

LUCIEN MERRIAM ROYCE COLLECTION
1740-1944

Introduction

Lucien Merriam Royce (or Rice) was born in Bristol, Connecticut, December 21, 1838, son of Enos and Sarah (Atwater) Royce.¹ He worked for a wholesale drug company until the start of the Civil War when he enlisted on August 26, 1862, as a private in Company A, 25th Regiment, Connecticut Volunteer Infantry.² In December 1862 he was "writing" at the Quartermasters Office. By February 1863 he was working at the hospital in Baton Rouge. In a letter to his mother dated June 30, 1863, he writes "on Sunday the 21st I was sent to take chg. as Steward of the Officers Hospital..." at Baton Rouge, La. Then in November 1863 he received orders to report for duty on the U.S.S. Acacia. He was the only medical officer on board and took medical charge. He served as Surgeon's Steward on the U.S.S. Acacia from December 8, 1863, to May 11, 1865, when he was honorably discharged from the Naval Service.

Mr. Royce graduated from the New York College of Pharmacy, receiving his diploma on March 15, 1866,³ and was one of the first graduates of the college, now a department of Columbia University. He became involved in perfecting and introducing a new process for refining petroleum, and in 1869 Letters Patent were issued to Lucien M. Rice of Hartford, Connecticut, and Sidney E. Adams of Charlestown, Massachusetts, for "Improved Apparatus for Treating Hydrocarbon Oils."

Moving to New York, Mr. Royce worked for many years for McKesson & Robbins, Wholesale Druggists. On October 15, 1872, he married Emma G. Hollister in Poquonock, Connecticut. Bible records indicate their children, Helen Elisabeth Royce, Lucy Atwater Royce, and Robert Hollister Royce, were baptized at All Saints Episcopal Church, Brooklyn, New York, on April 29, 1888. In 1890 he was senior member of firm of L. M. Royce & Co., Pharmacists, Brooklyn, New York, and was active for the Alumni Association of the College of Pharmacy of the City of New York.

In 1903 he moved to Hartford, and subsequently operated retail drug businesses in Madison and then in Meriden, Connecticut. The 1906 Meriden City Directory lists a Lucien M. Royce as "mgr. Rulon's Linsley Avenue Pharmacy." There is notation in the Bible records that "Lucien Merriam Royce died in Meriden suddenly May 23, 1907." Our cemetery inscriptions indicate he is buried at Elm Grove Cemetery, Windsor, Connecticut, and his date of death is given as May 24, 1907, age 68 years.

The collection was given to the Library 1944-45 and earlier by Helen E. Royce, daughter of Lucien M. Royce. It consists of deeds and other papers relating to the Royce, Atwater and Phelps families; correspondence and diaries of Lucien M. Royce; a few items pertaining to Helen Royce; photographs; pamphlets, and books.

Total: 2 feet, 11 inches.

¹Bible records in this collection and Conn. census records.

²Records of Connecticut Men in the War of Rebellion.

³1866 Diary in this collection.

List of Records

1. Early manuscripts, 1740-1840, relating to the Royce (Rice) family. Box 1
- a. Deeds of Abel Royce of Farmington, Conn., 1744-1753.
(Docs. 1-9)
 - b. Survey of land of Nehemiah Royce in Wallingford, Conn.,
Feb. 23, 1740 (copy). (Doc. 10)
 - c. Deeds of Nehemiah Royce of Farmington and Bristol, Conn.,
1747-1790. (Docs. 11-26)
 - d. Deed of Abigail Jones, widow of Nehemiah Royce, May 3, 1810.
(Doc. 27)
 - e. Deeds of Lent Royce, son of Nehemiah, Bristol, Conn.,
1790-1806. (Docs. 28-37)
 - f. Surveys of Lent Royce's farm, May 27, 1807. (Docs. 38 & 39)
 - g. Notes of Jeremiah Rice to heirs of Lent Royce, 1814-1830.
(Docs. 40-50)
 - h. Deed of Nehemiah Rice of Claremont, N.H. to Jeremiah Rice
of Bristol, Conn., Nov. 29, 1810. (Doc. 51)
 - i. Deeds of Abel Rice of Claremont, N.H. to Lent Rice of
Bristol, Conn., 1806. (Docs. 52 & 53)
 - j. Deeds and related papers of Jeremiah Roice of Bristol,
Conn. (son of Lent), 1814-1835. (Docs. 54-64)
 - k. Certificates by school committee showing Jeremiah Royce
is qualified to teach, 1809-1829, and certificate
by Jeremiah Rice showing Naomi Rice has been at the
head of her class, Feb. 9, 1816. (Docs. 65-74)
 - l. Certificates by school committee showing Sarah M. Rice is
qualified to teach, 1836-1840. (Docs. 75-77)
 - m. Letter to Jeremiah Rice from Sarah Stone, 1825; accounts, 1814.
(Docs. 78-81)
 - n. Abstracts from Records of the Colony of Connecticut relating
to New Cambridge Society in Bristol, Conn., 1742-1821,
and from Farmington land records, 1748-1821. (Doc. 82)
 - o. Records of the Society of the Episcopalians in the towns of
Bristol and Burlington, Conn., 1822-1825. (Doc. 83)
 - p. Family Bible records of the Royce family. 4 pages.
(Doc. 84)
- Total: 3 inches.
2. Early manuscripts, 1741-1864, 1915, relating to the Atwater, Phelps
and other families. Box 1
- a. Deeds and papers of Isaac Atwater of Wallingford,
Plymouth and Bristol, Conn., 1784-1834.
(Docs. 85-101)
 - b. Deeds of Phinehas Carey, Nathaniel Cary and Ebenezer Gray
to John Fitch of Windham, Conn., 1786-1795.
(Docs. 102-104)
 - c. Receipts of Joshua Smith, deputy collector for 7th District,
Conn., 1815. (Docs. 105-109)
 - d. License issued to Roderick Rose of Mansfield, Conn., to sell
merchandise at his store in Mansfield, March 1, 1817.
(Doc. 110)

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3. Correspondence and papers of Lucien Merriam Royce (cont.)
- g. "Notes of Examinations and samples of Laudanum,"
Feb. 22, 1871, and other notes. (1 folder)
 - h. Letter, March 13, 1888, from Lucien Royce at Brooklyn,
N.Y. to his sister Amy, giving account of snow storm.
- Total: 5 inches.
4. Diaries and notebooks of Lucien Royce, 1853-1907 Boxes 3 & 4
[with gaps], 50 vols.
Includes diaries for Civil War years, college, etc.
Also, one manuscript volume containing copies of hospital
tickets, reports and official correspondence, and register of
patients, 1863-1865, kept by L. M. Rice, Surgeon Steward.
10 inches.
5. Helen E. Royce material: Box 5
- a. Diary, 1915 (1 vol.).
 - b. Letters and newspaper clippings, 1944, relating to
changing location of Corning fountain. (1 folder)
 - c. Notes on silver service made of U.S. silver dollars
for Major Hutchinson Buell, ancestor of Miss Royce.
[CSL at one time was given a silver tumbler, but
this was returned to Miss Royce in 1951 at her
request.] (1 folder)
 - d. Photostats brought in by Miss Royce Oct. 24, 1939:
 - 1. Roll of 2nd Co., 1st Regiment, Horse Artillery
of 1812, Captain Thaddeus Cook's Co.
Manuscript and typewritten copies,
photostats of.
[CSL has typewritten copy catalogued in
main vault under call no. 973.5 C763h.]
 - 2. Letters (3) from Eunice Royce, Sherburne, N.Y.
to her mother, Mrs. James M. Beebe, at
Lyme, Conn., 1831-1832. [Original letters
not found in catalogued manuscripts.]
6. Photographs: Box 5
- a. Lucien M. Royce (in uniform). No. 1.
 - b. Brooklyn (Corvette Americaine). Nos. 2-4.
 - c. Squad No. 2, Co. A, 25th Conn. Vols., Sept. 1862. No. 5.
 - d. Burying Ground of 25th Regt., Conn. Vols., Baton Rouge.
No. 6.
 - e. Camp of 3rd Brigade at Baton Rouge, La., 1863. No. 7.
 - f. Trinity Church, Boston. No. 8.
 - g. Group of photographs by N. E. Lusher: Banana groves,
palmetto trees, ruins, royal palms, cocconut palms, etc.
Nos. 9-21.
 - h. College of Pharmacy Professors. No. 22.
 - i. Unidentified photo of nine men. No. 23.
 - j. Print of soldiers: "The Assembly." No. 24.

2. Early manuscripts relating to the Atwater, Phelps and other families (cont.).
- e. Deeds and estate papers, 1741-1829, of the Phelps family.
(Josiah Phelps was ancestor of Emma Hollister, wife of Lucien Merriam Royce.)
 - 1. Deeds, bond, and deposition, 1741-1828, of Josiah Phelps of Windsor, Conn., and his son, Josiah Phelps, Jr. (Docs. 111-118)
 - 2. Inventory of estate of Benjamin Griswold of Windsor, Conn., Aug. 23, 1823. (Doc. 119)
 - 3. Inventory and distribution of estate of Josiah Phelps of Windsor, Conn., 1828-1829. (Docs. 120-122)
 - f. Broad­sides.
 - 1. Speech of Oliver Wolcott, 1817. (Doc. 123)
 - 2. A new society called the Self Examining Society (Constitution). n.d. (Doc. 124)
 - 3. A complete family record of Daniel Brown of Groton, born March 4, 1760. (Doc. 125)
 - g. Obituary (printed) of Capt. William H. Sackett of the 11th Regiment, Conn. Volunteers, killed in a charge, June 18, 1864. July 1864. (Doc. 126)
 - h. Copy of document from State of New York to Lavinia E. Brown of Waterbury, Conn. et als stating she presented her account as administratrix of Frederick B. McFarlane, deceased, Brooklyn, N.Y. and asking why settlement should not be had. March 23, 1915. (Doc. 127)
 - i. Quotations re flour and cotton market for steamer America dated New York, Monday, 29th April, 1850. (Doc. 128)
- Total: 2 inches.

3. Correspondence and papers of Lucien Merriam Royce (Rice), 1856-1888. Box 2
- a. Letters, Nov. 26, 1862 - Aug. 16, 1863, to his parents from Lucien M. Rice, U.S. Army Officers' Hospital, Baton Rouge, La., describing news of the day, especially the War, and telling of his activities and work at the hospital. (1 folder)
 - b. Letters, Nov. 19, 1863 - May 8, 1865, to his parents, brother, etc. from Lucien M. Rice, medical officer in charge, U.S.S. Battleship Acacia. (2 folders)
 - c. Letters to Lucien M. Rice from other soldiers, 1859-1865. (1 folder)
 - d. Letters to Lucien M. Rice from civilians, 1856-1865. (1 folder)
 - e. Military papers, i.e. descriptive list and account of pay and clothing of Lucien M. Rice, April 7, 1863; certification that he was mustered into service Aug. 26, 1862, as a private in Co. A, 25th Regiment, and was honorably discharged Aug. 28, 1863; and honorable discharge from the naval service May 11, 1865. (1 folder)
 - f. Letters, 1868-1869, to Lucien M. Rice from his partner, Sidney E. Adams et als relating to patent on process for refining crude oil, and Letters Patent, May 25, 1869. (1 folder)

7. Printed materials, 1653-1926.

Boxes 5-7

a. Pamphlets and periodicals, 1847-1926:

Box 5

1. Proceedings of a meeting of Citizens of Charleston City and Neck, and Report of Committee in relation to Charlotte Rail-Road. 1847.
2. A New, Practical and Easy Method of Learning the German Language. By F. Ahn, 1858.
3. The Old Flag. First published by Union Prisoners at Camp Ford, Tyler, Texas. Vol. 1, Nos. 1, 2, 3. 1864.
4. Navy Register of the United States to July 1, 1873.
5. The Druggists' Advertiser. April 15, 1878.
6. Annual Reports of the Alumni Association of the College of Pharmacy of the City of New York. (4 vols.) 1880, 1882, 1884, 1885.
7. Newspaper Cuttings Describing Recent Events in Madagascar. From April 21 to July 17, 1883.
8. Papyrus Ebers: The Earliest Medical Work Extant, by Prof. H. Carrington Bolton, 1884.
9. Naval Veteran Association of Connecticut, July 1889.
10. Service to the Memory of William Tecumseh Sherman - Programme. 1891.
11. Columbia University Bulletin of Information, June 30, 1906: "College of Pharmacy of the City of New York Included in Columbia University July 1, 1904. 1906-1907."
12. The Alumni Journal, August 1908. Published by the Alumni Association of the College of Pharmacy of the City of New York.
13. U.S. Grant Post No. 327, Department of New York. Grand Army of the Republic: Reports for 1904.
14. The Army and Navy Club of Connecticut, 1906.
15. The Camera Club of Hartford Studio: Twenty-Second Annual Exhibition, 1906.
16. Address on Memorial Day, May 31st, 1920, at the Tomb of Gen. U.S. Grant. By Hon. Richard Yates of Illinois.
17. Journal of the Sixtieth Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, Des Moines, Iowa, September 19 to 25, 1926.

Total: 3 inches.

b. Books, 1653-1885.

Boxes 6-7

1. Pharmacopoeia Londinensis: or the London Dispensatory ... by Nich. Culpeper. London, printed for Peter Cole, 1653.
2. The Hospital Steward's Manual ... by Joseph Janvier Woodward, M.D. Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott & Co., 1863.
3. Memorial of Samuel Mills Capron ... edited by J. H. Twichell. Hartford: The Case, Lockwood & Brainard Co., 1874.

7. Printed materials (cont.)

b. Books (cont.)

4. The Cruise of the U.S.S. Brooklyn, by
W. H. Beehler. Press of J. B.
Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia, 1885.
5. Bible. Expository Notes with Practical
Observations on the New Testament of
Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ....
Endeavoured by William Burkitt...
London: Printed for Jacob Johnston,
Alex. Bain and John Taylor.
[Last page contains genealogical notes
on the Rice family.]

Total: 10 inches.

Reference Restrictions

None.

Related Material

For other items donated to CSL by Miss Royce, see manuscripts catalog under "Royce, Helen."