondence, 1928-1940: includes letters from Clelia Mathewes (later Waring) to her parents and other family members; and correspondence, 1937, about a *Life* magazine article covering the reopening of the Dock Street Theatre, and photographer Alfred Eisenstaedt's visit to Charleston.
- 02 Correspondence, 1941-1944: mostly letters to Clelia M. Waring from her husband Thomas R. Waring, Jr. Other correspondents include Lilian E. Smith and S. R. Guggenheim.
- 03 Correspondence, 1945: mostly letters to Clelia M. Waring from Thomas R. Waring, Jr.
- 04 Correspondence, 1946: letters to Clelia M. Waring from Thomas R. Waring, Jr., Wilmer Hoffman, Eliza Kammerer, June Wing, Eleanor C. Stewart, and others. Also, a copy of a letter to TRW, Jr. to Hervey Allen.
- 05 Correspondence, 1947: mostly letters to Clelia M. Waring. Correspondents include TRW, Jr., Mary Phelps, A. Hunnigher, Mrs. Arthur R. Draper, and others.
- 06 Correspondence, 1948: mostly letters to Clelia M. Waring from TRW, Jr., A. Hunnigher, Mary Randolph Waring, and others.
- 07 Correspondence, 1949: mostly letters to Clelia M. Waring from TRW, Jr., John Selby, Mary Emma Hershfield, Gordon Huson, Wilmer Hoffman, and others. There are also letters to Thomas R. Waring, Jr., including one from Billy Rose (Ziegfield Theatre, New York).

**Box 2**

- 01 Correspondence, 1950: mostly letters to Clelia M. Waring from TRW, Jr., Mrs. Stanley D. Jupp, Inger Olivecrona, Betty Dunn, Judy Staats, and others. Also, correspondence of TRW, Jr., including his letters to his daughter Mary Randolph ("Dolphus").
- 02 Correspondence, 1951 Jan. - August: mostly letters to Clelia M. Waring from TRW, Jr., Betty Jupp, Esther Henneman, John Selby, Benjamin Kittredge, Ellen Hume Jervey, Judy Staats, and others. Also, letters between TRW, Jr. and his son Thomas ("Buzz") and daughter Mary Randolph.
- 03 Correspondence, 1951 Sept. – December: mostly letters to Clelia M. Waring from TRW, Jr.

- 04 Correspondence, 1952 Jan. – May: mostly letters to Clelia M. Waring from TRW, Jr. Other correspondents include Rosamund Hussey, Dorothea de Ford, Betty Jupp, Eliza Kammerer, Mary Phelps, and John Selby. Also, some correspondence of Thomas R. Waring, Jr.
- 05 Correspondence, 1952 June – December: mostly letters to Clelia M. Waring from TRW, Jr. Other correspondents include Dick Henneman and John Selby.
- 06 Correspondence, 1953: mostly letters to Clelia M. Waring from TRW, Jr. and others.
- 07 Correspondence, 1954: mostly letters to Clelia M. Waring from TRW, Jr., Cecil Hughes Hallett, Mrs. Victor Morawetz, Betty Dunn, and others, as well as correspondence of Thomas R. Waring, Jr.
- 08 Correspondence, 1955-1956: mostly letters to Clelia M. Waring from TRW, Jr., Lady Nancy Dugdale and others.
- 09 Correspondence, 1957: mostly letters to Clelia M. Waring from TRW, Jr., Lady Nancy Dugdale, Benjamin Kittredge and others.

### **Box 3**

- 01 Correspondence, 1958: letters to Clelia M. Waring from Lady Nancy Dugdale and others.
- 02 Correspondence, 1959-1960: letters to Clelia M. Waring from TRW, Jr., Lady Nancy Dugdale, John Wakehurst and others.
- 03 Correspondence, 1961-1969: mostly letters to Clelia M. Waring from TRW, Jr. A letter dated 1969 is from TRW, Jr. to his daughter Mary Randolph.
- 04 Correspondence, undated: includes letters from Thomas R. Waring, Jr. to his parents, and letters to Clelia M. Waring.
- 05 Waring family correspondence, 1911-1926: mostly letters from Thomas R. Waring, Jr. to his mother and father. Also included is a copy of a letter (1923) to Thomas R. Waring, Sr. from DuBose Heyward.
- 06 Waring family correspondence, 1929: mostly letters from Thomas R. Waring, Jr. to his parents.
- 07 Waring family correspondence, 1930-1931: mostly letters from Thomas R. Waring, Jr. to his parents, some written while he was working at the New York Herald Tribune newspaper. Includes a few of his humorous newsletters (“The Tom-Tom News”), and letters to Thomas R. Waring, Jr. from his father.

- 08 Waring family correspondence, 1932: mostly letters between Thomas R. Waring, Jr. and his parents.
- 09 Waring family correspondence, 1935: letters pertaining to the death of Thomas R. Waring, Sr.
- 10 Waring family correspondence, 1939: letters relating to the birth of Mary Randolph Waring.
- 11 Waring family correspondence, 1940s: letters to Mary Randolph Waring from family members.

#### **Box 4**

- 01 Waring family correspondence, 1944: letters relating to the birth of Thomas Waring.
- 02 Waring family correspondence, 1970s-1990: mostly letters to Mary Randolph Waring Berretta from her father Thomas R. Waring, Jr. and her grandmother. Also, copies of letters from TRW, Jr. to Sidney R. Bland about Susan Pringle Frost; and copies of letters between Thomas R. Waring, Sr. and H. L. Mencken (1921).
- 03 Waring family correspondence, 1975: letters relating to the death of Laura Witte Waring.
- 04 Waring family correspondence, 1975: letters and cards relating to the death of Laura Witte Waring.

#### **Correspondence arranged by topic or correspondent:**

- 05 Letters to Clelia M. Waring from English correspondents thanking her for packages sent from Charleston to England.
- 06 Correspondence relating to the English-Speaking Union, 1940s-1950s.
- 07 Correspondence by or about Monica Baldwin, 1940s-1950s.
- 08 Josephine Pinckney letters, 1940s-1950s.

#### **Box 5**

- 01 Sympathy cards and notes regarding the death of Thomas R. Waring, Jr. (died 1993).
- 02 Sympathy cards and notes regarding the death of Thomas R. Waring, Jr.
- 03 Sympathy cards and notes regarding the death of Thomas R. Waring, Jr.
- 04 Sympathy cards and notes regarding the death of Thomas R. Waring, Jr.

- 05 Scrapbook, 1935-1939, about Thomas R. Waring, Sr.
- 06 Copies of scrapbook pages.
- 07 Miscellaneous items: includes calling cards; a copy of a letter written to Laura Witte by her mother in 1890; an obituary, 1997, for Hermine Cart Waring; and a list of the officers and members of the Carolina Yacht Club, 1944-1945.
- 08 Wedding invitation and marriage certificate for Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Waring, Jr., 1933.
- 09 Necrology, 1936, of Thomas R. Waring, Sr., by the historian of the Society of Colonial Wars in the State of South Carolina (also necrologies of Charles Simonton Glover and Thomas E. Myers).

### **Box 6**

- 01 Short story by Clelia M. Waring, 1952.
- 02 Diary of Clelia M. Waring, 1941-1945.
- 03 Newspaper clippings.
- 04 Photographs and a clipping relating to a *Life* magazine article about the reopening of the Dock Street Theatre in 1937.
- 05 Photographs, consisting of a view of the rear garden of #10 Atlantic Street; an image of Mary Randolph Waring (ca. 1943); a reprint of a photo of Francis G. Ravenel and Beatrice St. Julien Ravenel (Kitty), ca. 1908; and portraits of William Raven Mathewes (Clelia's grandfather), Margaret Waring Harvey, Jane Ladson Waring Ancrum, and Edward Perry Waring.

### **Box 7**

- 01-07 Original correspondence, mostly typewritten letters on newsprint paper by Thomas R. Waring, Jr. Photocopies of these are interfiled chronologically in the correspondence in boxes 1 -4.