

Sir Francis Joseph Campbell Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2023

Contact information: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm78014860>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms014078>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2014
Revised 2023 November

Collection Summary

Title: Sir Francis Joseph Campbell Papers

Inclusive Dates: 1870-1935

ID No.: MSS14860

Creator: Campbell, Francis Joseph, Sir, 1834-1914

Extent: 10,500 items

Extent: 35 containers

Extent: 14 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English and braille

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm78014860>

Summary: American-born musician, educator, and advocate for blind people. Correspondence, biographical notes and manuscripts, speeches, articles, printed matter, and photographs; personal letters, family papers, and manuscript of a biography of Campbell by his wife, Lady Sophia Campbell; and papers of a son, Charles Francis Faulkner Campbell. Includes papers relating to the Royal Normal College and Academy for the Blind in London, England, and of various members of the family identified with the college.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Alcock, Rutherford, Sir, 1809-1897--Correspondence.

Armitage, Thomas Rhodes, 1824-1890--Correspondence.

Arrol, William, 1839-1913.

Campbell family.

Campbell, Charles Francis Faulkner, 1876- Charles Francis Faulkner Campbell papers.

Campbell, Francis Joseph, Sir, 1834-1914.

Campbell, Sophia Faulkner. Sophia Faulkner Campbell papers.

Coldstream, John P., 1806-1863.

Eden, Charles.

Fawcett, Henry, 1833-1884.

Fitzroy, Carl C.

Gardner, Richardson.

Hopkins, Edward.

MacDonald, John.

Playfair, Lyon Playfair, Baron, 1818-1898.

Presland, John, 1839 or 1840-1897.

Smith, Dudley R.

Tebb, William, 1830-1918--Correspondence.

Wilson, Henry J.--Correspondence.

Organizations

Royal Normal College and Academy for the Blind.

Subjects

Blind--Education.

Education--England--London.

Music for the blind.

Occupations

Educators.

Musicians.

Acquisition Information

The papers of Sir Francis Joseph Campbell, musician, educator, and advocate for blind people, were given to the Library of Congress by Edna Irwin Davis and Mary Dranga Campbell in 1952-1953. The bulk of the papers had been willed to Edna Irwin Davis as a part of the estate of her late brother, Robert B. Irwin, who was preparing a biography of Sir Francis Joseph Campbell and had served as executive director of the American Foundation for the Blind.

Processing History

The collection was processed in 1953-1954. The finding aid was revised in 2014. The finding aid was updated in 2023 by Maria Farmer as part of a division-wide remediation project by the Inclusive Description Working Group.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Sir Francis Joseph Campbell is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The Campbell Papers 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.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Sir Francis Joseph Campbell Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1832, Oct. 9	Born, Franklin County, Tenn.
1836	Lost eyesight
1844	Attended Nashville Institution for the Blind, Nashville, Tenn.
1850	Appointed teacher of music, Tennessee State Institution for the Blind, Nashville, Tenn.
1856	Studied improved methods of teaching at normal school, Bridgewater, Mass. Taught music, Wisconsin Institution for the Blind Returned to Tennessee where he was boycotted for being abolitionist Married Mary Bond (died 1873)
1858-1869	Taught music and physical education, Perkins Institute, South Boston, Mass.
1869-1871	Studied abroad under the pianists Kullak and Tausig
1871	Attended meeting of blind people in London, England, where he presented plans for normal college for blind students
1872	With assistance of T. R. Armitage founded Royal Normal College and Academy for the Blind, Upper Norwood, London, England
1872-1912	Principal, Royal Normal College and Academy of Music for the Blind, Upper Norwood, London, England
1875	Married Sophia Faulkner
1880	Climbed Mount Blanc
1909	Knighted by King Edward VII

1914

Died, London, England

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Sir Francis Joseph Campbell (1834-1914) span the years 1870-1935. The collection consists of correspondence, biographical notes and writings, printed matter, photographs, family papers, an unpublished manuscript of a biography of Campbell by his wife, Lady Sophia Campbell, and papers of a son, Charles Francis Faulkner Campbell. Part of the material is in braille. Included are papers relating to the Royal Normal College and Academy for the Blind in London, England, and of various members of the family identified with the college. The papers are comprised of four series: [Letters Sent](#), [Letters Received](#), [Family Papers](#), and [Subject File](#).

Among the correspondents are Sir Rutherford Alcock, Thomas R. Armitage, William A. Arrol, John P. Coldstream, Charles Eden, Henry Fawcett, Richardson Gardner, Carl C. Fitzroy, Edward Hopkins, John MacDonald, Sir Lyon Playfair, John Presland, Dudley R. Smith, William Tebb, and Henry J. Wilson.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in four series:

- [Letters Sent, 1879-1909](#)
- [Letters Received, 1870-1905](#)
- [Family Papers, 1875-1935](#)
- [Subject File, 1871-1926](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-4	<p><u>Letters Sent, 1879-1909</u></p> <p>Letterbooks of letters sent and a few loose letters; also typewritten copies of letters not in letter books. The source of these typewritten copies is not known.</p> <p>Arranged chronologically by year.</p>
BOX 5-29	<p><u>Letters Received, 1870-1905</u></p> <p>Handwritten and typed letters in English and braille.</p> <p>Arranged chronologically by year. Letters in braille are located at the end of the file.</p>
BOX 30-31	<p><u>Family Papers, 1875-1935</u></p> <p>Letters sent and received and other papers of Campbell's wife, Lady Sophia Campbell, and son, Charles Francis Faulkner Campbell.</p> <p>Arranged according to type of material within their separate files.</p>
BOX 32-35	<p><u>Subject File, 1871-1926</u></p> <p>Biographical papers, material relating to the Royal Normal College and Academy for the Blind, London, England, to other work with blind people, miscellany, and photographs.</p> <p>Arranged according to type of material.</p>

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-4	Letters Sent, 1879-1909 Letterbooks of letters sent and a few loose letters; also typewritten copies of letters not in letter books. The source of these typewritten copies is not known. Arranged chronologically by year.
BOX 1	Letterbooks
BOX 1	Aug. 1879-Oct. 1886
BOX 1	Oct. 1886-May 1888
BOX 1	Nov. 1889-July 1891
BOX 1	July 1891-Oct. 1892
BOX 2	Nov. 1895-Mar. 1897
BOX 2	Oct. 1902-May 1903
BOX 2	Nov. 1902-Nov. 1906
BOX 3	July 1904-May 1906
BOX 3	July 1905-Nov. 1906
BOX 3	Sept. 1905-Mar. 1907
BOX 4	Typescript copies
BOX 4	Feb. 1879-Mar. 1895
BOX 4	Jan. 1874-Sept. 1909
BOX 5-29	Letters Received, 1870-1905 Handwritten and typed letters in English and braille. Arranged chronologically by year. Letters in braille are located at the end of the file.
BOX 5	1870-1875
BOX 6	1875-1876
BOX 7	1876
BOX 8	1876
BOX 9	1877
BOX 10	1877
BOX 11	1877-1878
BOX 12	1878-1879
BOX 13	1879
BOX 14	1880
BOX 15	1880-1882
BOX 16	1882
BOX 17	1882-1883
BOX 18	1883-1884
BOX 19	1884-1888
BOX 20	1888-1889
BOX 21	1889-1893
BOX 22	1893

Letters Received, 1870-1905

Container	Contents
BOX 23	1894
BOX 24	1895-1897
BOX 25	1897-1899
BOX 26	1901-1902
BOX 27	1903-1904
BOX 28	1905-1908
BOX 29	In braille, 1878-1905, undated
BOX 30-31	Family Papers, 1875-1935 Letters sent and received and other papers of Campbell's wife, Lady Sophia Campbell, and son, Charles Francis Faulkner Campbell. Arranged according to type of material within their separate files.
BOX 30	Lady Sophia Campbell (wife)
BOX 30	Correspondence, 1875-1931
BOX 30	Speeches and articles
BOX 31	Campbell, Charles Francis Faulkner (son)
BOX 31	Correspondence, 1902-1935
BOX 31	Speeches and articles by Charles Francis Faulkner Campbell and others
BOX 32-35	Subject File, 1871-1926 Biographical papers, material relating to the Royal Normal College and Academy for the Blind, London, England, to other work with blind people, miscellany, and photographs. Arranged according to type of material.
BOX 32	Biographical material, 1898-1930
BOX 32	Congratulatory letters concerning knighting of Campbell, 1909-1910
BOX 33	Lady Sophia Campbell's biography of Sir Francis Joseph Campbell
BOX 33	Royal Normal College and Academy for the Blind, London, England, 1878-1923
BOX 34	Typescript of newspaper articles
BOX 34	Royal Normal College and Academy for the Blind, London, England, 1871-1891
BOX 34	Perkins Institution and Massachusetts School for the Blind, Boston, Mass., 1905-1908
BOX 34	Braille committees, 1899-1903
BOX 34	Miscellaneous material pertaining to blind people, 1877-1933
BOX 34	Miscellaneous, general, 1875-1926
BOX 35	Photographs