

Curtis Hidden Page:

An Inventory of His Papers at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Page, Curtis Hidden, 1870-1946
Title:	Curtis Hidden Page Papers
Dates:	1886-1946
Extent:	9 document boxes, 1 oversize box (osb) (4.78 linear feet), 6 galley folders
Abstract:	Page's translated works make up a significant portion of this collection but there are also original texts from his poems, essays and other original works in numerous stages of editing.
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-3136
Languages:	English and French
Access:	Open for research. Part or all of this collection is housed off-site and may require up to three business days notice for access in the Ransom Center's Reading and Viewing Room. Please contact the Center before requesting this material: reference@hrc.utexas.edu

Administrative Information

Acquisition:	Purchase, 1963 (R1088)
Processed by:	Jonathan Reynolds, 2006, updated by Jack Boettcher, 2012
Repository:	The University of Texas at Austin, Harry Ransom Center

Biographical Sketch

Curtis Hidden Page was an American educator and translator born in Greenwood, Missouri, in 1870. The Pages trace their roots back to some of the founding members of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, including Gov. John Winthrop. Page graduated from Harvard University in 1892 with a doctorate in English Literature and a concentration in French. He taught French and English at Harvard for fifteen years. In 1911, after a brief stint at Columbia and Northwestern Universities, Page became a professor of English Literature at Dartmouth College, where he remained until his death in 1946.

In World War I, Page served as an officer in the Ordinance Corp. from 1917 to 1919. He advanced to the rank of major through a series of rapid promotions during his first few months due to his ability to speak both French and German and translate effectively. Page later served his state of New Hampshire as a state legislator in 1933 and again in 1939 at the age of 69.

Throughout his life, Dr. Page was a prolific and gifted poet. He published not only in literary journals and magazines like *Vanity Fair*, but also in stand-alone collections. Page is known for his theatrical translations of plays by Molière, Rabelais, and de Bergerac. His translation of *Tartuffe, or the Hypocrite* by Molière remains the definitive text for English productions.

Sources:

Dealer's description, House of El Dieff, Inc., 1962

Scope and Contents

Page's translated works make up a significant portion of this collection, but there are also original texts from his poems, essays, and other original works in numerous stages of editing. His handwritten corrections and changes are present throughout the collection, and he was quite an aggressive editor. The collection is organized into three series: I. Works, divided into original and translated works and arranged alphabetically by title (5 boxes); II. Correspondence, subdivided into outgoing and incoming and arranged chronologically (1 box); and III. Personal Papers, including his notes and works as a graduate student (3 boxes).

The Works Series contains typescripts, manuscripts, and proofs, many thoroughly edited in Page's hand. His original works include the historical work *Japanese Poetry*, as well as an intended magnum opus, entitled *French Influences on English Literature*, which was never published, but on which he had worked for nearly forty years according to his "Conclusion." Also included are multiple drafts of scores of poems written from

1896-1917, including several that were not published. The translations are of works by French dramatists and poets. Also present are his translations of the eight great works of Molière, material from both editions of *Songs and Sonnets of Pierre de Ronsard*, and works originally by Anatole France, Lord Michael of Montaigne, and Rabelais.

The Correspondence Series includes letters from throughout Page's literary career, his time as a student, and his tenure with both the military and the state legislature. Some of his correspondents include J.H. Wheelock, Henriette Hovey and Hariette Hovey, the wife and mother of Richard Hovey respectively, William Plumer Fowler, and Brander Matthews. Three handwritten letters addressed to Mrs. Page mark her only appearance in the collection.

The Personal Papers Series is predominantly Dr. Page's notes and works as a student, spanning three boxes. Also included is a newspaper sketch of Dr. Page, his military service record, extensive materials on the family genealogy, a bound scrapbook, and a handwritten copy of his "Will and Testament" from 1913.

Index Terms

Subjects

Educators--American.

Translators.

Series I. Works 1896-1923

Subseries A. Originals by Page

<i>A Book about Book Collecting</i> , handwritten and typescript drafts	Box 1 Folder 1
"Edmond Rostand," essay, galley proofs	Container gf 1
Essays, handwritten and typescript drafts	Box 1 Folder 2-5
French Influences on English Literature	
Handwritten notes	Box 1 Folder 6
Handwritten draft	Folder 7-8
Typescript draft	Folder 9-10
<i>Japanese Poetry</i> (1923)	Box 2
Handwritten draft	Folder 1
Typescript draft with revisions	Folder 2
Page proofs	Container osb 10
Galley proofs	Container gf 2
Poems, handwritten and typescript drafts	Box 2
Various	Folder 3
CHP 'File no. 4'	Folder 4-5

Subseries B. Translated or Edited by Page

<i>The Man Who Married a Dumb Wife</i> (1915)	
Working copy of play in French	Folder 6
Typescript draft	Folder 7
Sheet music, correspondence, and page proofs	Folder 8
Galley proofs	Container gf 3

<i>Molière</i> (1908)	Box 3
"Preface," typescript draft	Folder 1
"Bibliography," two typescript drafts	Folder 2
"The Affected Misses," typescript	Folder 3
"Don Juan"	
Typescript draft marked '2'	Box 3 Folder 4
Typescript draft	Folder 5
"Tartuffe"	
Handwritten draft	Box 3 Folder 6
Typescript draft marked 'copy 3'	Folder 7
Typescript draft	Folder 8
"The Misanthrope," handwritten draft	Folder 9
"Doctor by Compulsion," typescript draft	Folder 10
"The Miser"	
Typescript draft marked '2'	Box 3 Folder 11
Typescript draft marked '3'	Folder 12
"Tradesman Turned Gentleman," galley proofs	Container gf 4
"Learned Ladies"	
Handwritten draft	Box 4 Folder 1
Typescript draft with Page's corrections	Folder 2
Typescript draft with "Other's" corrections	Folder 3

Page proofs	Folder 4-6
<i>Montaigne, the Essays</i> (1907)	
Page proofs	Box 4 Folder 7
Galley proofs	Container gf 5
<i>Rabelais</i> (1905)	
"Introduction," typescript draft	Box 5 Folder 1
Page proofs	Folder 2
<i>Songs and Sonnets of Pierre de Ronsard</i> (1903/1924)	
1903 edition	
Handwritten notes	Box 5 Folder 3-5
Typescript draft	Folder 6
Typescript draft with corrections	Folder 7
'Notes,' three typescript drafts	Folder 8
Page proofs, two sets	Container osb 10
1924 edition	
"Preface," handwritten draft and three typescript drafts	Box 5 Folder 9
"Preface," page proofs	Container osb 10
Page proofs	
Galley proofs	Container gf 6

Series II. Correspondence 1891-1946

Subseries A. Outgoing

1904-1928, undated

Box 6 Folder 1

Subseries B. Incoming

1891-1915

Folder 2

1916-1946

Folder 3

Undated

Folder 4

Withdrawals from other collections

**Folder
5**

To Mrs. Page

Folder 6

Third-party correspondence

Folder 7

Series III. Personal Papers, 1886-1942

Biographical and publishing notes	Box 7 Folder 1
Military service records	Folder 2
Miscellaneous	Folder 3
Page family genealogy	Folder 4
Scrapbook 'E.B.S. 1900'	Folder 5
Loose clippings	Folder 6
Sketch of C.H. Page	Folder 7
Student notes and works	Folder 8
Student notes and works, continued	Box 8 Folder 1-6
Student notes and works, continued	Box 9
'Will and Testament,' handwritten, 1913	Folder 7
Oversize materials	Container osb 10

Bar Code List

- 1--059188000054377
- 2--059188000054388
- 3--059188000054399
- 4--059188000054402
- 5--059188000054413
- 6--059188000054424
- 7--059188000054435
- 8--059188000054446
- 9--059188000054457