

Local History Resource Center  
Peabody Institute Library  
82 Main Street, Peabody, MA 01960

## Charles Augustus Peabody Papers, 1863-1872

### Collection Summary

**Reference Code:** MPeaI

**Repository:** Local History Resource Center, Peabody Institute Library, Peabody Massachusetts.

**Call Number:** MS2

**Collector:** Peabody Institute Library

**Title:** Charles Augustus Peabody Papers, 1864-1872

**Dates:** 1863-1872

**Size:** 0.25 Linear Feet

**Language(s):** Collection materials are in English.

**Abstract:** Letters and notes that were written to Charles Augustus Peabody while he was at Phillips Academy and the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Letters were mostly written by his sister Emma Peabody and other family members. Letters describe what life was like back in Danvers and South Danvers along with family issues and personal struggles of Charles Peabody.

### Biographical History

Charles Augustus Peabody, M.D., surgeon was born in Danvers on June 4, 1845. His parents were S. J. Flint (1812-1887) and Betsey (Wilkins) Peabody (1818-1898). Charles was the oldest of four children. The other siblings were: Emma Flint Peabody (1847-1865) died from typhoid fever; Robert Wallace Peabody (1852-1865) died from inflammation of the stomach and bowels; and George Morris Peabody (1854-1932).

Charles attended Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts and then went on to complete his A.B. (“artium baccalaureus.”) at Amherst College in 1868. While at Phillips Academy and Amherst College Charles faced money issues and had, at times, trouble paying the tuition. Peabody family members sent what money they could spare, but it was not enough and Charles had to leave school for a semester to raise money by teaching. When he returned to Amherst the President of the college (Julius Hawley Seelye) told him he would be granted substantial credit for having taught school. In addition, Charles was under unrelenting pressure from his Uncle Jesse who was an ordained minister; Charles was leaning towards a career in theology. When his siblings, Emma and Robert died he turned towards medicine.

In 1871 Charles earned is A.M. (Master of Arts) from Amherst College as well and completed his M.D. at Jefferson Medical College, now Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University in 1873.

Caroline “Carrie” Elizabeth Allen (1848-1911) would marry Charles in Worcester one November 17, 1881 and they would have one son, Walter Allen. Charles started practicing in Worcester in 1873.

While in Worcester he lived at 42 Belmont Street and his office was at 393 Main Street. Places he worked included: Memorial Free Dispensary; Worcester Insane Hospital; Visiting Physician and Supt. at City Hospital.; director of the Free Public Library; surgeon at Worcester Continentals (unattached); and a physician in Bombay, India from 1876-1879. He was a member of the American Academy of Medicine (now the American Medical Association), and the American Institute of Civics.

Charles died on March 21, 1933 in West Boylston, Massachusetts at the age of 87. He is interred with his wife, her parents, and some of her siblings at Grove Cemetery in Holden, Massachusetts.

### Arrangement

Series 1. Charles Augustus Peabody Papers, 1863-1872

Series 2. Emma Peabody Essays, 1864-1865

### Scope and Content

The papers are broken into two series. Series one includes letters of family and friends who wrote to Charles between 1864 and 1872. There are also three undated notes from S.S. Grifford.

Series two relate to essays and papers by Emma Peabody.

### Administrative Information

**Preferred Citation:** [identify the item], [folder number], Charles Augustus Peabody Papers, Local History Resource Center, Peabody Institute Library.

**Provenance:** Purchased from a seller on eBay.

**Acquisition Information:** Purchased from a seller on eBay from October of 2017 until December of 2017.

**Processing Information:** Erik R. Bauer, Archivist 2017.

**Access Rights:** Collection is open for research.

**Physical Access Restrictions:** None

**Tech. Access Restrictions:** None.

**Special Formats:** None.

**Copyright:** Ownership of the originals belongs to the Peabody Institute Library, Peabody, MA. Materials unpublished and in the public domain. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the archivist.

**Conservation Notes:** None

**Related Collections:** None

**Separated Material:** None.

**Subjects:**

Peabody, Charles Augustus (1845-1933).

Peabody, Emma Flint (1847-1865).

Peabody, Dean

Peabody, George M.

Hyde, E.G.

Danvers (Mass.)—History

Danvers (Mass.)—Genealogy

## Collection Inventory

### Series 1: Charles A. Peabody Letters, 1863-1872

This series contains letters and notes written to Charles Augusta Peabody. His chief correspondent was his sister Emma. His Mother wrote to him seldom, but occasionally asked Emma to write to him on her behalf. Next in line would be his much younger brother Wally who wrote on events, who was sick, mechanical subjects and stamp collecting. They had a remarkable three way relationship. Charles loved his parents but his main conduit to them was through Emma and Robert. In addition, there are letters from his Uncle Jessie; E.G. Hyde; Dean Peabody; George M. Peabody; D.W. Miner; and S.S. Gifford.

Box Number/Folder Title	Folder Number
<b>Box 1</b>	
Letter from Robert Peabody, January 1863	1
Letter from E.G. Hyde, January 9, 1863	2
Letter from Emma Peabody, October 7, 1863	3
Letter from Unidentified Person, October 29, 1863	4
Letter from Emma Peabody, December 29, 1863	5
Letter from E.G. Hyde, January 11, 1864	6
Letter from Uncle Jessie, January 12, 1864	7
Letter from Emma Peabody, January 25, 1864	8
Letter from Rev. Jesse Williams, February 15, 1864	9

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Letter from Emma Peabody, February 29, 1864	10
Letter from Uncle Jess, March 1, 1864	11
Letter from Emma Peabody, March 17, 1864	12
Letter from Emma Peabody, May 12, 1864	13
Letter from Emma Peabody, May 23, 1864	14
Letter from Emma Peabody, June 17, 1864	15
Letter from E.G. Hyde, December 27, 1864	16
Letter from Emma Peabody, January 23, 1865	17
Letter from George M. Peabody, January 30, 1865	18
Letter from Emma Peabody, May 23, 1865	19
Letter from Emma Peabody, July 7, 1865	20
Letter from Charles Peabody Mother, October 17, 1865	21
Letter from George M. Peabody, October 28, 1865	22
Letter from Charles Peabody Mother, February 1, 1866	23
Letter from George M. Peabody, October 1, 1866	24
Three notes from Dean Peabody, 1868	25
Letter from George M. Peabody, May 27, 1868	26
Letter from Frank W. Rockwell, September 6, 1868	27
Letter from R. Henry Davis, September 12, 1868	28
Letter from W.W. Miner, September 30, 1868	29
Letter from J.H. Williams, January 11, 1869	30
Letter from B.W. Peabody, January 18, 1869	31
Letter from George M. Peabody, January 19, 1869	32
Letter from Henry Ballantine, March 1, 1869	33
Letter from George M. Peabody, March 10, 1869	34
Letter from George A. Coburn, March 15, 1869	35
Letter from A.B. Smith, June 20, 1869	36
Letter from R. Henry Davis, August 3, 1869	37
Letter from R. Henry Davis, October 20, 1869	38
Letter from School in Dover, New Hampshire, November 24, 1869	39
Letter from B.W. Peabody, November, 27, 1869 (Lyceum lectures – Peabody Funeral)	40
Letter from Unclear, December 3, 1869	41

Letter from B.M. Peabody, December 13, 1869	42
Letter from B.W. Peabody, January 18, 1870	43
Letter from B.W. Peabody, February 21, 1870 (George Peabody's Funeral)	44
Letter from B.W. Peabody, April, 25, 1870	45
Letter from W. Ballantine, June, 1870	46
Letter from George M. Peabody, July 12, 1870	47
Letter from Uncle Jessie, December 28, 1871	48
School of Anatomy, 1871-1872	49
Letter from D.W. Miner, February 26, 1872	50
Note from S.S. Grifford, No Date	51
Town Officials for Danvers, No Date	52
Note from Emma Peabody, No Date	53

### **Series 2: Emma Peabody Papers, 1865**

This series contains materials written by Emma Peabody. In "The Pilgrim Fathers" She gives us an outline of the Pilgrims coming to New England's shore and of their descendents fighting the righteous Revolutionary War, and ends on a somber note by discussing the "direful" then present Civil War.

<b>Box Number/Folder Title</b>	<b>Folder</b>
<b>Box 1</b>	
Composition by Emma F. Peabody, "Night," 1861	54
Composition by Emma F. Peabody, "An Imaginary Account of a Visit to Richmond," 1864	55
Composition by Emma F. Peabody, "The Pilgrim Fathers," 1865	56
Composition by Emma F. Peabody, "For Whom I Should for President, and Why, 1865 "	57