

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

Accession # ***82 M 56** Location **ANNEX**
Title **COWLES, James Lewis (1843-1922)** **5-d-4**
Papers,
Approximate inclusive dates **1862-1919**
Date of receipt _____ Received from _____
Volume on arrival _____
Number of boxes (after reboxing) **5 C & 1 pkg.**
Condition **fair**
Restrictions **none**

Description

James Lewis Cowles was born on Sept. 14, 1843 in Farmington, Connecticut. He earned a Law degree from Yale in 1888 and was admitted to the Connecticut Bar in the same year. In 1902, he founded the Postal Progress League of Massachusetts. He never practiced Law and instead turned to writing. As a writer he contributed to review magazines, railway journals and newspapers on economic topics, especially in relation to postal reform and the railroad problem in America. He was a supporter of the Parcel Post Bill and government ownership of the railroad system. For his efforts, he is called "The Father of the Parcel Post". He died on Oct. 22, 1922 in Richmond, Virginia.

Correspondence (1897-1919) with prominent citizens in business and with American politicians regarding the federalization of the railroad system in America and the Parcel Post Bill. Included in this correspondence series are personal letters from friends and family members (1919). There are numerous endorsements of the World Postal League from friends and associates. Present are his writings and addresses on the railroad system and the postal service in America. Promotional materials of the Postal Progress League and the World Postal League are included. There is material on the proceedings of the Postal Progress Conference in April, 1911. The collection also contains portraits of Cowles and his family. Personal accounts (1916-1918) and printed ephemera (1912-1918) on the parcel post and World Postal League are present. Miscellaneous papers such as writings and speeches by his contemporaries are included (1862-1918). Also included are about 20 of his notebooks dating from 1902 to 1919.

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

Temporary catalog card added entries

Parcels Post
Railroads and State

Accessioned by Anastasio Teodere

Date October 8, 1982

JAMES LEWIS COWLES PAPERS

Box Listing

Box 1 & 2	Letters received, 1897-98; 1903-19 & n.d. Letters from his daughters, n.d. Letters from Edith Cowles, 1916 & 1918 Letters from Marian Cowles Wyatt, 1919.
Box 3	Writings & addresses
Box 4	Accounts; portraits; Postal Progress Conference proceedings; promotional material.
Box 5	Notebooks
Box 6 (pkg.)	Printed matter