

Charlotte Perkins Gilman papers

Department of Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation

Rush Rhees Library

Second Floor, Room 225

Rochester, NY 14627-0055

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Summary Information

Repository:	Department of Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation
Creator:	Gilman, Charlotte Perkins, 1860-1935
Creator:	Lane, Martha Luther, 1862-1948
Title:	Charlotte Perkins Gilman papers
ID:	D.513
Date [inclusive]:	1878-1890
Physical Description:	.19 Cubic feet 1 archival box
Language of the Material:	English
Language of the Material:	English

Preferred Citation

[Item title, date], Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers, 1878-1890, D.513, Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation, River Campus Libraries, University of Rochester.

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Biographical / Historical

Charlotte Anna Perkins was born July 3, 1860 in Hartford, Connecticut, the daughter of Frederick Beecher Perkins (1828-1899) and Mary Anna Fitch Westcott (ca. 1830-1892). She had one sibling, Thomas Adie (1858-1938). After Frederick Perkins abandoned the family in 1867, they moved frequently before settling in Providence, Rhode Island in 1873. Following an irregular formal education, Gilman developed her artistic skills in course work at the Rhode Island School of Design in 1878–79, after which she found sporadic employment as an art teacher and illustrator. Gilman designed advertising trade cards into the mid-1880s, most notably for the soap manufacturer Kendall Manufacturing Company. After a stormy courtship, Gilman married artist Charles Walter Stetson on May 2, 1884. The pair had one daughter, Katherine (1885-1979), before separating in 1888. Charlotte moved to California, where she soon developed a national reputation as an author and speaker, addressing topics including race, evolution, gender roles and women's rights. She and Stetson divorced in 1894. Her

second marriage, in 1900, to her cousin George Houghton Gilman, lasted until his death in 1934. Gilman committed suicide in California on August 17, 1935.

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Scope and Contents

The bulk of the collection is Gilman's correspondence to her friend Martha Luther Lane during the period of 1882 to 1889. The letters address her work, marriage, motherhood and depression. This and other correspondence forms the first series. The second series contains some of Gilman's advertising trade cards.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Conditions Governing Access

The Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers are open for research use. Researchers are advised to contact Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation prior to visiting. Upon arrival, researchers will be asked to fill out a registration form and provide photo identification.

Conditions Governing Use

In consultation with a curator, reproductions may be made upon request. Permission to publish materials from the collection must be requested from a curator. Researchers are responsible for determining any copyright questions.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

This collection of Gilman's correspondence was purchased in 2017 with the support of the Friends of the University of Rochester Libraries. Advertising trade cards designed by Gilman have been acquired separately by gift and purchases.

Processing Information

The abbreviation A.L.S. means autographed letter signed. Some of Gilman's letters were written over several days and may be so dated on the first page (March 27-28) or contain various dates in the body of the letter. Both of these instances are represented by an inclusive date range at the item level.

Existence and Location of Copies

See: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers](#) for the digital collection of Gilman's letters and advertising trade cards.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Authors, American
- Social reformers
- Marriage
- Motherhood
- Mental health
- Correspondence
- Advertising cards
- Gilman, Charlotte Perkins, 1860-1935
- Lane, Martha Luther, 1862-1948

Collection Inventory

Series I: Correspondence and documents

Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane

Biographical / Historical

While growing up in Providence, Gilman became friends with Martha Allen Luther (October 6, 1862-1948), the only surviving child of banker John Luther (1826-1876) and Emily Shaw (1832-1918). Following her marriage

to Charles A. Lane (1851-1884) in 1882, Martha lived in Hingham, Massachusetts. The Lanes had two children: Charles Chester (1883-1967) and Margaret (1886-1972).

Title/Description	Contents List	
1882 1882	Box 1	Folder 1
<p data-bbox="186 399 828 457">Invitation to the wedding of Martha A. Luther to Charles A. Lane, October 5, 1882</p> <p data-bbox="198 472 284 504">1 pages</p> <p data-bbox="198 520 836 579">Printed invitation on one leaf, single vertical and horizontal folds. No manuscript notations or envelope.</p> <p data-bbox="198 598 841 657"><u>Digital Object:</u> Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Invitation to the wedding of Martha A. Luther to Charles A. Lane</p> <p data-bbox="198 682 511 714"><u>Controlled Access Headings:</u></p> <ul data-bbox="198 730 438 762" style="list-style-type: none"> • Correspondence 		
<p data-bbox="186 787 381 819">October 11, 1882</p> <p data-bbox="198 829 389 861">October 11, 1882</p> <p data-bbox="198 877 284 909">8 pages</p> <p data-bbox="198 926 836 1020">A.L.S. in ink on two leaves, each with a single vertical fold and two horizontal folds. Corrections by Gilman include renumbering of pages 6-8.</p> <p data-bbox="198 1039 820 1129"><u>Digital Object:</u> Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, October 11, 1882</p> <p data-bbox="198 1150 470 1182">Scope and Contents</p> <p data-bbox="219 1207 820 1371">From Providence, Rhode Island. 9 p.m. Gilman jests with Lane about her newly married state (Martha Luther married Charles A. Lane on October 5, 1882), and describes her own relations with Charles Walter Stetson and his family.</p> <p data-bbox="198 1407 511 1438"><u>Controlled Access Headings:</u></p> <ul data-bbox="198 1455 438 1486" style="list-style-type: none"> • Correspondence 		
<p data-bbox="186 1512 397 1543">December 11, 1882</p> <p data-bbox="198 1554 414 1585">December 11, 1882</p> <p data-bbox="198 1602 284 1633">8 pages</p> <p data-bbox="198 1650 771 1709">A.L.S. in ink on two folded leaves, each with a single vertical fold and two horizontal folds.</p> <p data-bbox="198 1728 820 1818"><u>Digital Object:</u> Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, December 11, 1882</p>		

Scope and Contents

From Providence, Rhode Island. Includes on pages 5-6, "...Work presses, of course. It grows rather tiresome too. You see I have got to where I have ideas, and think of lots of pretty things that I might be making now instead of this ceaseless copying of little studies. Last year it was well enough, but now I want to originate. I'm getting real handy with oils too ."

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence

1883	Box 1	Folder 2
1883		

January 3, 1883

January 3, 1883

8 pages

A.L.S. in ink on two leaves, each with a single vertical fold and two horizontal folds. Faint 1 x 2 inch stain on page 4.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, January 3, 1883](#)

Scope and Contents

From Providence, Rhode Island. Composed partly in rhyme. Illustration of woman with umbrella on page 5. Gilman writes of her relationship with Walter Stetson and of her work, including, on page 4, a reference to receiving \$5 from Tiffany for dinner cards. AO and, on page 7, "...I feel happy. Not only on account of my love for my lover and my lover's love for me, but because I begin to see the first fruits of a slender little reputation which will grow steadily and be worth more every year..."

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence

April 9, 1883

April 9, 1883

8 pages

A.L.S. in ink on two leaves, each with a single vertical fold and two horizontal folds. Imperfection in sheet formation of second leaf, including 2mm hole located 1 cm below "if" on line 1, page 8.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, April 9, 1883](#)

Scope and Contents

From Providence, Rhode Island. 6:30-35 p.m. Gilman reflects on work: "I couldn't do the Harper thing, dear. I can't draw yet" (page 3) and on mutual friends (including their engagements), and on her own marriage plans: "...You ask when I am going to be married. Not for a year at least. I am going away. Going to work as some sort of teacher or companion as far off as possible for the coming fall and winter. Beyond that my plans will depend on circumstances..."

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

May 20, 1883

May 20, 1883

3 pages

A.L.S. in ink on single leaf. Single vertical fold, two horizontal folds. Scattered foxing, mainly near lower horizontal fold.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, May 20, 1883](#)

Scope and Contents

From Providence, Rhode Island. "... Dear, I am coming to Boston Monday June 4th...mean to stay...for a week... I want to call on Dr. Keller ..." Possibly a reference to Dr. Elizabeth C. Keller.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

August 16, 1883

August 16, 1883

4 pages

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, two horizontal folds. Scattered foxing along center fold.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, August 16, 1883](#)

Scope and Contents

From 207 Angell St., Providence, Rhode Island. 9:20-25 p.m. Features two illustrations of Lane's baby Charles: the first shows him "plump in the extreme" with a mace in hand; the other on a pedestal with an endless line of worshipers lying prostrate before him.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

August 17, 1883

August 17, 1883

4 pages

A.L.S. in ink on single leaf. Single vertical fold, two horizontal folds. Scattered foxing along vertical media fold, especially lower half inch.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, August 17, 1883](#)

Scope and Contents

From 207 Angell St., Providence, Rhode Island. "7:30 or near it." Gilman describes a tea party at which she and friends played a game variously known as The Ten Birds or A Good Fat Hen which begins "A good fat hen. Two ducks and a good fat hen. Three screaming wild geese, two ducks, and a good fat hen..." Gilman includes her own alliterative verse for the game. Page 4 features an illustration of a female angel.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

October 27-28, 1883

October 27-28, 1883

11 pages

A.L.S. in ink on three leaves, each with single vertical fold and two horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, October 27-28, 1883](#)

Scope and Contents

From Providence, Rhode Island. "8.5 p.m." Gilman acknowledges Lane's satisfaction as a wife and mother before relaying that she has an "...ever growing sense of the wrong and wild unhappiness in the world about [her] ..." Gilman cites instances of social and economic disparity. She states that she earns \$3 for teaching a gymnastics class to 6 girls three times a week at "Mrs. Drinan's." In closing, Gilman writes, "Would you not leave everything else in the world for your husband? Yes, I am happy."

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence

November 3, 8, 1883

November 3, 8, 1883

10 pages

A.L.S. in ink on three leaves, each with a single vertical fold and two horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, November 3, 8, 1883](#)

Scope and Contents

From Providence, Rhode Island. Gilman continues to reflect on the issues raised in her letter of October 27-28, and Lane's response. "You widely misunderstand me if you think by misery I mean poverty. Poverty is both an effect and a cause of evil, and it is poverty that makes and keeps many men worse than beasts ... But horrible as Poverty is, it is not that that wrings my heart. It is the – O for words strong enough to say what I mean! – the hideous folly, the selfishness that lives only for its own delight...Emerson is right in what he says ..." (pages 3-4) "I'm not a pessimist Martha, I believe in God and Evolution; but I believe in Preventable [sic] Misery too." (page 6) Gilman writes, too, of her French lessons as well as her work and recent earnings.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

December 11, 14, 1883

December 11, 14, 1883

8 pages

A.L.S. in ink on two leaves, each with a single vertical fold and two horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, December 11, 14, 1883](#)

Scope and Contents

From Providence, Rhode Island. "December 11, 9:30 p.m." Small (1 cm.) illustration of a woman, page 1. "December 14, 10:20 or so p.m." Gilman plans to visit Lane on December 26, staying on a day or two as she must return for a Sunday School festival. She will "...drop the social reform question (or rather the social horror question, for I broached no theories of reformation,) for the present ..." but she intends to "write more bye and bye. A kind of Learned Female Argument by correspondence ..." (page 4) On page 6, Gilman reports that an 1881 poem beginning "In duty, bound. A life hemmed in whichever way the spirit turns to look..." has been accepted for publication by *The*

Woman's Journal. "... It's a good paper, organ of a cause I believe in; and appropriate setting to the verses. No pay, but that's no matter; I'm glad to begin to find a voice...I do not hope ever to make much by writing, for I shan't write "saleable articles.". I mean to write only hot truths bravely spoken; to write for the sake of saying something worth while, not for the pay. And some time far away maybe I shall be heard..."

Mentions of good friends Retta Clark and Carrie Hazard close the letter along with acknowledgment that [Charles] Walter Stetson continues to love her despite her "changefulness."

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence

1884	Box 1	Folder 3
1884		

January 24, 1884

January 24, 1884

4 pages

emph: Our Mutual Friend

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, January 24, 1884](#)

Scope and Contents

From Providence, Rhode Island. "9:10 p.m. Thurs."
Gilman reports that she and Walter Stetson plan to marry in May and that her "various pomes [sic]" have been printed in the January 12 issue of *Woman's Journal*.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence

February 11, 1884

February 11, 1884

8 pages

A.L.S. in ink on two leaves. Single vertical fold, two horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, February 11, 1884](#)

Scope and Contents

From Providence, Rhode Island. "9:15 nearly p.m."
Notes mother and aunt playing cards. Announces that her wedding is to be May 2 (page 4) and includes a

drawing of the location of the "upper tenement of a house" where they hope to live. Two small drawings, of the attic and as a suggestion for an affordable wedding gift, "a Japanese matchbox," appear on page 5. Pages 6-8 include details of her pupils, including Blanche Westcott.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

March 21-22, 1884

March 21-22, 1884

7 pages

A.L.S. in ink on two leaves, each with a single vertical fold and two horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, March 21-22, 1884](#)

Scope and Contents

From Providence, Rhode Island. Written in several installments over 2 days. Gilman reports that her new home is being readied before her marriage. A small illustration of a newly purchased butter pot is on page 3. The couple are buying china, with modest funds generated from Walter Stetson's recent exhibition. Lane has been writing and Gilman, on page 7, says "I've had three poems in print!!!"

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

April 11, 1884

April 11, 1884

3 pages

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, three horizontal folds. Some creasing at lower right corner of page 1.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, April 11, 1884](#)

Scope and Contents

"After 10 p.m." Lane was unable to visit. More details about wedding preparations..

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

May 5, 1884

May 5, 1884

8 pages

A.L.S. in ink on two leaves. Single vertical fold, two horizontal folds. Evidence of paperclip, top left. Small circular brown stain: page 1, 5 lines from bottom, on "imagine" and line 4, page 8, on "It's." Ink smudges: line 3 from bottom, page 1; line 6 page 5; lines 5-7, 9, 11 on page 8.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, May 5, 1884](#)

Scope and Contents

From "Home. First letter with the signature "Charlotte Anna Perkins Stetson." Gilman gives a detailed description of her new home, its furnishings and decorations (a small drawing of a chest is on page 3) and of her happiness. She details her wedding dress, shown in a drawing on page 5, and the wedding party. Page 7 features a drawing of Mary and Ray Phelan who "stuck their heads out of the bay window and congratulated us warmly as we passed." She reports her pleasure at being addressed as 'Mrs. Stetson.' The last line indicates that she had enclosed a poem from a new book: that poem is not a part of the collection and its title is unknown.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

June 8, 1884

June 8, 1884

7 pages

A.L.S. in ink on two leaves, each with a single vertical fold and two horizontal folds. Small chips and 3mm loss at lower horizontal fold page 6.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, June 8, 1884](#)

Scope and Contents

From Wayland Street, Providence, Rhode Island. Gilman describes the interior and exterior of her home and how she and her husband often spend their time. One pastime is making "combination pictures." Although Gilman notes that one of these pictures is enclosed, it is not present here. Children in the apartment below have scarletina.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence

July 21-22, 1884

July 21-22, 1884

4 pages

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, two horizontal folds. Crescent shaped tear, 5/8 inch, center bottom of page 4 with no loss.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, July 21-22, 1884](#)

Scope and Contents

On July 21, Gilman writes from "within an hour of Red Bridge" and on July 22 from Wayland. She reports that she has subscribed to the *Century*, *Nation*, and *Harper's Weekly* with "her own money" and that her uncle, Unitarian minister Edward Everett Hale, had recently visited.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

August 7, 1884

August 7, 1884

3 pages

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, two horizontal folds. Scattered staining on blank page.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, August 7, 1884](#)

Scope and Contents

From Wayland Street, Providence, Rhode Island. Gilman hopes to plan a visit to see Lane, and Dr. Keller--possibly a reference to Dr. Elizabeth C. Keller. She describes early morning walks and recent visitors.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

August 12, 1884

August 12, 1884

4 pages

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, two horizontal folds. On page 4: crescent shaped brown stain, 2.8 cm, at lower fold and 4 mm brown spot at edge.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, August 12, 1884](#)

Scope and Contents

From Wayland Street, Providence, Rhode Island.
Gilman writes of her upcoming visit to Lane; her husband will not accompany her as he is working on a painting for the Mechanics Fair.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

November 20, 1884

November 20, 1884

11 pages

A.L.S. in ink on three leaves, each with a single vertical fold and two horizontal folds. Evidence of metal paperclip on page 1 and blank page [12].

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, November 20, 1884](#)

Scope and Contents

From Wayland Street, Providence, Rhode Island.
Gilman writes of Harry Manchester's health and of how her own pregnancy is affecting her health. Page 3 features a small drawing of an collar, page 4 a drawing of "Alpha" long underwear. Pages 6-8 are largely concerned with her study of free trade and political economy.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

1885

Box 1

Folder 4

1885

January 13-14, 1885

January 13-14, 1885

15 pages

A.L.S. in ink on four leaves, each with a single vertical fold and two horizontal folds. The first leaf is on a different paper than the other three.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, January 13-14, 1885](#)

Scope and Contents

From Wayland Street, Providence, Rhode Island. Page 1 dated January 13, page 13 continues on January 14.. Gilman is preparing for the birth of her child. She also writes of her work, the 1884 election "...the

world spectacle of a nation like this – Men – Christian, Civilized, Intelligent Men by the million; being reduced to the helpless and pitiful alternative of 'a choice between two evils' as an instance of popular government..." Gilman suggests works Lane might use in an upcoming English poetry course for young people including several by Robert Browning and agrees to loan books by Lewis Carroll and others.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

March 19, 1885

March 19, 1885

4 pages

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, two horizontal folds. Evidence of metal paper clip, especially on pages 1 and 4.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, March 19, 1885](#)

Scope and Contents

From Wayland Street, Providence, Rhode Island. Gilman jests about the impending birth of her child (her child was born on March 23) but also relates her "eager expectation."

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

Charles Walter Stetson to Lane, March 23, 1885

3 pages

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, three horizontal folds. Ink blurred in several spots on pages 2 and 3.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Charles Walter Stetson to Lane](#)

Scope and Contents

Gilman's husband announces the birth of his daughter. "My first letter shall be to you, her dearest friend, to tell you that Charlotte has passed safely through her trial. A girl was born this morning at five minutes of nine, - as healthy and every-way-well conditioned a little piece of humanity as one could possibly see..."

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

April 26-29, 1885

April 26-29, 1885

7 pages

A.L.S. in ink on two leaves, each with a single vertical fold and two horizontal folds. Evidence of metal paper clip, especially on pages 1 and [8]; faint inch by 1 x half inch brown stain on page 1 between "paltry" and "meant."

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, April 26-29, 1885](#)

Scope and Contents

From Wayland Street, Providence, Rhode Island. Written about a month after Gilman's daughter Katherine, was born. "... Walter and I have found the baby – well, engrossing... Seems to me there ought to be a "course" for all girls meaning to marry, whereby they might gain some knowledge of how to treat wee infants. At this late date (28th) I begin to feel that there are some things I don't know ... " Details of the child follow.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

July 8, 15, 1885

July 8, 15, 1885

8 pages

A.L.S. in ink on two leaves, each with a single vertical fold and two horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, July 8, 15, 1885](#)

Scope and Contents

From Wayland Street, Providence, Rhode Island. Gilman writes of her depression. "...I feel as though I were drifting open eyed into insanity... What seems most suspicious to me is that I no longer care much about whether I live or die, do much or little, cause pain or pleasure..." She reports that Dr. Keller had advised going out, including to the gymnasium. When the letter moves to July 15, Gilman laments that her memory is not what it was and that she has been reading a lot of novels and stories, including those by Charles Victor Cherbuliez.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

August 11, 18, 1885

August 11, 18, 1885

6 pages

A.L.S. in ink on three lined leaves, each with three horizontal folds. Paper is acidic and fragile. First leaf has chips and small losses at top.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, August 11, 18, 1885](#)

Scope and Contents

From 26 Humboldt Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island. Gilman responds in detail to Lane's attempts to help her overcome her depression. On July 18, she reports that due to her worsening condition, Dr. Knight, a homeopath, had been summoned and put in charge of her care and a serving maid been hired. The letter closes with an illustration of a boxer.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

August 22, 1885

August 22, 1885

6 pages

A.L.S. in ink on three lined leaves, each with two horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, August 22, 1885](#)

Scope and Contents

Gilman addresses her depression and the importance of being able to work, that is, to write. "...I believe myself able to write things worthy the world should hear. Time will show whether that be true or not...I am glad marriage is to you all you tell me...But it is not to me. I am glad you love me. I am glad my husband loves me. But no amount of love can keep me happy while I am hindered from my work." Page 4: "When Dr. Knight spoke...about my present duties ... I admitted all that he said and simply asked him if he would like to give up his business, his education, his ambition, etc. and do the same thing? Being an honest man he laughed and said no. Being a reasonable being (!) he did not say that as I was a woman the case was different ..." Gilman closes by saying that she believes she will get better, but that it will be a slow process.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

August 28, 1885

August 28, 1885

13 pages

A.L.S. in ink on four leaves, the first three with a single vertical fold and two horizontal folds, the last with two horizontal folds only.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, August 28, 1885](#)

Scope and Contents

From 26 Humboldt Aveune, Providence, Rhode Island. Gilman recounts at length the misgivings she had about marriage and the guilt she feels for having gone forward and causing both parties pain. The homeopath Dr. Knight is visiting once or twice a week. [page 11] "I'm getting better. I dare say if I get really well I may live some time." On page 12, she compares herself to a sapling being held down, "It didn't get any stronger by persevering pressure. It is down now, fastened down. Either it snaps back tearing everything that held it, learns to grow as it is, or – dies." An illustration of a sapling fastened down follows. The letter closes with a nonsense rhyme Gilman wrote for Eddie Jackson, a boy she cared for as a governess in 1883: "There was a young man in high boots / Who gave all his attention to fruits. / He tried to raise pears / In triangles and squares, / And make apple trees grow / without roots."

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

August 30, 1885

August 30, 1885

10 pages

A.L.S. in ink on three leaves, each with a single vertical fold and two horizontal folds. Evidence of metal paper clip, especially on pages 1 and 10.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, August 30, 1885](#)

Scope and Contents

While Gilman agrees with the doctor that she is improving, she writes: "I feel that soon I shall lose this keen sense of what I have lost and what I must bear, and settle for very life's sake into the same half-life most people live..." The letter further catalogs her difficulty in being a writer, a wife, and a mother. At its close, Gilman refers to enclosures which are not present here.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

September 5, 1885

September 5, 1885

4 pages

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, three horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, September 5, 1885](#)

Scope and Contents

From 26 Humboldt Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island.
"...Be assured that as health and strength return I shall endure and work as of old. Be assured that when next power and control fade from me and I suffer again as I so foolishly tried to show you, that you will not hear of it ..."

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

September 12, 1885

September 12, 1885

8 pages

A.L.S. in ink on two leaves, each with a single vertical fold and two horizontal folds. Scattered foxing.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, September 12, 1885](#)

Scope and Contents

From 26 Humboldt Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island.
Gilman writes of her relationships with her mother and husband during her illness. "...my work will be hindered by an unhappy home life instead of helped by a happy one. Right or wrong, normal or abnormal, my work is not at home."

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

October 8, 1885

October 8, 1885

9 pages

A.L.S. in ink on four leaves, the first with a single vertical fold and three horizontal folds, the rest with three horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, October 8, 1885](#)

Scope and Contents

From 26 Humboldt Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island. Gilman is weaning her child and planning "in desperation, or rather in emotionless discouragement" to go west, to visit Thomas, presumably her brother. On page 6, a drawing illustrates how she feels torn between two people (her mother and husband), who do not get along.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence

1886	Box 1	Folder 5
1886		

April 17, 22, 1886

April 17, 22, 1886

8 pages

A.L.S. in ink on four leaves, each with two horizontal folds. Evidence of metal paper clip on pages 1 and 8. Blurred ink stains on pages 3, 7.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, April 17, 22, 1886](#)

Scope and Contents

From 26 Humboldt Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island. Gilman expresses appreciation of Lane's friendship. She and her daughter Katherine are ill with bronchitis. Page 4: "I've lost my idea of my own importance. I no longer feel it as any loss to the world."

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence

April 30, 1886

April 30, 1886

4 pages

A.L.S. in ink on one pink leaf. Single vertical fold, four horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, April 30, 1886](#)

Scope and Contents

From 24 Humboldt Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island. Gilman writes that she is enclosing "the Alpha circular"--it is not present here. She reports that her mother has left the household to return to housekeeping on Manning Street and "being a sort of second nurse." Gilman's daughter Katherine has cut two upper teeth.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

May 4, 7, 1886

May 4, 7, 1886

14 pages

A.L.S. in ink on seven leaves, each with two horizontal folds. Evidence of metal paper clip on pages 1 and 14; one inch tear on page 5 near edge along with scattered foxing.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, May 4, 7, 1886](#)

Scope and Contents

From 26 Humboldt Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island. Gilman writes of her continuing depression: "I've past the agony stage by months, past the wild weeping and the immediate danger of insanity; it's just a flat dry waste of hopeless melancholy now..." [page 5] and of her husband's love.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

September 26, 1886

September 26, 1886

12 pages

A.L.S. in ink on three leaves, each with a single vertical fold and two horizontal folds. Evidence of metal paper clip on pages 1 and 12.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, September 26, 1886](#)

Scope and Contents

From 26 Humboldt Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island. Gilman's daughter Katherine is flourishing and her own health improving. She went to Boston to see Dr. Keller for a diagnosis: "She [Keller] said the trouble was not mental, but nervous...she gave me no advice... Then my dear Walter said that I should go and live my life, that it was right...but first I must take courage and work and

help get some money to make the change...I braced up, and set to work. Wrote a ghost story and divers poems. Did some note paper..." Her husband also brought home the medicine 'Essence of Oats' which she has found helpful. Page 10: "I have had one poem accepted by the *Prov. Journal*, price three dollars...have had one poem almost accepted by the *Atlantic*...and have had one poem accepted by the *Woman's Journal*." She also reports on paid work painting or inking note paper and dinner cards along with tutoring a pupil. Page 12: "...I am keeping my journal again... in a kind of dreary imitation, I am myself again."

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

October 28, 1886

October 28, 1886

5 pages

A.L.S. in ink on two leaves, each with a single vertical fold and two horizontal folds. Evidence of metal paper clip on pages 1 and [6].

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, October 28, 1886](#)

Scope and Contents

From 26 Humboldt Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island. Gilman comments on the birth of Lane's daughter Margaret and on her own work painting dinner cards and textiles. She has had a poem published in *Woman's Journal* and reprinted by the *Boston Sunday Herald*. "Truly this is fame!" On page 3: "Mr. Gillette [William Hooker Gillette] was here to tea last night; and afterward I read him the play..." Gilman also reports on the October 3 death of "Julia."

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

December 16, 1886

December 16, 1886

6 pages

A.L.S. in ink on two leaves, each with a single vertical fold and two horizontal folds. Page two has been mutilated: a 1.5 x 4.25 inch portion, lower right, below signature, has been excised.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, December 16, 1886](#)

Scope and Contents

From 26 Humboldt Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island.
After details of a possible visit, Gilman discusses her poem "The Answer" which had been published in *Woman's Journal* on October 2, 1886.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence

1887

Box 1

Folder 6

1887

March 10, 1887

March 10, 1887

4 pages

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, two horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, March 10, 1887](#)

Scope and Contents

From 26 Humboldt Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island.
Gilman and her daughter have both been ill, as has Lane and her daughter.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence

November 25, 1887

November 25, 1887

2 pages

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, two horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, November 25, 1887](#)

Scope and Contents

From Providence, Rhode Island. Addressed to "Pleasing Young Person," presumed to be Lane. Gilman will be visiting Boston on November 29. Signed, "Charlotte A. Perkins."

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence

December 18, 1887

December 18, 1887

4 pages

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, two horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, December 18, 1887](#)

Scope and Contents

From Providence, Rhode Island. Gilman writes of upcoming visit to Lane in Boston, and illustrates on page 2 the trunk she will bring.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence

1888

Box 1

Folder 7

1888

April 17, 1888

April 17, 1888

3 pages

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, two horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, April 17, 1888](#)

Scope and Contents

From 26 Humboldt Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence

August 3, 1888

August 3, 1888

4 pages

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, two horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, August 3, 1888](#)

Scope and Contents

From Bristol, Rhode Island. Gilman complements Lane on her family and writes of her upcoming plans to return to California with Grace Ellery Channing (1862-1937).
"...Walter is reconciled to the plan...As long as I stay

with him he will never leave me...This summer has proved for the fourth time that I get well when away from him ..." Page 4: "...Grace and I have written over our play and are to have a hearing from Gillette the last of August..."

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

August 27, 1888

August 27, 1888

4 pages

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, two horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, August 27, 1888](#)

Scope and Contents

From Bristol, Rhode Island. The play Gilman and Grace Ellery Channing have been working on has been conditionally accepted by William Hooker Gillette. She writes of her plans to go to Pasadena, where her husband would visit in the winter to paint for a few months before leaving for Europe.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

September 21, 1888

September 21, 1888

3 pages

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Three vertical folds, one horizontal fold. Brown staining to edge.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, September 21, 1888](#)

Scope and Contents

From 26 Humboldt Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island. "Came home Aug. 31st. Close the house tomorrow...Have begun a hack book "Gems of Art for the Home & Fireside" at request of J. A. & R. A. Reid, printer – to be done a week from today – 150 pages of com. note. No great work, but takes time. Only 18 pages done ..." She is planning to leave for California on October 8.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence

1889

Box 1

Folder 8

1889

September 7, 1889

September 7, 1889

8 pages

A.L.S. in ink on four lined leaves, each with two horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, September 7, 1889](#)

Scope and Contents

From Box 1877, Pasadena, California. Gilman encourages Lane to move to California, suggests that Mr. Lane could connect with fruit packing establishment. She writes of her various family members, publication of her "Girls of Today" in the July 6 *Woman's Journal* and her new position as co-editor of *The Pacific Monthly*.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence

Undated

Box 1

Folder 9

Scope and Contents

Based on content, context, and provenance, it is assumed that Martha Lane Luther lane was the receipt of these letters.

circa 1887

circa 1887 (*circa*)

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, two horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to Martha Allen Luther Lane, circa 1887](#)

Scope and Contents

Illustration on page 1: woman reading on a cliff above the sea with a man reclining behind her. Illustration on page 4: woman being transported aloft by two identical men. The letter seems to comment on baseball, referring to 18 men trying to catch a ball.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence

"Dear Marfa! Your two..."

3 pages

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, three horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - "Dear Marfa! Your two..."](#)

Scope and Contents

"Your two boxes with their lovely contents arrived yesterday... Am well, real well. Your own loving friend Charlotte. Merry Christmas! Walter sends regards love to baby."

Poem

1 pages

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Two horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Poem](#)

Scope and Contents

"I stop to add, dear Mrs. Lane / That we next week set off for Maine / And if you do not write again / Before that time it's very plain / That the production of your brain / Composed for me with toil and pain / Would not arrive, and I be fain / My head to twist and neck to crane/And ears to stretch and eyes to strain / To search for it, and search in vain / If I in sooth to search would deign / So write with all your might & main / The letter I desire to gain; / And write it without blot or stain / And loaded like a groaning wain / With literary fruit & grain / And loving words as thick as rain / Unless it be too great a drain / Upon your strength dear Mrs. Lane!"

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

Illustrated incomplete letter, 'Girl of Majorca'

1 page

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, multiple horizontal folds. Numbered by Gilman, pages 3 and 4.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Illustrated incomplete letter, 'Girl of Majorca'](#)

Scope and Contents

On page 3, a rhyme by Edward Lear, "There was a Young Girl of Majorca" accompanied by an illustration of a woman being led up a mountain by several men, one of whom is serving as a step. On page 4, an illustration of a veiled woman is surrounded by manuscript.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

Illustrated incomplete letter beginning "are to be comparatively near us..."

1 page

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, multiple horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Illustrated incomplete letter beginning "are to be comparatively near us..."](#)

Scope and Contents

Numbered by Gilman pages 5 and 6. Page 5 includes an illustration of a woman looking out of a window while another passes on the street below, presumably related to Gilman's writing "you can catch me as I go to Ada's..." On page 6, Gilman expresses surprise that Lane might move to a house she's not seen and illustrates it with a woman startled by mice and insects coming out of an open door.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

Illustrated incomplete letter beginning "It is the right spirit..."

1 page

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, multiple horizontal folds.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Illustrated incomplete letter beginning "It is the right spirit..."](#)

Scope and Contents

Pages numbered 5 and 6 by Gilman. Page 5 is illustrated with a couple seated on chairs, apparently Martha and Chester Lane.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence
-

Incomplete letter beginning "7:30 a.m. 19th", 1887-88?

4 pages

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, two horizontal folds. Apparently lacking pages 2-9.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Incomplete letter beginning "7:30 a.m. 19th"](#)

Scope and Contents

"...Having recovered from my 'blues' I may state that I am well...The same may be said of Walter; both of our heavens being much clouded by lack of means ..." Page

12: "My novel is as yet untouched..." Signed "Charlotte A. Perkins."

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence

Incomplete letter beginning "It is a cooperative dress-making..."

4 pages

A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, two horizontal folds. Numbered by Gilman pages 9-12 only.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Incomplete letter beginning "It is a cooperative dress-making..."](#)

Scope and Contents

Apparently from California: "Also I mean to give some lectures in Los Angeles if it can be managed. By these various devices shall I keep the wolves from the door; and add mightily to my fame in these parts ... I am much interested in *the Nationalist*. She reports that she has been corresponding with her father. Signed Charlette Perkins Stetson.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Correspondence

Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to A. Fanny Alden

Scope and Contents

Correspondence to persons other than Martha Luther Lane.

Title/Description	Contents List	
November 17, 1884	Box 1	Folder 10
November 17, 1884		
4 pages		
A.L.S. in ink on one leaf. Single vertical fold, three horizontal folds.		
<u>Digital Object:</u> Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Correspondence from Charlotte Perkins Gilman to A. Fanny Alden, November 17, 1884		
Scope and Contents		
From Wayland Street, Providence, Rhode Island. Gilman read ancient history under Alden's direction for two years and the women became friends. Here Gilman discusses		

her pregnancy and her current reading on free trade and political economy.

General correspondence

Scope and Contents

Relationship of these documents to either Charlotte Perkins Gilman or to Martha Luther Lane is unclear.

Title/Description	Contents List	
<p>Maria S. Eaton to F. A. Canfield, March 6, 1879</p> <p>1 pages</p> <p>On Wellesley College letterhead.</p> <p>Digital Object: Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Maria S. Eaton to F. A. Canfield</p>	Box 1	Folder 11
Scope and Contents		
<p>Professor Eaton thanks Canfield for mineral specimens and asks for information concerning Anomalite.</p>		
<p>"Dear Brother Rufus"</p> <p>3 pages</p> <p>A.L.S. in ink on one leaf of embossed stationery. Single vertical fold, two horizontal folds. Some staining.</p> <p>Digital Object: Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - "Dear Brother Rufus"</p>	Box 1	Folder 11
<u>Controlled Access Headings:</u>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Correspondence 		
<p>"Dear Gladys", September 1, 1893</p> <p>4 pages</p> <p>A.L.S. in pencil on one leaf. Two vertical folds, one horizontal folds. Illustrated.</p> <p>Digital Object: Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - "Dear Gladys"</p>	Box 1	Folder 11
Scope and Contents		
<p>Relates details of a visit to the Chicago World's Fair. Possibly incomplete.</p>		

Documents

Title/Description	Contents List	
<p>"First Society"</p> <p>1 pages</p> <p>A.L.S. in ink on one leaf.</p>	Box 1	Folder 11

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - "First Society"](#)

Scope and Contents

Notes on the building of a meeting house.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Notes (Documents)

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series II: Advertising trade cards designed by Gilman, 1878-1884

1878-1884

Cards for Kendall Manufacturing Co., Providence, Rhode Island

Title/Description	Contents List	
Soapine French Laundry Soap, "Dirt killer": Female archer in "killer" hat shooting at a "dirt" target. On back: "Kendall Mfg. Co. Soaps and Soapine... To protect yourself from the evil..." Digital Object: Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Soapine French Laundry Soap, "Dirt killer": Female archer in "killer" hat shooting at a "dirt" target. Immediate Source of Acquisition: Immediate Source of Acquisition Purchase, 2017.	Box 1	Folder 12
Three children playing telephone with Soapine and French Laundry soap boxes On back: "French Laundry is the best soap ever made..." Digital Object: Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Three children playing telephone with Soapine and French Laundry soap boxes Immediate Source of Acquisition: Immediate Source of Acquisition Purchase, 2017.	Box 1	Folder 12
Magician touching the hand of a woman, Soapine spelled out by the stars On back: "Cleanliness in the house, laundry, kitchen and workshop is best secured..."	Box 1	Folder 12

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Magician touching the hand of a woman, Soapine spelled out by the stars](#)

Immediate Source of Acquisition:

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchase, 2017.

Woman with laundry basket and clothesline, clothes spelling out Soapine	Box 1	Folder 12
---	-------	-----------

"Soapine the Great Dirt Killer, Will Remove Dirt of All Descriptions..."

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Woman with laundry basket and clothesline, clothes spelling out Soapine](#)

Immediate Source of Acquisition:

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchase, 2017.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Advertising cards

Woman with duster and a mantelpiece, figurines spell out Soapine	Box 1	Folder 12
--	-------	-----------

2 cards

On back: "For Washing and Cleaning Everything, No Matter What..."

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Woman with duster and a mantelpiece, figurines spell out Soapine](#)

Immediate Source of Acquisition:

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Victor Markiewicz, 1998.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Advertising cards

"Look Out for Soapine:" Man following a woman along train tracks with a Soapine train coming up behind him	Box 1	Folder 12
--	-------	-----------

On back: "Soapine a perfect compound for washing..."

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - "Look Out for Soapine:" Man following a woman along train tracks with a Soapine train coming up behind him](#)

Immediate Source of Acquisition:

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Victor Markiewicz, 1998.

Sailor hanging in the rigging of a ship	Box 1	Folder 12
---	-------	-----------

On back: "Soapine is the best article known..."

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Sailor hanging in the rigging of a ship](#)

Immediate Source of Acquisition:

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Victor Markiewicz, 1998.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Advertising cards

Man on telephone pole, birds spell out Soapine	Box 1	Folder 12
--	-------	-----------

On back: "For Washing & Cleaning Everything, No Matter What..."

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Man on telephone pole, birds spell out Soapine](#)

Immediate Source of Acquisition:

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Victor Markiewicz, 1998.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Advertising cards

Cards for Curtis Davis and Co., Boston, Massachusetts

Title/Description	Contents List	
Two women, a valentine and Cupid holding a box marked "Welcome Soap"	Box 1	Folder 13
Printed by Donaldson Brothers, Five Points, New York. Back of card is blank.		
<u>Digital Object:</u> Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Two women, a valentine and Cupid holding a box marked "Welcome Soap"		
Immediate Source of Acquisition:		
Immediate Source of Acquisition		
Purchase, 2017.		

"Three Ages of Woman" cards

6 cards

Immediate Source of Acquisition:

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchase, 2012.

Scope and Contents

As a series, these cards depict a female maturing from childhood to old age. Each figure is dressed distinctly, and each head surrounded by a different flower.

Title/Description	Contents List	
<p>Child framed by pink morning glory</p> <p>Back of card printed: "J.K. Niles. Dealer in stoves and hardware...825 South Halsted Street, Chicago."</p> <p><u>Digital Object:</u> Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Child framed by pink morning glory</p> <p><u>Controlled Access Headings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advertising cards 	Box 1	Folder 14
<p>Girl framed by yellow poppy</p> <p>1 card</p> <p>Printed on back of card: Westland Safety Lamp Co., announcement of a "branch holiday store" at 170 Westminster St. and a description of the goods for sale.</p> <p><u>Digital Object:</u> Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Girl framed by yellow poppy</p> <p><u>Controlled Access Headings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advertising cards 	Box 1	Folder 14
<p>Girl framed by sunflower</p> <p>1 card</p> <p>Back of card is blank.</p> <p><u>Digital Object:</u> Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Girl framed by sunflower</p> <p><u>Controlled Access Headings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advertising cards 	Box 1	Folder 14
<p>Girl framed by calla lilly</p> <p>2 cards</p> <p>Printed on the image side of one card is: "Clinton Bros. and Co. manufacturers and publishers of chromo and beveled edge cards, Clintonville, Conn." Printed on the back of the second card is: "Prof. Fair's Hair Care....Providence, R.I."</p> <p><u>Digital Object:</u> Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Girl framed by calla lilly</p> <p>Immediate Source of Acquisition:</p>	Box 1	Folder 14

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source of the card stamped "Clinton Bros. and Co." is unknown

Controlled Access Headings:

- Advertising cards

Young woman framed by pink rose

Box 1

Folder 14

1 card

Back of card is blank.

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Young woman framed by pink rose](#)

Controlled Access Headings:

- Advertising cards

Nun framed by purple geranium

Box 1

Folder 14

Back of card stamped: "N. Bangs Williams & Co.,
booksellers...Providence, R.I."

Digital Object: [Charlotte Perkins Gilman Papers - Nun framed by purple geranium](#)

Controlled Access Headings:

- Advertising cards

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