

National Museum of Health and Medicine

Otis Historical Archives

2500 Linden Lane
Silver Spring, MD 20910
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medicalmuseum.health.mil

OHA 28

Curatorial Records: Woodward Letterbooks

Accession Number: NA

Date of Records: 1864-1882

Size: 9 boxes, 6.5 linear feet

Finding Aid by: Trenton Streck-Havill (2018)

Access and Use: The Otis Historical Archives is committed to providing open access to its collections as far as possible within the limits of privacy and confidentiality. Access to this collection is at the discretion of the Otis Historical Archives and material contained within the records may be subject to review before access is granted.

Restrictions: This collection is restricted due to condition. Access may be limited.

Condition: This collection may include fragile material that requires special or limited handling.

Biographical Note: Joseph Janvier (J.J.) Woodward was born in Philadelphia on October 30, 1833. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Medical School in 1853 and practiced medicine in his native city until 1861. At the outbreak of the Civil War, he offered his services to the Union and served as assistant surgeon with the Army of the Potomac.

In 1862, now Lt. Col. Woodward was assigned to duty in the Office of the Surgeon General at Washington. After having organized several military hospitals in that city he was reassigned to the Army Medical Museum. While in this position, he collected, in conjunction with Col. George Otis, the documents necessary to compile *The Medical and Surgical History of the War of Rebellion*. Additionally, Woodward did valuable work in microscopy and photomicrography, and the publications in these fields made him famous among scientists throughout the world. When originally collected, his papers filled some four columns in the catalogue of the Surgeon General's Library. Woodward published numerous articles on cancer and other medical subjects.

In 1881, he was elected President of the American Medical Association. That same year he was called to the bedside of President James A. Garfield who eventually died as a result of his assassination attempt. He was made an honorary member of the Royal Microscopical Society and many other societies at home and abroad. He died on August 17, 1884.

Scope and Content Note: The collection consists primarily of letterbooks of correspondence with the Army Medical Museum's Medical and Microscopical Sections compiled by Woodward. Letters were transcribed into bound volumes from original correspondence. This includes outgoing and incoming correspondence. In addition, there are several unbound, loose letters organized by year, and a compiled, photocopied set of all letterbook indices for reference.

Corresponding material, such as bound volumes of photomicrographs, original micrograph and photograph glass plate negatives, and prints created by Woodward are in OHA 83 Woodward Photographs and Photomicrographs Collection. Papers, personal correspondence, family photographs, lists, newspaper clippings, reprints, and pamphlets collected by Woodward are in OHA 363 Woodward Collection.

BOX AND CONTENT LIST

Box 001: Loose correspondence and Indices

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| 00001 | Correspondence and Memoranda, 1864 |
| 00002 | Correspondence and Memoranda, 1865 |
| 00003 | Correspondence and Memoranda, 1865-69 |
| 00004 | Correspondence and Memoranda, 1870-72 |
| 00005 | Correspondence and Memoranda, 1873-79 |
| 00006 | Correspondence and Memoranda, 1879 |
| 00007 | Correspondence and Memoranda, 1880 |
| 00008 | Indices to Woodward Letterbooks, 1864 |
| 00009 | Indices to Woodward Letterbooks, 1864-65 |
| 00010 | Indices to Woodward Letterbooks, 1865 |
| 00011 | Indices to Woodward Letterbooks, 1866-67 |
| 00012 | Indices to Woodward Letterbooks, 1868-69 |
| 00013 | Indices to Woodward Letterbooks, 1869-70 |
| 00014 | Indices to Woodward Letterbooks, 1871-72 |
| 00015 | Indices to Woodward Letterbooks, 1872-73 |
| 00016 | Indices to Woodward Letterbooks, 1873-74 |
| 00017 | Indices to Woodward Letterbooks, 1875 |
| 00018 | Indices to Woodward Letterbooks, 1876 |
| 00019 | Indices to Woodward Letterbooks, 1877 |
| 00020 | Indices to Woodward Letterbooks, 1878 |
| 00021 | Indices to Woodward Letterbooks, 1879 |
| 00022 | Indices to Woodward Letterbooks, 1879-80 |
| 00023 | Indices to Woodward Letterbooks, 1881-82 |
| 00024 | Indices to Woodward Letterbooks, 1868-83 |

Box 002: Letterbooks

- January 5, 1864-December 31, 1864
- January 30, 1864-February 10, 1865

- November 6, 1889-October 3, 1890

Box 003: Letterbooks

- January 1865-December 1866
- January 1867-June 1868

Box 004: Letterbooks

- July 1868- December 1869
- December 1869-June 1870

Box 005: Letterbooks

- July 1871-July 1872
- July 1872-June 1872

Box 006: Letterbooks

- July 1873-December 1874
- January 1875-February 1876

Box 007: Letterbooks

- February 1876-December 1876
- January 1877-December 1877

Box 008: Letterbooks

- January 1878-December 1878
- January 1879-November 1879

Box 009: Letterbooks

- November 1879-January 1881
- January 1881-December 1882