

# **John Russell Young Papers**

## **A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



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**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress  
Washington, D.C.  
2010**

Contact information:

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Additional search options available at:

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms011236>

LC Online Catalog record:

<http://lcn.loc.gov/mm78046854>

Prepared by Roger Preston and Lloyd Dunlap

## Collection Summary

**Title:** John Russell Young Papers

**Span Dates:** circa 1840-1959

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1858-1898)

**ID No.:** MSS46854

**Creator:** Young, John Russell, 1841-1899

**Extent:** 28,000 items ; 46 containers plus 1 oversize ; 12.4 linear feet ; 3 microfilm reels

**Language:** Collection material in English

**Location:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**Summary:** Journalist, editor, diplomat, and Librarian of Congress. Correspondence, diaries, writings, biography with annotations, Dow family papers, scrapbook, photographs, and other papers relating primarily to Young's career as a journalist and association with Ulysses S. Grant.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### People

Alexander, Edward Porter, 1835-1910--Correspondence.  
Arthur, Chester Alan, 1829-1886--Correspondence.  
Beecher, Henry Ward, 1813-1887--Correspondence.  
Bryce, James Bryce, Viscount, 1838-1922--Correspondence.  
Chase, Salmon P. (Salmon Portland), 1808-1873--Correspondence.  
Clemens, Samuel Langhorne, 1835-1910--Correspondence.  
Conkling, Roscoe, 1829-1888--Correspondence.  
Cooke, Jay, 1821-1905--Correspondence.  
Daly, Augustin, 1838-1899--Correspondence.  
Dana, Charles A. (Charles Anderson), 1819-1897--Correspondence.  
Dickens, Charles, 1812-1870--Correspondence.  
Dow family.  
Eisenhower, Dwight D. (Dwight David), 1890-1969--Correspondence.  
Emerson, Ralph Waldo, 1803-1882--Correspondence.  
Forney, John W. (John Wien), 1817-1881--Correspondence.  
Garfield, James A. (James Abram), 1831-1881--Correspondence.  
George, Henry, 1839-1897--Correspondence.  
Gordon, James B. (James Byron), 1822-1864--Correspondence.  
Grant, Ulysses S. (Ulysses Simpson), 1822-1885--Correspondence.  
Grant, Ulysses S. (Ulysses Simpson), 1822-1885.  
Greeley, Horace, 1811-1872--Correspondence.  
Harrison, Benjamin, 1833-1901--Correspondence.  
Hay, John, 1838-1905--Correspondence.  
Holmes, Oliver Wendell, 1809-1894--Correspondence.  
Howard, O. O. (Oliver Otis), 1830-1909--Correspondence.  
Howells, William Dean, 1837-1920--Correspondence.  
Latrobe, Osmun--Correspondence.  
Li, Hongzhang, 1823-1901.  
Longfellow, Charles Appleton--Correspondence.  
Lowell, James Russell, 1819-1891--Correspondence.  
McCook, Anson G. (Anson George), 1835-1917--Correspondence.  
McKinley, William, 1843-1901--Correspondence.  
Mills, Stephen Crosby, Mrs.--Correspondence.  
Morgan, Edwin D. (Edwin Denison), 1811-1883--Correspondence.

Phillips, Wendell, 1811-1884--Correspondence.  
Reid, Whitelaw, 1837-1912--Correspondence.  
Schurz, Carl, 1829-1906--Correspondence.  
Sheridan, Philip Henry, 1831-1888--Correspondence.  
Sherman, William T. (William Tecumseh), 1820-1891--Correspondence.  
Sickles, Daniel Edgar, 1819-1914--Correspondence.  
Smith, Hoke, 1855-1931--Correspondence.  
Stanley, Henry M. (Henry Morton), 1841-1904--Correspondence.  
Sumner, Charles, 1811-1874--Correspondence.  
Taylor, Bayard, 1825-1878--Correspondence.  
Watterson, Henry, 1840-1921--Correspondence.  
White, Andrew Dickson, 1832-1918--Correspondence.  
Young, Dorothy Mills--Correspondence.  
Young, G. R. (Gordon Russell), 1891- --Correspondence.  
Young, John Russell, 1840-1899.  
Young, Mary Dow Davids. Mary Dow Davids Young correspondence and diaries.

### **Organizations**

Library of Congress--Officials and employees.  
United States Military Academy--Students.

### **Subjects**

Journalism--United States.  
Voyages around the world--History--19th century.

### **Places**

United States--Politics and government--19th century.

### **Occupations**

Diplomats.  
Editors.  
Journalists.  
Librarians of Congress.

## **Administrative Information**

### **Provenance**

The papers of John Russell Young, journalist, editor, diplomat, and Librarian of Congress, were given to the Library of Congress by his wife, Mary Dow Davids Young, their son, G. R. Young, and his wife, Dorothy Mills Young, 1924-1927. Additional material was given by the District of Columbia Public Library, Washington, D.C., 1937. Some items from the initial accessions were transferred after their receipt to the papers of Ulysses S. Grant.

### **Processing History**

A portion of the Young Papers was processed in and bound in 1925. Other portions were arranged and described in 1965-1967, with additional material incorporated into the collection in 1978. The finding aid was revised in 2010.

### **Related Material**

The papers of [Ulysses S. Grant](#) in the Manuscript Division include material removed from the Young collection and placed in Series I, Subseries B of the Grant Papers. The items may be identified by the notation "AC.2994" placed in the lower right-hand corner of each page.

### **Copyright Status**

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of John Russell Young is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

## Access and Restrictions

The papers of John Russell Young are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

## Microfilm

A microfilm edition of part of these papers is available on three reels. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, John Russell Young Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1840, Nov. 20	Born, Dunnamanna, County Tyrone, Ireland
1841	Emigrated to U. S. with parents
1856	Apprenticed to printing office in Philadelphia, Pa.
1861	Private secretary to John W. Forney, Washington, D.C. Published first account of Battle of Bull Run
1862	One of the founders of Union League of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pa.
1864	Joined staff of General Nathaniel Prentiss Banks, Red River Campaign
1865	Established <i>Morning Post</i> Joined firm of Jay Cooke & Co.
1866-1869	Managing editor, <i>New York Tribune</i> Admitted to New York bar
1869-1870	Founded <i>New York Standard</i>
1870	Special agent of the secretary of the treasury in Europe.
1871	Sent to Europe on confidential mission by Secretary of State Hamilton Fish
1872	In Paris, France, where he joined the <i>New York Herald</i>
1877	In London, England, where he joined Ulysses S. Grant on world tour
1879	Published <i>Around the World with General Grant</i>
1882-1885	United States minister to China
1888	Sent to London, England, to establish an English edition of <i>New York Herald</i>
1891	Director, Union League of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pa.

1897                      Appointed Librarian of Congress

1899, Jan. 17            Died, Washington, D.C.

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of John Russell Young (1840-1899) span the years circa 1840-1959, with the bulk from 1858 to 1898. The collection includes the [correspondence](#) and [diaries](#) of Young and his wife, Mary Dow Davids Young; writings; [biography](#) with annotations; a [scrapbook](#); photographs, and other papers relating chiefly to Young's career as a journalist. There is [Dow family](#) correspondence from the 1840s through the 1880s, including correspondence, 1918-1920, to Mrs. Stephen Crosby Mills from Dorothy Mills (Young), the future wife of Young's son, G. R. Young. The [General Correspondence](#) of John Russell Young relates primarily to political and journalist matters. A topic of particular significance in the series is a visit to the United States in 1896 of Chinese leader Hongzhang Li.

As a result of his tour around the world with ex-President Ulysses S. Grant, John Russell Young was able to obtain many originals of Grant's incoming and some outgoing correspondence. This material has been removed from the Young Papers and incorporated into the Grant Papers also available in the Manuscript Division.

The [Special Correspondence and Miscellany](#) series includes three volumes of mounted manuscripts. The first volume contains twenty-three items from Grant to Young, November 15, 1870-August 25, 1883 and undated. The second volume contains correspondence, September 26, 1864-November 4, 1895, with Henry Ward Beecher, Charles Dickens, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Charles Appleton Longfellow, James Russell Lowell, Wendell Phillips, Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894), and others. The third volume relates to a planned meeting in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in 1893 and letters of reply to Young from Edward Porter Alexander, James B. Gordon, O. O. Howard, William Dean Howells, Osmun Latrobe, Hoke Smith, Anson G. McCook, Daniel Edward Sickles, and others.

The [Addition](#) includes letters from Dwight D. Eisenhower to Dorothy Mills Young when he was at the United States Military Academy.

Other correspondents include Chester Alan Arthur; James Bryce, viscount Bryce; Salmon P. Chase; Samuel Langhorne Clemens; Roscoe Conkling; Jay Cooke; Augustin Daly; Charles A. Dana; John W. Forney; James A. Garfield; Henry George; Horace Greeley; Benjamin Harrison; John Hay; William McKinley; Edwin D. Morgan; Whitelaw Reid; Carl Schurz; Philip Henry Sheridan; William T. Sherman; Henry M. Stanley; Bayard Taylor; Henry Watterson; and Andrew Dickson White.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in eleven series:

- [General Correspondence, 1854-1898](#)
- [Biography of Young](#)
- [Press Clippings, 1854](#)
- [Miscellany, 1877-1879](#)
- [General Correspondence, 1897-1920](#)
- [Special Correspondence and Miscellany, 1864-1899](#)
- [Dow Family Papers, circa 1840-1890](#)
- [Diaries of John Russell Young and Mary Dow Davids Young, 1865-1923](#)
- [Scrapbook, 1843-1850](#)
- [Addition, 1890-1959](#)
- [Oversize](#)

## Description of Series

### *Container*

BOX 1-25  
not filmed

### *Series*

#### **General Correspondence, 1854-1898**

Letters sent and received.  
Arranged chronologically.

BOX 26-29  
not filmed

#### **Biography of Young**

Annotated and corrected typescript of "John Russell Young, His Life and Correspondence."  
Arranged in bound volumes.

BOX 30  
not filmed

#### **Press Clippings, 1854**

Bound volume of clippings titled "The Press of the U.S. on the Letter Written by Horace Greeley in 1854 to [William H.] Seward When They Were Whigs."

BOX 31  
not filmed

#### **Miscellany, 1877-1879**

Bound volume including memorabilia and holograph text and corrected proofs describing the world tour of Ulysses S. Grant in 1877-1879.

BOX 32  
not filmed

#### **General Correspondence, 1897-1920**

Correspondence of Young and his wife, Mary Dow Davids Young, and of his daughter-in-law, Dorothy Mills Young, and her mother and their family.  
Arranged chronologically within the two groups.

BOX 33  
not filmed

#### **Special Correspondence and Miscellany, 1864-1899**

Bound volumes of correspondence addressed to Young from Ulysses S. Grant, 1870-1883; by literary figures of the period, 1864-1895; concerning a reunion at Gettysburg, Pa., in 1893; and miscellaneous letters, 1890-1899. Also invitations and photographs.  
Organized by topic or type of material.

BOX 34-35  
not filmed

#### **Dow Family Papers, circa 1840-1890**

Correspondence, journals and a diary, financial material, photographs, and miscellaneous items.  
Arranged in two sets and therein by type of material

BOX 36-39  
REEL 1-3

#### **Diaries of John Russell Young and Mary Dow Davids Young, 1865-1923**

Diaries of Young and his wife.  
Arranged in separate groups.

BOX 40  
not filmed

#### **Scrapbook, 1843-1850**

Newspaper clippings.

BOX 41-45  
not filmed

Addition, 1890-1959

Correspondence and miscellany.  
Arranged by type of material.

BOX OV 1  
not filmed

Oversize

Certificates and awards.  
Arranged and described according to the series and container from which the items were removed.

# Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
<b>BOX 1-25</b> not filmed	<b>General Correspondence, 1854-1898</b>  Letters sent and received. Arranged chronologically.
<b>BOX 1</b>	1854, Dec. 12-1863, Aug. 12
<b>BOX 2</b>	1863, Aug. 20-1865, Nov. 8
<b>BOX 3</b>	1865, Nov. 19-1867, Mar. 20
<b>BOX 4</b>	1867, Mar. 22-1868, Jan. 23
<b>BOX 5</b>	1868, Feb. 1-1868, Aug. 30
<b>BOX 6</b>	6 1868, Aug. 31-1869, Jan. 15
<b>BOX 7</b>	7 1869, Jan. 16-1869, July 19
<b>BOX 8</b>	8 1869, July 20-1873, Mar. 25
<b>BOX 9</b>	9 1873, Mar. 27-1875, Jan. 16
<b>BOX 10</b>	1875, Jan. 18-1878, Aug. 18
<b>BOX 11</b>	1878, Aug.-1879, July 7
<b>BOX 12</b>	1879, July 8-1880, Jan. 1
<b>BOX 13</b>	1880, Jan. 8-1880, Dec. 27
<b>BOX 14</b>	1880, Dec. 28-1882, Mar. 8
<b>BOX 15</b>	1882, Mar. 9-1883, May 19
<b>BOX 16</b>	1883, May 23-1884, Jan. 10
<b>BOX 17</b>	1884, Jan. 12-1885, June 4?
<b>BOX 18</b>	1885, June 5-1889, Jan. 10
<b>BOX 19</b>	1889, Jan. 17-1890, Oct. 13
<b>BOX 19A</b>	1890, Oct. 2-1890, Oct. 10
<b>BOX 20</b>	1890, Oct. 14-1891, Dec. 20
<b>BOX 21</b>	1891, Dec. 21-1893, Feb. 19
<b>BOX 22</b>	1893, Feb. 20-1896, Aug. 17
<b>BOX 23</b>	1896, Aug. 20-1898, Jan. 3
<b>BOX 24</b>	1898, Jan. 5-1898, Dec. 28, undated
<b>BOX 25</b>	Undated
<b>BOX 26-29</b> not filmed	<b>Biography of Young</b>  Annotated and corrected typescript of "John Russell Young, His Life and Correspondence." Arranged in bound volumes.
<b>BOX 26</b>	Vol. 1
<b>BOX 27</b>	Vol. 2
<b>BOX 28</b>	Vol. 3
<b>BOX 29</b>	Vol. 4
<b>BOX 30</b>	<b>Press Clippings, 1854</b>

## Press Clippings, 1854

### Container

### Contents

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not filmed

Bound volume of clippings titled "The Press of the U.S. on the Letter Written by Horace Greeley in 1854 to [William H.] Seward When They Were Whigs."

BOX 30

"The Press of the U.S. on the Letter Written by Horace Greeley in 1854 to [William H.] Seward When They Were Whigs," 1854

BOX 31

#### Miscellany, 1877-1879

not filmed

Bound volume including memorabilia and holograph text and corrected proofs describing the world tour of Ulysses S. Grant in 1877-1879.

BOX 31

World tour with Ulysses S. Grant, memorabilia and written account by Young, 1877-1879

BOX 32

#### General Correspondence, 1897-1920

not filmed

Correspondence of Young and his wife, Mary Dow Davids Young, and of his daughter-in-law, Dorothy Mills Young, and her mother and their family.

Arranged chronologically within the two groups.

BOX 32

Young, John Russell and Mary Dow Davids, 1897, Jan. 29-1908, Aug. 30

BOX 32

Young, Dorothy Mills, and others, 1918, Feb. 24-1920, Apr. 25, undated

BOX 33

#### Special Correspondence and Miscellany, 1864-1899

not filmed

Bound volumes of correspondence addressed to Young from Ulysses S. Grant, 1870-1883; by literary figures of the period, 1864-1895; concerning a reunion at Gettysburg, Pa., in 1893; and miscellaneous letters, 1890-1899. Also invitations and photographs.

Organized by topic or type of material.

BOX 33

"Autograph Letters from Charles Dickens and Others," 1864-1895

BOX 33

"Autograph Letters of General Grant," 1870-1883

BOX 33

"Souvenir of a Reunion at Gettysburg," Gettysburg, Pa., Apr. 28, 1893

BOX 33

Miscellaneous letters and cards, 1890-1899

BOX 33

Invitation to decoration of Grant's Tomb, New York, N.Y., and miscellaneous photographs, 1877-1886

BOX 34-35

#### Dow Family Papers, circa 1840-1890

not filmed

Correspondence, journals and a diary, financial material, photographs, and miscellaneous items.

Arranged in two sets and therein by type of material

BOX 34

Set I

BOX 34

Correspondence

BOX 34

Diary, James G. Dow

BOX 34

Envelopes and notes

BOX 34

Financial and school papers

BOX 34

Journals and diary, Mrs. James G. Dow

BOX 34

Photographs

## Dow Family Papers, circa 1840-1890

### Container

### Contents

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BOX 34	Printed matter
BOX 35	Set II
BOX 35	Correspondence
BOX 35	Memorial of James G. Dow
BOX 35	Poetry and miscellany
BOX 36-39 REEL 1-3	<b>Diaries of John Russell Young and Mary Dow Davids Young, 1865-1923</b>
	Diaries of Young and his wife. Arranged in separate groups.
BOX 36 REEL 1-2	Young, John Russell
BOX 37 REEL 2-3	1865, 1868-1870, 1872-1873, 1875-1880, 1883, 1886
BOX 38 REEL 2-3	1887-1893, 1896-1898
BOX 38 REEL 2-3	Young, Mary Dow Davids 1887-1893, 1896-1898
BOX 38 REEL 2-3	1891-1892, 1897, 1901, 1906-1912, 1914-1916
BOX 39 not filmed	1917-1923
BOX 40 not filmed	<b>Scrapbook, 1843-1850</b>
	Newspaper clippings.
BOX 40 not filmed	Newspaper clippings, circa 1843-1850
BOX 41-45 not filmed	<b>Addition, 1890-1959</b>
	Correspondence and miscellany. Arranged by type of material.
BOX 41 not filmed	Letters to John Russell Young, 1890-1892
BOX 41 not filmed	Letters to Dorothy Mills, from Dwight D. Eisenhower, Paul A. Hodgson, and George Fenn Lewis, 1914-1915, undated
BOX 41 not filmed	Letters from Gordon Russell Young to Mary Dow Davids ( his mother), 1917-1919, undated
BOX 41 not filmed	Correspondence, Dwight D. Eisenhower and Dorothy Mills Young, 1955-1959
BOX 41 not filmed	Miscellany, 1919-1951, undated
BOX 41 not filmed	Clippings
BOX 41 not filmed	Programs

## Addition, 1890-1959

### Container

### Contents

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BOX 41 not filmed	Photographs
BOX 41 not filmed	Certificates and awards <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 42-43 not filmed	Young, Gordon Russell
BOX 42-43 not filmed	Correspondence, memoranda, photographs, and speeches
BOX 44 not filmed	Correspondence with his mother, Mary Dow Davids Young, 1908-1923
BOX 45 not filmed	Published books
BOX 45 not filmed	<i>Around the World with General Grant by Young.</i>
BOX 45 not filmed	<i>The Innocents by Sinclair Lewis.</i>
BOX 45 not filmed	<i>Men and Memories by John Russell Young</i>
	(2 vols).
BOX 45 not filmed	<i>Our Mr. Wrenn by Sinclair Lewis.</i>
BOX 45 not filmed	<i>The Prince of India by Lew Wallace</i>
	(2 vols.)
BOX 45 not filmed	<i>The Second Division</i>
BOX 45 not filmed	Unpublished writing, Pettit, H. W., "Life and Adventures of Theophilis Bird, A. D."
BOX OV 1 not filmed	<b>Oversize</b>
	Certificates and awards. Arranged and described according to the series and container from which the items were removed.
BOX OV 1	Miscellany
BOX OV 1	Certificates and awards (Container 41)