

**LEWIS, CHARLES LEE**  
**(b. 1886)**  
**PAPERS**  
**1907-1951**  
**(THS Collection)**

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## INTRODUCTION

The Charles Lee Lewis Papers, 1907-1951, containing approximately 7 cubic feet of archival materials, are centered on the career of Charles Lee Lewis, prominent naval historian and professor at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. The collection consists of correspondence, manuscripts of books and articles, published writings, book reviews, and several miscellaneous items.

Lewis was born March 7, 1886 in Doyle, Tennessee, the son of Mason Avery and Sarah Lou (Richards) Lewis. He received his early education in the local schools and was graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1906. He received his Master of Arts' Degree at Columbia University in 1911. Although he taught in several small colleges in the United States and Europe, the majority of his career was spent at the United States Naval Academy (1917-1951), where he served as full professor of English and history. A prolific writer, his books and articles were highly praised by fellow historians and critics. His works include: *Life of Matthew Fontaine Maury: Pathfinder of the Seas* (1927); *Admiral Franklin Buchanan: Fearless Man of Action* (1930); *David Glasgow Farragut: Admiral in the Making* (1941); *Philander P. Claxton: Crusader for Public Education* (1951); and numerous other books and articles.

Although the original donor of the collection is unknown, the papers are the property of the Tennessee Historical Society. There are no restrictions in the use of this collection other than the copyrights that may apply to published materials.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Charles Lee Lewis Papers, 1907-1951, containing approximately 7 cubic feet of material, span the period 1907 through 1951, although the bulk of the material is largely concentrated in the years 1925 through 1940. The collection is composed of book reviews, clippings, correspondence, illustrations, manuscripts, publications, and several miscellaneous items. Although the papers were in good physical condition, there was little order in the collection.

The majority of the collection is comprised of manuscript materials. Lewis retained not only the handwritten or typewritten manuscript, but the galley proofs of several of his important works. Also included are the manuscripts of articles and book reviews and the final published copies of the article. Illustrations used in the works are included in the collection.

The correspondence pertains primarily with the relationship between the author and his publishers, as well as his efforts to catalogue the existing portraits of those of whom he wrote. Some of the more interesting correspondence is that between Lewis and Mary Claxton, wife of educator, Philander P. Claxton. The remaining portion of the collection is of lesser importance and includes some random notes, newspaper clippings, a speech, and a map.

If the collection were larger, it might offer a greater intellectual view into the mind of an important historian. As it stands, the researcher may find some value in tracing the development of a historian's art. Those seeking information concerning the growth of the United States Navy should consult Lewis's numerous books.

## CONTAINER LIST

### BOX 1

1. Book Reviews-- Lewis, Charles, Lee, 1932-1940
2. Clippings-- "The Asking Honeymoon", Murfree, Mary N.
3. Clippings-- misc.
4. Clippings-- misc.
5. Correspondence-- Adair- Austin
6. Correspondence-- Babb- Barrett
7. Correspondence-- Bashaw- Beard, William E.
8. Correspondence-- Beard, William E.- Beneze
9. Correspondence-- Benyon- Bland
10. Correspondence-- Bousios- Brand
11. Correspondence-- Brewington- Business
12. Correspondence-- Cameron- Chenoweth
13. Correspondence-- Cheswick- Claxton, Mary
14. Correspondence-- Claxton, Philander- Craven
15. Correspondence-- Crockett, R.H.

### BOX 2

1. Correspondence-- Cronin- Cushman
2. Correspondence-- Dale- Davis
3. Correspondence-- Decatur, Stephen
4. Correspondence-- Decatur, Stephen
5. Correspondence-- Defano- Dwoa
6. Correspondence-- Eddins- English
7. Correspondence-- Farman- Fowler
8. Correspondence-- Fox- Furlong
9. Correspondence-- Gallagher- Goodpasture
10. Correspondence-- Goodspeed- Gordon
11. Correspondence-- Graf- Grey, Eve
12. Correspondence-- Grey, Eve- Guthrie
13. Correspondence-- Hagy- Hall, George G.
14. Correspondence-- Hall, William L.- Hill
15. Correspondence-- Hudgkin- Hynes
16. Correspondence-- Iglehart- Jones, J. Charles
17. Correspondence-- Jones, Roger- Kernan
18. Correspondence-- Kilner- Kurkandall
19. Correspondence-- Lambert- LeBert
20. Correspondence-- Lee- Lewis



### BOX 3

1. Correspondence-- Lodge- Lydenberg
2. Correspondence-- McArdle- McIlwaine
3. Correspondence-- McKay- Manning
4. Correspondence-- Marr- Meire
5. Correspondence-- Mendenhall- Millner
6. Correspondence-- Mitchell- Myers
7. Correspondence-- Nelson- Osbourne
8. Correspondence-- Owen, F.B.
9. Correspondence-- Owen, F.B.- Owen, Marie
10. Correspondence-- Page- Parmalee
11. Correspondence-- Parrish- Quivey
12. Correspondence-- Ramsey- Roberts
13. Correspondence-- Robertson- Russell
14. Correspondence-- Sulley- Shannahan
15. Correspondence-- Sheehan- Simmons
16. Correspondence-- Smith- Staton
17. Correspondence-- Spofford- Sutherland
18. Correspondence-- Talbot- Tyler
19. Correspondence-- Underwood- Werth
20. Correspondence-- West- Unknown

### BOX 4

1. Galley Proof-- *Admiral DeGrasse and American Independence*
2. Galley Proof-- *Books of the Sea: An Introduction to Nautical Literature*
3. Galley Proof-- *David Glasgow Farragut: Admiral in the Making*

### BOX 5

1. Illustrations-- Admiral DeGrasse book
2. Illustrations-- Admiral DeGrasse book
3. Illustrations-- Decatur book
4. Illustrations-- Maury book
5. Illustrations-- misc.
6. Illustrations-- misc.

### BOX 6

1. Manuscript-- "Admiral DeGrasse and American Independence"
2. Manuscript-- "Admiral Franklin Buchanan: Fearless Man of Action"

**BOX 7**

1. Manuscript-- "Books of the Sea"
2. Manuscript-- "David Glasgow Farragut: Admiral in the Making"

**BOX 8**

1. Manuscript-- "David Glasgow Farragut: Our First Admiral", Part I
2. Manuscript-- "David Glasgow Farragut: Our First Admiral", Part II

**BOX 9**

1. Manuscript-- "David Glasgow Farragut: Our First Admiral", Part I
2. Manuscript-- "David Glasgow Farragut: Our First Admiral", Part II

**BOX 10**

1. Manuscript-- "Famous American Marines"
2. Manuscript-- "Famous Old World Sea Fighters"

**BOX 11**

1. Manuscript-- "John Paul Jones and the Beginning of the Navy"
2. Manuscript-- "Matthew Fontaine Maury: Pathfinder of the Seas"

**BOX 12**

1. Manuscript-- "Philander Priestley Claxton: Crusader for Public Education"
2. Manuscript-- "The Romantic Stephen Decatur"

**BOX 13**

1. Map-- "Forts Jackson and St. Philip"
2. Notes-- Matthew Fontaine Maury
3. Notes-- Matthew Fontaine Maury
4. Notes-- misc.
5. Notes-- misc.
6. Notes-- misc.
7. Notes-- misc.
8. Programs-- Matthew Fontaine Maury
9. Programs-- "Presentation of a Portrait, Philander Priestley Claxton", 1951
10. Publications--booklet, "Alonzo Chappell and His Naval Paintings"
11. Publications--booklet, "American Short Stories of the Sea"

12. Publications--booklet, "An American Naval Officer in the Mediterranean, 1802-1807"



### BOX 13

13. Publications--booklet, "Books at Your Service"
14. Publications--booklet, "Commandants of the Marine Corps"
15. Publications--booklet, "Decatur in Portraiture"
16. Publications--booklet, "Description of the United States Naval Academy"
17. Publications--booklet, "The Emblem of the United States Marine Corps"
18. Publications--booklet, "English Naval Schools"
19. Publications--booklet, "Estimate of Clerks' *Naval Tactics* by Contemporary Naval Leaders"
20. Publications--booklet, "The First Academic Staff"
21. Publications--booklet, "I have Not Yet Begun to Fight"
22. Publications--booklet, "Marine Corps Traditions"
23. Publications--booklet, "Matthew Fontaine Maury"
24. Publications--booklet, "The Mayor of Bayou Pom Pom"
25. Publications--booklet, "The Old Navy at Constantinople"
26. Publications--booklet, "Our Navy in the Pacific and the Far East Long Ago"
27. Publications--booklet, "The Passing of Togo"
28. Publications--booklet, "Powell's 'Perry's Victory on Lake Erie'"
29. Publications--booklet, "The Sea Tale in American History"
30. Publications--booklet, "Some Famous English Sea Tales"
31. Publications--booklet, "Some Shall Escape"
32. Script-- "Matthew Fontaine Maury: The Pathfinder of the Seas"
33. Speech-- "Burritt College Centennial Celebration", 1948
34. Writings-- "The Acting Value of Cibber's 'Love Last Shift'"
35. Writings-- "An American Naval Officer in the Mediterranean, 1802-1807"
36. Writings-- "American Short Stories of the Sea"

### BOX 14

1. Writings-- "Smedley, D. Butler"
2. Writings-- "Albertus Wright Catlin"
3. Writings-- "A Brief Account of the Controversy Over the Authenticity of the Poems Attributed to Caedmon"
4. Writings-- "Confederate Ships of War from South Carolina"
5. Writings-- "The Crisis in the Battle of Lake Erie"
6. Writings-- "Decatur in Portraiture"
7. Writings-- *Dictionary of American History*
8. Writings-- *Dictionary of American History*
9. Writings-- *Dictionary of American History*
10. Writings-- *Dictionary of American History*
11. Writings-- "The First Faculty of the Naval School"
12. Writings-- "How to Establish a Critical Bibliography of an Author"

13. Writings-- "The Humor of Spenser"
14. Writings-- "Imaginative Aeronautics"

**BOX 14, continued:**

15. Writings-- "John Archer Legeune"
16. Writings-- "The Letters of Mary Wortley Montagu"
17. Writings-- "Matthew Fontaine Maury: An International Figure"
18. Writings-- "Matthew Fontaine Maury, Oceanographer"
19. Writings-- "Maury of the 'Messenger'"
20. Writings-- "Maury, the Meteorologist"
21. Writings-- "Naval Exhibits in the United States National Museum"
22. Writings-- "Naval Warfare's Part in Civilization"
23. Writings-- "The Negro in American Drama"
24. Writings-- "The Neutrality of the United State in Washington's Administration"
25. Writings-- "Our Navy in the Revolution"
26. Writings-- "Phonetics Versus Rules of Grammar"
27. Writings-- "Powell's 'Perry's Victory on Lake Erie'"
28. Writings-- "Reuben James or Daniel Frazier?"
29. Writings-- "Rideout, Henry Milner"
30. Writings-- "Screened History"
31. Writings-- "Short Stories of the Sea"
32. Writings-- "A Sketch of the History of the British Museum"
33. Writings-- "Spenser and Puritanism"
34. Writings-- "Tennessee's Part in the War of 1812"
35. Writings-- "The Tristram Story in the Victorian Period"
36. Writings-- "Ultimate Sources for a Biography of Edmund Spenser"
37. Writings-- "What is a Southern Book?"