

ACCESSION 153:

PAPERS OF MARY P. HALLOWELL HOUGH, M.D.
(1858-1941)

1879-1975

0.5 linear feet
(1 box)



ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS ON WOMEN IN MEDICINE
AT THE
MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA

3300 Henry Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19129
(215) 842-7124

August 2, 1994
by Teresa Taylor

PROVENANCE

The Mary P. Hallowell Hough, M.D. Papers were donated to the Archives and Special Collections on Women in Medicine by Mary Hallowell Brownback Jenkins, Elizabeth J. Hough Davis, and Margaret Hough Coles O'Reilly, granddaughters of Dr. Hough.

For purposes of preservation, certain items have been separated from Dr. Hough's papers and stored in special collections. Original photographs from Dr. Hough's album were replaced with photocopies and transferred to the photograph collection. (The catalog numbers of the originals were recorded on the photocopies.) Likewise, diplomas of Dr. Mary Hough and Dr. C. B. Hough have been transferred to the diploma collection in the Archives map case. Artifacts have removed to the artifact collection.

A list items of separated from Mary Hough's papers is appended to this finding aid.

MARY P. HALLOWELL HOUGH, M.D. (1858-1941)

Mary P. Hallowell was born May 17, 1858 in Horsham, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. She was the daughter of William J. Hallowell, a farmer, and Tacy Paul Hallowell. Her Quaker parents appear to have had little formal schooling, yet Mary attended the Friends School in Horsham, and graduated from Swarthmore College (1878) and the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania (1881). (Four other women by the name of Hallowell also attended WMCP, but it is not clear whether or how they may have been related to Mary Hallowell.) She interned at Staten Island Hospital in New York. She was a friend of Dr. Hiram Corson, a distinguished gynecologist and an avid proponent of women in the medical profession.

In 1887, Mary P. Hallowell, M.D. and Charles Bosler Hough, M.D. married and moved to Ambler in Bucks County. They had four children, William, Margaret, Tacy, and Israel.

Dr. Mary Hough was an active member of the Gwynedd Friends Meeting. She served as president of the Ambler chapter of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, as a member of the independent school board, and as medical inspector for the Ambler schools in the 1920s. She retired from medical practice in 1931.

Dr. Hough died in 1941 at the Woman's Medical College Hospital.

Sources:

"A Woman of her Age," by Marlene Prost, in The Daily Intelligencer, (Bicentennial Edition, Vol. II, Oct. 27, 1975).

Deceased Alumnae Files: Hallowell-Hough, M.P. 1881, in the Archives and Special Collections on Women in Medicine.

SCOPE & CONTENT

Though the letters in this collection are few, they are distinctively rich in content. They provide insights into aspects of the family life and professional life of this 19th century woman physician.

The papers include four letters from Tacy and William Hallowell to their daughter, Mary Hallowell, three of which were written conjointly. They reveal an affectionate relationship between "Marry" and her parents, who were supportive if occasionally disapproving of Mary's activities. They also provide glimpses into 19th farm life in the Delaware Valley in the form of news of the visits made by and to the Hallowells; of the health and illnesses of friends and family; of work recently taken up or completed, such as Tacy Hallowell's sewing for the family and for hire.

In his letters to Mary Hallowell Hough, Dr. Hiram Corson recommends a treatment for a young patient; discusses responses to his stance on forced delivery in obstetrical cases; reviews his participation in various medical societies; and describes his personal library and mineral collection.

Related Collections

Clippings of "Quaker Mail," a column authored by Mary Hough, can be found at the Montgomery County Historical Society in Norristown, Pa.

The Friends Historical Library at Swarthmore College holds the Swarthmore College Archives. Researchers would be advised to consult the archives for records pertaining to Mary Hallowell's life as a student. This repository also has a photostat copy of a letter from Mary P. Hallowell to Lucretia Mott concerning membership in the Summerville Literary Society.

A genealogy of the Hallowell Family is in the Spruance Library of the Bucks County Historical Society in Doylestown, Pa.

CONTENTS OF ACCESSION 153:
PAPERS OF MARY P. HALLOWELL HOUGH, M.D.
1879-1975

| <u>Box</u> | <u>Folder</u> | <u>Contents</u> | <u>Dates</u> |
|------------|---------------|--|---------------|
| 1 | 1 | Clippings re Mary P.H. Hough, M.D. and C.B. Hough, M.D. | 1975; n.d. |
| | 2 | Corson, Hiram, M.D. to Mary Hallowell, M.D. [2 ALS: June 12; July 11, 1886] | 1886 |
| | 3 | Corson, Hiram, M.D. to Mary P.H. Hough, M.D. [1 ALS: Aug. 14, 1887] | 1887 |
| | 4 | "Early History of Ambler, 1682-1888," by Dr. Mary P.H. Hough | 1936 |
| | 5 | Hallowell, William J. & Tacy P. to Mary Hallowell [1 ALS: undated] | n.d. |
| | 6 | Hallowell, William J. to Mary Hallowell [1 ALS: Dec. 2, 1879; envelope] | 1879 |
| | 7 | Hallowell, William J. & Tacy P. to Mary Hallowell [2 ALS: Oct. 16-17; Nov. 29, 1880] | 1880 |
| | 8 | Hough, Charles B., M.D.: Physician's Clinical Record | ca. 1886-1919 |
| | 9 | I.R.S. Tax Certificate for "Practitioner Dispensing Opium, Coca Leaves, etc." [made out to Mary P. H. Hough, M.D.] | 1941 |
| | 10 | Mailing Labels, "Mary P.H. Hough, M.D." & "C.B. Hough, M.D." | n.d. |
| | 11 | Pennsylvania Certificate of Death [blank form] | ca. 1930 |

| <u>Box</u> | <u>Folder</u> | <u>Contents</u> | <u>Dates</u> |
|------------|---------------|--|--------------|
| 1 | 12 | "Physicians' Pocket Reference..." published by the U.S. Dept. of Commerce, 1918, [4th edition] | 1918 |
| | 13 | Photo Album [photocopies; original images removed to Photograph Collection] | n.d. |

Items removed for special storage:

The following photographs, diplomas or artifacts from the Mary Hallowell Hough collections, have been transferred to the non-print collections.

Photographs of the Hallowell and Hough families -- Photo collection numbers may be found on the replacement copies in the album.

- 1 "Shingle" plaque, "Mary P.H. Hough, M.D."
- 1 campaign type button bearing picture of Dr. Mary Hough
- 1 metal i.d. tag labelled, "Dr. Mary P.H. Hough..."
- 1 doctor's bag, interior labelled, "T.P. Hough, Ambler, Pa."
- 1 framed photo of the Hough home
- 1 glass bottle with stopper
- 1 glass beaker

Certificates and Diplomas belonging to Charles B. Hough:

- 1877 Philadelphia School of Anatomy
- 1877 Jefferson Medical College
- 1878 Medical Examination, Jefferson Assoc.
- 1878 Philadelphia School of Anatomy & Operative Surgery
- 1907 Medical Club of Ambler Pa. (membership)

Diplomas belonging to Mary P. Hallowell Hough:

- 1878 Swarthmore College, Bachelor of Arts
- 1881 Swarthmore College, Master of Arts