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Accession # ~~84486~~ #84M90 Location 319, top case 10

Title Chiswick Press. Records.

Approximate inclusive dates 1831-1933 Bulk: 1870s-1918.

Date of receipt Received from

Volume on arrival

Number of boxes (after reboxing) 3 fb

Condition good

Restrictions none

Description The founder of the Chiswick Press, Charles Whittingham, was born in 1767 in Caledon, England, and died in Chiswick, England, in 1840. Upon completion of his printing apprenticeship in Coventry he set up his own press in London where he engaged in the bread-winning jobs familiar to all printers of the time. In 1795 he published a short-lived Tory journal, The Tomahawk. After several moves in the city he left a partner in charge of the business there and settled in the Thameside suburb of Chiswick, giving the name of the town to the book publishing division of Charles Whittingham and Co.. In 1795 his nephew and successor, Charles Whittingham the younger, was born in nearby Surrey. After serving his apprenticeship with his uncle he joined the firm as a partner, by which time the firm had begun publishing books, among them a series called Whittingham's Cabinet Library. After four years the younger Whittingham left to set up shop independently in London. From 1828 until 1840 the work of the two presses was distinct. When the elder Whittingham died in 1840 the younger Whittingham inherited the Chiswick Press. In 1829 the younger Whittingham had met the publisher, book dealer, and typophile, William Pickering. The friendship led to an artistic partnership which flourished over three decades and was productive of some of the finest examples of 19th century English printing. The younger Whittingham died in 1876. Soon afterwards the press was acquired by George Bell who retained the name "Charles Whittingham and Co.". Charles Thomas Jacobi, who was born in London in 1853, was a managing partner of the Chiswick Press and a writer and lecturer on printing.

The records consist of letters to the Whittinghams and the firm, 1831-1918, letters to the trustees of the estates of William Whittingham, Benjam F. Stevens, and Charlotte Stevens, letters to Charles Jacobi, 1872-1933, including from such notables as the English poet and critic, Edmund Gosse, and the celtologist Robin Flower, and drafts of letters by Jacobi, 1917-1929. There are also some financial papers of Charles Whittingham and Co., 1835-1924, a few indentures,

Special Formats Photographs Maps Audio Tapes Films Graphics personal accounts
 Artifacts Machine-readable records of Charles Jacobi, manuscripts on
 Other (list) _____ printing history, photographs and
memorabilia, and clippings, 1805-1933

and printed material relating to printing and the Chiswick Press.

Temporary catalog card added entries Bell, George; Books; Business; Charles Whittingham and Co.; Flower, Robin; George Bell and Co.; Gosse, Edmund; Great Britain-Publishers and publishing; Great Britain-Printing; Jacobi, Charles; photographs; Printing; Publishers and publishing; Records, business; Stevens, Benjamin Franklin; Whittingham, Charles, 1767-1840; Whittingham, Charles, 1795-1876

Accessioned by Richard Salvato

Date 12/29/84

Chiswick Press

Container listing

Box no.	Contents
1	Letters to the Whittinghams and the firm, 1831-1918; letters to the trustees of the estates of William Whittingham, Benjamin Franklin Stevens, and Charlotte Stevens with enclosed capital accounts and balance reports and other documents relating to the Whittingham and Stevens families; Letters to Charles Jacobi, 1872-1933; and drafts of letters sent by him, 1917-1929
2	Financial papers of Charles Whittingham and Co., 1835-1924; indentures, 1877-1920; financial papers of Charles Jacobi, 1893-1931
3	Articles on printing and the Chiswick Press; clippings, 1805-1933; photographs, memorabilia, and printed material on printing and the Chiswick Press