



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Chevalier Jackson Papers

NMAH.AC.0023

Grace M. Angle

1986

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Collection Overview

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|-------------------------|--|
| Repository: | Archives Center, National Museum of American History |
| Title: | Chevalier Jackson Papers |
| Date: | 1883-1955 |
| Identifier: | NMAH.AC.0023 |
| Source: | National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Medical Sciences |
| Creator: | Jackson, Chevalier, Dr., 1865-1958 (physician) |
| Extent: | 3 Cubic feet (8 boxes) |
| Language: | English . |
| Summary: | Collection documents Chevalier Jackson, a physician and an American pioneer in the field of endoscopy. |
| Digital Content: | Image(s): Chevalier Jackson Papers |

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Collection donated by Mrs. Joan Bugbee (a granddaughter of Dr. Jackson), date unknown.

Provenance

Collection transferred to the Archives Center from the Division of Medical Sciences (now Division of Medicine and Science) , April 29, 1983 and May 2, 1983.

Materials at the National Museum of American History

The Division of Medicine and Science has surgical instruments, awards, medals, furniture, and oil paintings owned by Chevalier Jackson. See accession numbers are 300428.338 through .343.

Other Finding Aids

Inventory available; contact the Archives Center for more information.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Grace M. Angle, January 1986.

Preferred Citation

Chevalier Jackson Papers, 1883-1960, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research but a portion of the collection is stored off-site and special arrangements must be made to work with it. Contact the Archives Center for information at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Biographical / Historical

Chevalier Jackson, a physician and an American pioneer in the field of endoscopy, was born November 14, 1865 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and died August 16, 1958 in Philadelphia. His father, William Stanford Jackson, was a stock raiser and veterinarian. His mother was Katherine Ann Morage. Family financial reverses forced a move to Crafton, Pennsylvania, a working class community. Young Chevalier was not readily accepted by his classmates and seemed to have had a difficult time during his school years there. Money earned by decorating glass and pottery enabled Chevalier Jackson to attend the University of Western Pennsylvania (University of Pittsburgh) from 1878 to 1882. He then apprenticed himself to a local physician, Gilmore Foster. Continuing to paint china at night he earned enough to enroll at the Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia in 1884, from which he graduated in 1886. During vacations he sold medical books and served as a cook on a fishing boat. Following his graduation from Jefferson Dr. Jackson went to England to pursue his interest in laryngology under a world-famous authority, Morell Mackenzie.

Upon his return to Pittsburgh, Dr. Jackson opened an office limited to the practice of laryngology. His patients were mostly indigent and income from the practice was limited. In 1890 he devised an instrument to remove a dental plate that a patient had swallowed. The news of this meant referral of other patients with similar problems that caused obstruction of the esophagus, including blockages in children from swallowing lye. From that time on Dr. Jackson carried on an unremitting campaign to have lye bottles labeled as poison, until in 1927 Congress passed the Federal Caustic Labeling Act.

On July 9, 1899, Chevalier Jackson and Alice Bennett White were married. They had one child, Chevalier Lawrence Jackson, who also became a surgeon. In the year of his marriage, Dr. Jackson developed a bronchoscope that could be passed through the larynx to visualize the bronchi. He became chief of laryngology at Western Medical College in 1900. In 1902 he adapted a suggestion of placing a light carrier at the far ends of the scopes used in bronchoscopy and esophagoscopy, thus making those procedures relatively safe. He and a machinist friend built the instruments in the friend's shop in Pittsburgh.

Dr. Jackson developed tuberculosis in 1911. He spent the two years of convalescence writing an important text book, *Peroral Endoscopy and Laryngeal Surgery*, published in 1915, the year he was made head of the Department of Laryngology at Jefferson Medical College. Appointments at the Graduate School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania followed, and his 1930 appointment to the faculty at Temple meant that Chevalier Jackson held simultaneous appointments at five Philadelphia schools. He later relinquished all appointments except the chair at Temple from which he retired in 1938 to be succeeded by his son, Chevalier Lawrence Jackson. From 1935 to 1941 Chevalier Jackson was president of the Women's College of Pennsylvania. An early advocate of equal rights, he championed the role of women in medicine.

During his noted career Dr. Jackson wrote 250 papers, twelve text books, chapters in a number of other books, and an autobiography (1938). He was somewhat eccentric. He protected his hands by wearing silk gloves, even in summer, turned doorknobs by placing his hand in his coat pocket, preferred bowing to shaking hands, and developed a reputation for social aloofness.

Scope and Contents

The Jackson papers include autobiographical notes, a draft of a brief biography for the National Cyclopedia of America Biography, some business papers among which are correspondence relating to a mill and to repairs to

a dam, several legal papers including those concerned with real estate mortgages, and letters to and from Mrs. Jackson and household servants.

There are mementos such as dried flowers, family snapshots, final notes from Dr. Jackson to his wife, advising her of actions to be taken upon his death, and drafts of his obituary. There are a number of photographs, and negatives, primarily of Dr. Jackson.

The articles, reports and reprints are primarily by Dr. Jackson but include a few by or with his son and a few by other physicians. The papers include proofs and color proofs of equipment and procedures relating to Jackson publications and four books, one of which is by Dr. Jackson.

The material, most of which is relatively recent, is in good condition. Some of the notes are in pencil but are legible.

In addition to the papers in the Archives Center, the Division of Medical Sciences has a large number of surgical instruments including Dr. Jackson's bronchoscopes, esophagoscopes, laryngoscopes and microscopes, awards and medals, items of furniture from Dr. Jackson's study and oil paintings by him. The list of instruments is seven single-spaced pages. There are many Chevalier Jackson papers and memorabilia in the National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, the Library and Museum of the College of Physicians, Philadelphia and the Library of Temple University.

Arrangement

The collection is divided into nine series.

Series 1: Personal Papers

Series 2: Correspondence

Series 3: Legal Papers (including mortgages)

Series 4: Newsclippings, Articles and Book Reviews

Series 5: Photographs

Series 6: Chronological Journal

Series 7: Reports and Reprints

Series 8: Illustrations and Proofs

Series 9: Books

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Bronchoscopy
- Endoscopy
- Esophagoscopy
- Esophagus
- Laryngoscopy
- Physicians

Types of Materials:

- Autobiographies
- Biographies

Books
Clippings
Correspondence -- 1930-1950
Legal documents
Personal papers
Photographs -- Black-and-white photoprints -- Silver gelatin -- 19th-20th century

Names:

Foster, Gilmore
Jackson, William Stanford
Jefferson Medical College.
Mackenzie, Morell
Morage, Katherine Ann
National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Medical Sciences
Temple University.
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh.
University of Western Pennsylvania.
Western Medical College.
Women's College of Pennsylvania.

Occupations:

Surgeons

Places:

Philadelphia (Pa.)

Container Listing

Series 1: Personal Papers, 1930, undated

Box 1, Folder 1 Autobiographical and biographical notes

Box 1, Folder 2 [Mementos](#)

Box 1, Folder 2 [The best and sweetest girl in the world \[photoprint\], circa 1930](#)
 1 Item (Silver gelatin on paper.; 4.0" x 2.9".)
 Collector: Jackson, Chevalier, Dr., 1865-1958 (physician)
 Language: English.
 Notes: AC0023-0000002.tif (AC Scan No.)
 Unrestricted research use on site by appointment. Photographs
 must be handled with cotton gloves unless protected by sleeves.
 Probably a portrait of Dr. Jackson's wife Alice, taken by Lipp
 Studio in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
 Names: Jackson, Alice
 Genre/Form: Portraits -- Women
 Photographs -- 1930-1940 -- Black-and-white photoprints --
 Silver gelatin

Box 1, Folder 3 Obituary and related material

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Series 2: Correspondence, undated

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Box 1, Folder 4 | Correspondence re dam and mill |
| Box 1, Folder 5 | Correspondence to and from Mrs. Jackson and household servants |
| Box 1, Folder 6 | Correspondence, personal |

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3: Mortgages and Legal Papers, undated

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Box 1, Folder 7 | Mortgages and other legal papers |
| Folder 1 | Public sale notice for Sunset Hill, 1922 |
| Folder 1 | Plans for Jackson house, Idlewood, Pennsylvania and Jackson cottage, Ernsworth, Pennsylvania, undated |
| Folder 1 | Survey of W.S. Jackson property at Idlewood Station, Pennsylvania (Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis Railroad), 1896 |
| Folder 2 | Old deeds and plans, Idlewood (N.B. Morange to Catharine Jackson, 1893 |
| Folder 3 | Surveys of S.N. Heisey line, and Plan of Subdivision of the Farm of John Morange, 1896 |
| Folder 3 | S.N. Heisey survey plans, 1896 |
| Folder 3 | Heisey, Jackson and Duncan property surveys, , 1900 |

Series 4: Newsclippings, Articles and Book Reviews

Box 1, Folder 8 News clippings, articles and book reviews

Box 1, Folder 9 News clippings, other

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Series 5: Photographs, undated

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Box 1, Folder 10 | Chevalier Jackson, M.D., undated |
| Box 1, Folder 11 | Negatives, undated |
| Box 1, Folder 11 | <p>[Dr. Chevalier Jackson standing behind desk : photoprint.], undated 1 Item (Silver gelatin on cellulose acetate film sheet.; 8.0" x 9.7".) Collector: Jackson, Chevalier, Dr., 1865-1958 (physician) Language: English. Notes: AC0023-0000001.tif (AC Scan No.) Unrestricted research use on site by appointment. Negatives must be handled with cotton gloves unless protected by sleeves. Dr. Jackson is holding and surrounded by framed displays of "intestinal foreign bodies" [swallowed objects].</p> <p>Names: Jackson, Chevalier, Dr., 1865-1958 (physician) Topic: Medicine Genre/Form: Black-and-white photographic prints -- Silver gelatin -- 1900-1950</p> |
| Box 1, Folder 12 | Other, undated |
| Box 1, Folder 13 | Snapshots, undated |

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Series 6: Chronological Journal, 1883 - 1883

Box 1, Folder 14

Phrenological Journal, Volume 27, No. 6, 1883 June

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Series 7: Reports and Reprints, undated

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Box 2, Folder 1-2 | By Chevalier Jackson, M.D |
| Box 2, Folder 3 | By Chevalier Jackson, M.D. and Chevalier L. Jackson, M.D. |
| Box 2, Folder 4 | By Chevalier L. Jackson, M.D. |
| Box 2, Folder 5 | By others |

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Series Series 8: Illustrations and Proofs, undated

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Box 3, Folder 1 | Catalogue, Endoscopic Instruments |
| Box 3, Folder 2 | Color Proofs |
| Box 3, Folder 3 | Illustrations of Equipment-Captions in French |
| Box 3, Folder 3 | <p>[Illustration of procedure for removing a swallowed button.], undated 1 Item (Silver gelatin on paper.; 3.5" x 7.1".) Collector: Jackson, Chevalier, Dr., 1865-1958 (physician) Language: Captions in French. Notes: AC0023-0000003.tif (AC Scan No.) Illustration captions are in French.</p> <p>Topic: Medicine Medical innovations</p> <p>Genre/Form: Illustrations</p> |
| Box 3, Folder 3 | <p>[Illustration of procedure for removing a swallowed toy jack.], undated 1 Item (Ink on paper.; 4.3" x 7.2".) Collector: Jackson, Chevalier, Dr., 1865-1958 (physician) Language: Captions in French. Notes: AC0023-0000004.tif (AC Scan No.) Illustration captions are in French.</p> <p>Topic: Swallowing Medicine Medical innovations</p> |
| Box 3, Folder 3 | <p>[Safety pin chain : photoprint?], undated 1 Item (Silver gelatin on paper.; 3.8" x 11.4".) Collector: Jackson, Chevalier, Dr., 1865-1958 (physician) Language: English. Notes: AC0023-0000005.tif (AC Scan No.) Unrestricted research use on site by appointment. Photographs must be handled with cotton gloves unless protected by sleeves.</p> <p>Topic: Safety pins Medicine</p> |
| Box 3, Folder 4 | Illustrations and Photographs of Equipment |
| Box 3, Folder 5 | Illustrations and Photographs of Procedures and Specimens |
| Box 3, Folder 6 | Illustrations for Second Edition of "Bronchoscopy and Esophagoscopy" |

Box 3, Folder 7

Proof of Cuts of Equipment for "Bronchoscopy and Esophagoscopy"

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Series 9: Books, 1906-1924

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Box 4, Folder 1 | The Surgical Clinics of North America Volume 4, No. 1, 1924 - 1924 |
| Box 4, Folder 2 | Jackson, Chevalier, M.D. Tracheotomy, Bronchoscopy, Esophagoscopy and Gastroscopy. St. Louis The Laryngoscope Co., 1907 - 1907 |
| Box 4, Folder 3 | Kirstein, Alfred, M.D. and Thorne, Max A. M.; M.D. Autopsy of the Larynx and Trachea. Philadelphia, Pa. The Medical Bulletin Printing House |
| Box 4, Folder 4 | Von Scheotter, Herman. Klinik der Bronchoskopie. Verlag Von Gustav Fischer in Jena., 1906 - 1906 |

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Series 10: Addenda, 1917-1955

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Box 5, Folder 1 | Allocutions/Visites Hopitaux, undated |
| Box 5, Folder 2 | Bienvenues/Departs, [1935-1936?] |
| Box 5, Folder 3 | Inauguration/Receptions, 1935 |
| Box 5, Folder 4 | Le Marteau du President, [1935-1936?] |
| Box 5, Folder 5 | Notebook, 1926-1931 |
| Box 5, Folder 6 | Notebook, 1927-1933 |
| Box 5, Folder 7 | Address book, [1938/] |
| Box 5, Folder 8 | Distinguished Service Medal, American Medical Association, 1940 Notes: Contains inactive mold present on the materials, which has been reduced with surface cleaning and vacuuming. Mold is dormant, but spores may spread and reactivate in certain conditions. Please practice the following hygiene guidelines to keep yourself and the collections safe. Photo-safe (nitrile synthetic, non-latex) gloves must be used when handling these materials. If you have difficulty writing or keyboarding notes, wear one glove on your non-dominant hand to turn pages while leaving the other ungloved. Avoid touching your eyes, mouth, nose while and immediately after handling contents. Wash hands thoroughly after use. Persons with allergic sensitivities or breathing conditions should consider wearing an N-95 particulate mask when paging through these volumes. Gloves and masks are available from Reference staff. Gloves, masks should be discarded after use. Surfaces should be cleaned afterwards. |
| Box 5, Folder 9 | Trauma Cyclopedia, Chapter 16, 1952 |
| Box 6, Folder 1 | Correspondence (pnemo thorax), 1925-1941 |
| Box 6, Folder 2 | Correspondence, 1926-1952 |
| Box 6, Folder 3 | Correspondence (newspaper articles), 1932 |
| Box 6, Folder 4 | Correspondence (autobiography), 1938-1939 |
| Box 6, Folder 5 | Broncoscope, 1922-1932 |
| Box 6, Folder 6 | Correspondence (larynx cancer), 1940 |
| Box 6, Folder 7 | Notes for lectures, 1929-1940 |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Box 6, Folder 8 | Notes for lectures, 1938-1940 |
| Box 6, Folder 9 | Notes for lectures, 1929-1940 |
| Box 6, Folder 10 | Notes and articles, 1938-1941 Notes: Includes announcements for lectures delivered by Chevalier Jackson. |
| Box 7, Folder 1 | Photographs, 1933-1936 |
| Box 7, Folder 2 | Esophagus (diseases of), 1935 |
| Box 7, Folder 3 | Etiology (foreign bodies in lungs), 1934 |
| Box 7, Folder 4 | Girl Scouts, 1947-1948 |
| Box 7, Folder 5 | Magnetic Fixation/Aid, 1922 |
| Box 7, Folder 6 | Pennsylvania Game Commission, 1933-1955 |
| Box 7, Folder 7 | Diseases of the lung, 1927-1937 |
| Box 7, Folder 8 | Writings for medical history books, undated |
| Box 7, Folder 9 | Lectures on foreign bodies, undated |
| Box 7, Folder 10 | Lectures, 1926-1940 |
| Box 8, Folder 1 | Pan American Medical Association, 1935-1945 |
| Box 8, Folder 2 | Patient case histories, 1917-1926 |
| Box 8, Folder 3 | Foreign bodies (color plates), undated |
| Box 8, Folder 4 | Bronchoscopy article, 1941 |
| Box 8, Folder 5 | Foreign bodies in children, 1921-1938 |
| Box 8, Folder 6 | Gavel and the gavel box (Pan American medical Association), 1935-1939 |
| Box 8, Folder 7 | Pathology x-rays, undated |
| Box 8, Folder 8 | The Life of Chevalier Jackson (autobiography), 1925-1940 |

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Box Unprocessed

Boxes (unprocessed)