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Marie Mattingly Meloney papers4079096

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.
New York, NY 10027
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Fax Number: (212) 854-1365
rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu
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Summary Information

Repository: Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator: Meloney, Marie Mattingly, 1883-1943
Title: Marie Mattingly Meloney papers
ID: 4079096
ID: MS#0864
Date [inclusive]: 1891-1943
Physical Description: 22 Linear Feet 40 manuscript boxes, 3 oversize flat boxes, 1 map case folder
Language of the Material: English .
Abstract: Correspondence, manuscripts, documents, photographs, art works, memorabilia, and printed material created by and belonging to journalist, magazine editor, socialite, and social reformer Marie Mattingly Meloney (1878-1943). Meloney edited *The Delineator*, 1920-1926; the *New York Herald Tribune Sunday Magazine*, 1926-1934; and *This Week* magazine, 1934-1943.

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Marie Mattingly Meloney papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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Biographical / Historical

Marie "Missy" Mattingly Meloney (1878-1943) was a magazine editor, journalist, socialite, and moderate social reformer. She edited *The Delineator*, 1920-1926; the *New York Herald Tribune Sunday Magazine*, 1926-1934; and *This Week* magazine, 1934-1943.

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Biographical / Historical

Marie Mattingly was born in Bardstown, Kentucky on December 8, 1878, to Cyprian Peter and Sarah Irwin Mattingly. Sarah was a journalist, founding editor of the *Kentucky Magazine*, and president of the Washington College for Girls. Peter was a physician. Marie was privately educated. After a horseback riding accident at age 15 ended her childhood ambition of becoming a concert pianist, she began a career in journalism. She covered the Republican National Convention for the *Washington Post* in 1895, became the *Denver Post's* Washington correspondent in 1897, and worked as a reporter for the *New York World* in 1900 and the *New York Sun* from 1900-1904. She temporarily retired from journalism upon her marriage to William Brown Meloney IV in 1904, but returned to work in 1913. She became the editor of *Woman's Magazine* in 1914, and took the helm of *The Delineator* in 1920.

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Biographical / Historical

Among Meloney's journalistic achievements were breaking the news of Spanish-American war hero Admiral George Dewey's wedding in 1899, being granted a rare interview with Marie Curie in 1920, and interviewing Benito Mussolini on four separate occasions. When Mussolini's mistress, the journalist and art critic Margherita Sarfatti, visited New York in 1934, Meloney hosted a party in Sarfatti's honor. In the 1930s, Meloney turned down an interview with Adolf Hitler, after the führer failed to appear for a previously scheduled meeting with Meloney.

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Biographical / Historical

Meloney used her platform as magazine editor to champion causes including Marie Curie's scientific research, home ownership and beautification, and government sponsorship of health and nutritional guidelines. In 1920, following an interview with Marie Curie for *The Delineator*, Meloney organized a national fundraising drive to purchase radium for Curie's laboratory. In 1922, in response to a housing shortage following World War I, she launched the Better Homes in America movement, which encouraged homeownership, construction of affordable homes, and modernization and beautification of existing homes. Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover served as president of the Advisory Council of Better Homes in America's board of directors, while Meloney served as the board's vice president or secretary throughout the 1920s. In 1926, at Meloney's urging, the U.S. Department of Agriculture

sponsored a conference to develop guidance on optimal weight ranges for adults, based on height and age, as well as safe methods to lose and gain weight. *The Delineator* received a large volume of letters from readers describing unsafe methods for weight loss in order to achieve the 1920s' fashionably thin body type. The magazine's investigation on the topic found that the only official guidance available came from a set of Army charts dating from the Spanish American War.

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Biographical / Historical

Meloney received various honors during her lifetime. She took a personal interest in rebuilding Europe following World War I. The Belgian government awarded her the Médaille de Charleroi for her work on behalf of Belgian children, the Ordre de la Reine Elisabeth for her service to the Belgian cause in the United States, and the Order of the Crown of Belgium. The French government awarded her the Médaille d'Or for her work in the Better Homes Movement, and, at Marie Curie's request, made her an officer of the Legion of Honor in 1927. The Polish government awarded her the Order of Polonia Restituta for her fundraising work on Marie Curie's behalf. A Liberty Ship named in her honor was launched in August 1943, two months after her death.

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Biographical / Historical

Meloney was also a close friend of Eleanor Roosevelt. In 1934, as First Lady, Roosevelt joined New York City Better Homes committee chair Meloney for a national radio broadcast of the dedication of a model home located on Park Avenue and 39th Street which demonstrated the movement's values. When Meloney died in 1943, Roosevelt memorialized her in her June 29 "My Day" syndicated newspaper column.

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Biographical / Historical

Marie Mattingly and William Brown Meloney IV had one child, William Brown Meloney V, in 1905. William Brown Meloney IV died in 1925. Marie Mattingly Meloney died of complications from influenza at her home in Pawling, New York, on June 23, 1943. A New

York Times editorial published two days after her death called her "one of the pioneers of the triumph of women in the newspaper field."

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Scope and Contents

Correspondence, manuscripts, documents, photographs, art works, memorabilia, and printed material created by and belonging to journalist, magazine editor, socialite, and social reformer Marie Mattingly Meloney (1878-1943). The bulk of the correspondence dates from 1920 until 1943, the years during which Meloney edited *The Delineator*, the *New York Herald Tribune Sunday Magazine*, and *This Week* magazine. The letters cover a wide field of interests and include correspondence from cabinet ministers, diplomats, jurists, authors, journalists, editors, educators, soldiers, and socialites. There are letters from Sherwood Anderson, Irving Bacheller, James M. Barrie, Max Beerbohm, Arnold Bennett, Gutzon Borglum, Willa Cather, Jo Davidson, Walter De la Mare, Alfred Douglas, Lord Dunsany, Robert Frost, John Galsworthy, Rudyard Kipling, D.H. Lawrence, Sinclair Lewis, Wyndham Lewis, Walter Lippmann, Somerset Maugham, A.A. Milne, Charles and Kathleen Norris, Alfred Noyes, Frances Perkins, Edwin Arlington Robinson, Bertrand Russell, Eleanor Roosevelt, Carlo Sforza, Booth Tarkington, Ernst Toller, H.M. Tomlinson, and H.G. Wells. In addition to manuscripts of Meloney's own writings, the collection contains manuscripts of Louis Bromfield, G.K. Chesterton, Walter De la Mare, John Drinkwater, Havelock Ellis, Richard Le Gallienne, Marie Adelaide Belloc Lowndes, and Leo Tolstoy. Finally, the collection includes photographs of Meloney, her friends and family, and a group of pencil sketches and prints by the artists E.H. Suydam and Samuel Johnson Woolf.

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Arrangement

Selected materials cataloged. Remainder listed and arranged.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.
New York, NY 10027
Business Number: (212) 854-5153
Fax Number: (212) 854-1365
rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu
URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

Revision Description

PDF finding aid replaced with EAD by CLB. Oversize materials inventoried and added to finding aid by CLB. Finding aid notes expanded and updated by CLB. 2022-06-23 2022-09-23 2022-09-26

Restrictions on Access

The following boxes are located off-site: Box 32-40. You will need to request this material from the Rare Book and Manuscript Library at least three business days in advance to use the collection in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library reading room.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

Accruals

No additions expected.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source of acquisition--Meloney, Mrs. and Mrs, William Brown, V. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--1964. Accession number--M-64.

Alternate Form Available

Pearl S. Buck letters are on: microfilm.

Processing Information

Cataloged Christina Hilton Fenn 08/--/89.

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Readers must use microfilm of materials specified above.

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Related Materials

Related Materials

[Marie Mattingly Meloney Collection on Marie Curie:](#) A collection of correspondence, photographs, manuscripts, printed material, and memorabilia related to Meloney's fundraising work to purchase radium for Curie's experiments.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Literature -- Periodicals
- Literature publishing
- World politics
- Diplomats
- Lawyers
- Authors
- Women authors
- Educators
- Cabinet officers
- Upper class
- Journalism
- Photographic prints

- Editors
- Women journalists
- Lithographs
- Engravings (prints)
- Woodcuts (prints)
- Pencil drawings
- diplomas
- Certificates
- Manuscripts (documents)
- Correspondence
- Anderson, Sherwood, 1876-1941
- Bacheller, Irving, 1859-1950
- Barrie, J. M (James Matthew), 1860-1937
- Beerbohm, Max, Sir, 1872-1956
- Bennett, Arnold, 1867-1931
- Borglum, Gutzon, 1867-1941
- Cather, Willa, 1873-1947
- Davidson, Jo
- De la Mare, Walter, 1873-1956
- Douglas, Alfred Bruce, 1870-1945
- Dunsany, Lord, 1878-1957
- Frost, Robert, 1874-1963
- Galsworthy, John, 1867-1933
- Kipling, Rudyard, 1865-1936
- Lawrence, D. H (David Herbert), 1885-1930
- Lewis, Sinclair, 1885-1951
- Lewis, Wyndham, 1882-1957
- Lippmann, Walter, 1889-1974
- Maugham, W. Somerset (William Somerset), 1874-1965
- Milne, A. A (Alan Alexander), 1882-1956
- Norris, Charles
- Norris, Kathleen Thompson, 1880-1966
- Noyes, Alfred, 1880-1958
- Perkins, Frances, 1880-1965
- Robinson, Edwin Arlington, 1869-1935
- Russell, Bertrand, 1872-1970
- Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1884-1962
- Sforza, Carlo, conte, 1872-1952
- Tarkington, Booth, 1869-1946
- Toller, Ernst, 1893-1939
- Tomlinson, H. M (Henry Major), 1873-1958
- Wells, H. G. (Herbert George), 1866-1946
- Bromfield, Louis, 1896-1956
- Chesterton, G. K (Gilbert Keith), 1874-1936
- Drinkwater, John, 1882-1937
- Ellis, Havelock, 1859-1939
- Le Gallienne, Richard, 1866-1947

- Lowndes, Marie Belloc, 1868-1947
- Tolstoy, Leo, graf, 1828-1910
- Suydam, E. H. (Edward Howard), 1885-1940
- Woolf, S. J (Samuel Johnson), 1880-1948

Collection Inventory

Series I: Cataloged correspondence

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Adams, James Truslow	box 1
Adams, Samuel Hopkins	box 1
Adcock, St. John	box 1
Addams, Jane	box 1
Albert, King of Belgium	box 1
Aldin, Cecil	box 1
Aldin, Rita D.	box 1
Aldrich, Winthrop	box 1
Allen, Henry J.	box 1
Anderson, Sherwood	box 1
Andrews, Roy Chapman	box 1
Angell, Norman	box 1
Anthow, Katherine	box 1
Arcibol, A. W.	box 1
Arlen, Michael	box 1
Asquith, Cynthia	box 1
Asquith, Emma Alice (Margot)	box 1
Astor, Nancy, Viscountess	box 1
Astor, Waldorf, Viscount	box 1
Aswell, Edward C.	box 1
Auahgen, Friedrich Ernest	box 1
Auslander, Joseph	box 1
Austin, Frederick Britten	box 1

Austin, Mildred Britten	box 1
Aylesworth, Merlin H.	box 1
Bacheller, Irving	box 2
Bacon, Robert L.	box 2
Bailey, Edith (Mrs. Vernon Howe)	box 2
Bailey, Vernon Howe	box 2
Baker, George Barr	box 2
Baker, Newton D.	box 2
Baldwin, Stanley	box 2
Barber, Donn	box 2
Barber, Elsie (Mrs. Donn)	box 2
Barbour, W. Warren	box 2
Barnes, Julius H.	box 2
Barres, Maurice	box 2
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Bartholomew, Freddie	box 2
Bartlett, Robert A.	box 2
Barton, Bruce	box 2
Baruch, Bernard M.	box 2
Beck, William H.	box 2
Beerbohm, Max	box 2
Bel Geddes, Norman	box 2
Belloc, Hillaire	box 2
Balmont, Eleanor Robson	box 2
Belosselsky, Serge	box 2
Benet, Stephen Vincent	box 2
Benet, William Rose	box 2
Benn, Wedgwood	box 2
Bennett, Arnold	box 2
Bercovici, Konrad	box 2
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Berlin, Irving	box 2

Bigeard, Abbe	box 2
Bishop, William Avery	box 2
Blankner, Fredericka	box 2
Bliss, Mildred	box 2
Bliss, Roberts Woods	box 2
Bloom, Sol	box 2
Boardman, Mabel T.	box 2
Boettiger, Anna Roosevelt	box 2
Bohn, W.F.	box 2
Boissevain, Eugen	box 2
Bone, Scott C.	box 2
Bonner, Lucius	box 2
Bora, William E.	box 2
Borchers, H.	box 2
Borglum, Gutzon	box 3
Borglum, Mary (Mrs, Gutzon)	box 3
Bottome, Phyllis	box 3
Bourbon, Hedwige de	box 3
Bourbon, Marie de	box 3
Bourdon, Prince Louis de	box 3
Bradley, William A.	box 3
Brady, Nicholas F.	box 3
Bragg, Sir William H.	box 3
Brandt, George L.	box 3
Breckinridge, Henry	box 3
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Brinker, an, O.H.	box 3
Bromfield, Louis	box 3
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Buchan, John	box 4
Buck, Pearl S.	box 4
Budberg, Baroness Marie	box 4
Burke, Hillie	box 4
Burke, James Francis	box 4
Burnett, Frances Hodgson	box 4
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Butler, Nicholas Murray	box 4
Butts, Edmond Luther	box 4
Byrd, Harry Flood	box 4
Byrd, Richard E.	box 4
Byrne, Donn	box 4
Cabell, James Branch	box 4
Cain, James M.	box 4
Calder, Ritchie	box 4
Canmaerts, Emile	box 4
Campbell, Sir Gerald	box 4
Canby, Henry Seidel	box 4
Canby, Marion G. (Mrs. Henry Seidel)	box 4
Capper, Arthur	box 4
Cardozo, Ernest A.	box 4
Carnegie, Andrew	box 4
Carnegie, Louise Whitfield (Mrs. Andrew)	box 4
Carrel, Alexis	box 4
Cartier de Marchienne, Emile, Baron de	box 4
Cartier, Marie de	box 4
Cartle, William R., Jr.	box 4
Cather, Willa	box 5
Catt, Carrie Chapman	box 5
Chapin, Roy D.	box 5
Chase, Harry W.	box 5
Chase, Joseph Cummings	box 5

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Cheatle, Clare D.	box 5
Cheatle, Lenthal	box 5
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Cobb, Irvin S.	box 5
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Davignon, Henri	box 6
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Davis, Norman H.	box 6
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De Croy, Marie	box 6
De la Mare, Elfrieda (Mrs. Walter)	box 6
De la Mare, Walter	box 6
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Deeping, George Warwick	box 6
Dell, Berta-Marie (Mrs. Floyd)	box 6
Derby, Ethel Roosevelt (Mrs. Richard)	box 6
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Dilnot, George	box 6
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Donovan, Col. William J.	box 6
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Frank, Glenn	box 8
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Hoover, John Edgar	box 10
Hoover, Lou Henry (Mrs. Herbert)	box 10
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Howe, Will David	box 11
Howland, Hewitt H.	box 11
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Kenney, Edward A.	box 13
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King-Hall, Ella	box 13
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Lane, Arthur Bliss	box 14
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Lane, Gertrude B.	box 14
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Lascelles, Alan Frederick	box 14
Lathrop, Julia C.	box 14
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Lauzanne, Stephane	box 14
Lawrence, David	box 14
Lawrence, David Herbert	box 14
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Leacock, Stephen	box 15
Lecomte, Georges	box 15
Lee, Ivy L.	box 15

Lees-Smith, H.B.	box 15
Le Gallienne, Eva	box 15
La Gallienne, Richard	box 15
Lehman, Herbert H.	box 15
Lengyel, Emil	box 15
Leslie, Shane	box 15
Leverhulme, William, 2nd Viscount,	box 15
Lewis, Sinclair	box 15
Lewis, Wyndham	box 15
Lincoln, Joseph C.	box 15
Ligne, Prince Albert de	box 15
Ligne, Princesse de	box 15
Lindbergh, Anne Morrow	box 16
Lindbergh, Charles A.	box 16
Lipinsky, Lino S.	box 16
Lippmann, Walter	box 16
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Lockhart, Robert Hamilton Bruce	box 16
Lombroso, Paola Carrara	box 16
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Longworth, Alice Roosevelt	box 16
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Lorimer, George Horace	box 16
Lowndes, Marie Adelaide (Belloc)	box 16
Lowndes, Susan	box 16
Lubomirski, Casimir	box 16
Lucas, Edward Verrall	box 16
Luce, Henry R.	box 16
Lyons, A. Neil	box 16
McAdoo, William	box 17
MacArthur, Douglas	box 17
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Series II: Cataloged manuscripts

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Series III: Miscellaneous material

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Cataloged Photographs	box 31	
Signed photograph of Charles William Eliot, 1916 June 20	box 41	folder 2
General		
Cataloged		
Photograph of Herbert Hoover inscribed to Marie Mattingly Meloney, circa 1920s	box 41	folder 3
General		
Cataloged		
Signed photograph of Herbert Hoover with a dog, circa 1920s	box 42	folder 5
General		
Cataloged		
Cataloged Artworks	box 31	
Lithograph of Herbert Hoover by Samuel Johnson Woolf, inscribed and signed by Woolf and Hoover, circa 1920s	box 41	folder 4
General		
Cataloged		
Charcoal drawing of Herbert Hoover by Samuel Johnson Woolf, with instructions to the engraver, circa 1920s	box 42	folder 1
General		
Cataloged		
Lithograph of George Bernard Shaw by Samuel Johnson Woolf, inscribed and signed by the artist, circa 1920s-1930s	box 43	folder 1

General

Catalogued

E.H. Suydam pencil sketch of a Manhattan living room with instructions to the engraver, signed by the artist and Menas Sarkis Gregory, circa 1920s-1930s	box 42	folder 3
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General

Catalogued

E.H. Suydam pencil sketch of Washington Square, inscribed and signed by the artist, 1932	box 42	folder 2
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General

Catalogued

Arranged Photographs	box 31	
Photograph of an unidentified man (William Brown Meloney IV?), circa 1900s-1910s	box 41	folder 1
Photograph of Marie Mattingly Meloney, circa 1930s	box 42	folder 6
Inscribed photograph of Grand Duchess Marie, 1931	box 41	folder 8
Arranged Artworks	box 31	
Pencil sketch of a young woman in 17th century European dress, signed and inscribed to Marie Mattingly Meloney by the artist, 1923 December	box 41	folder 5
12 woodcuts by E.H. Suydam, inscribed by the artist to Marie Mattingly Meloney, 1924-1931	box 42	folder 9-12

Physical Description: 4 folders

Woodblock print of Walt Whitman by Bertrand Zadig, inscribed and signed by the artist, 1925	box 41	folder 6
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General

Catalogued

Etching of a young boy with the coat of arms of Romania (?), 1927	box 41	folder 7
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Scope and Contents

Possibly King Michael I of Romania.

Engraving of two cherubs riding dolphins, inscribed to Marie Mattingly Meloney by Margherita [Sarfatti?], 1934	box 42	folder 4
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French Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur certificate, 1927 June 28	box 43	folder 2

Uncatalogued G-M	box 33	
Mattingly family diplomas, 1861-1937	mapcase 14- L-6	
Appointment of Francis Carroll Mattingly as First Lieutenant of Company D, Fifth Battalion of Infantry, Militia of District of Columbia, 1896 November 30	box 42	folder 8
General		
Cataloged		
Biographical / Historical		
Brother of Marie Mattingly Meloney.		
Appointment of Francis Carroll Mattingly as First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, Militia of the District of Columbia, 1900 May 9	box 42	folder 8
General		
Cataloged		
Biographical / Historical		
Brother of Marie Mattingly Meloney.		
Map showing the overland and overseas flights of Charles A. Lindbergh, with note in Lindbergh's hand, 1928	mapcase 14- L-6	
General		
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Belgian Medaille de la Reine Elisabeth, 1919 December 22	box 42	folder 7
French Ministre du Travail Medaille d'Or certificate, 1924 November 10	box 43	folder 2
Uncatalogued N-Y	box 34	
Manuscripts	box 35	
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Manuscripts	box 37	
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Books	box 40	
"Easter at Chartres" New York Herald Tribune Sunday Magazine article by William Beverly, in cloth binding, 1928 April 8	box 42	folder 13

Biographical / Historical

William Beverly was a pen name for William Brown
Meloney V.

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