

AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY  
MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

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**NAME OF COLLECTION:**

Bowen Family, Papers, c. 1847-c. 1934

**LOCATION:**

Octavo vols. "B"  
Folio vols. "B"  
Mss. boxes "B"  
Oversize mss. boxes "B"

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**SIZE OF COLLECTION:**

16 octavo volumes; 32 folio volumes; 1 manuscript box; 1 oversize folder (3 items)

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**SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON COLLECTION:**

See Edward Augustus Bowen, *Lineage of the Bowens of Woodstock, Connecticut* (Cambridge, Mass.: Printed at the Riverside Press, 1897); see also PAAS, 46 (1937) 6-10.

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**SOURCE OF COLLECTION:**

Gifts of Clarence W. Bowen, 1933 and 1934; materials in oversize folder, the gift of Yale University, 1987

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**COLLECTION DESCRIPTION:**

Clarence Winthrop Bowen (1852-1935), the son of Henry Chandler and Lucy Maria (Tappan) Bowen, was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., on 22 May 1852. He graduated from Yale University in 1873, and also received the degrees A.M. in 1876 and Ph.D. in 1882 from that institution. He began a career in journalism in 1874 in the editorial department of the Independent, a weekly Congregational journal with a strong anti-slavery bias that had been founded by his father. The following year he became its foreign correspondent, and from 1896 to 1912 its publisher and proprietor. After retiring from journalism, Bowen involved himself with historical research, genealogy, and world travel. His interests ranged from the George Washington Centennial Celebration (1889), to the establishment of the American Historical Association, the Celebration of the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Discovery of America, the 1892 World's Fair, the American Antiquarian Society, the Republican Party, the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, and the Manhattan Congregational Church. In all these endeavors he was generous both with his money and his time. Bowen died in Woodstock, Conn., on 2 November 1935.

Bowen married, on 28 January 1892, Roxana Atwater Wentworth (1854-1935), the daughter of John, a Chicago millionaire, and Roxana Marie (Loomis) Wentworth. They had one child: Roxana Wentworth (1895- ).

Henry Chandler Bowen (1813-1896), father of Clarence Winthrop Bowen, founder of the Independent, was a close associate of Henry Ward Beecher and Theodore Tilton. He married, on 6 June 1844, Lucy Maria Tappan (1825-1863), daughter of Lewis and Susanna (Aspinwall) Tappan.

Herbert Wolcott Bowen (1856-1927), brother of Clarence Winthrop Bowen, graduated from Yale, studied law, and made his reputation as a diplomat. He was the consul-general in Spain and Persia, minister to Venezuela during the 1902 crisis, and was dismissed by Theodore Roosevelt in 1905.

This comprehensive collection, assembled by Clarence Winthrop Bowen, covers his career from his college days at Yale to his death. It is not only a record of Bowen's many interests but also a reflection of his family's activities and, to some extent, a chronicle of the social, political, and literary events of the period.

Bowen kept a journal from 1869 through 1934. The first volume (of thirteen) begins his life as a Yale undergraduate and the succeeding volumes trace his work on the Independent, his many social, academic, and charitable concerns, and his frequent travels to Europe and the western United States. Bowen was careful to record conversations and encounters with people he thought important. The journals are primarily descriptive, not reflective or analytical.

There are approximately one thousand eight hundred (1800) items in the collection that have been cataloged, including family correspondence, correspondence with important political and social figures, poems, drafts, copies of speeches, reports, and records of meetings. Several scrapbooks that include some correspondence have not been cataloged. The bulk of the scrapbook material, however, is a potpourri of menus, invitations, list of ships' passengers, photographs, postcards, newspaper clippings, and mementos from all phases of Bowen's life.

Many items in the scrapbooks concern the famous Fourth of July celebrations in Woodstock, Conn., initiated by Henry Chandler Bowen. There are photographs, invitations, programs, poems, and newspaper clippings all attesting to the appeal of the event.

Clarence worked diligently to promote the career of his brother, Hebert Wolcott Bowen, and the collection includes many letters between the two, and letters that Clarence wrote on Herbert's behalf.

See Series Description and Contents List. See also the Calendar of Correspondence available in the repository.

16 December 1974  
revised 16 February 2010

**American Antiquarian Society  
Manuscript Collections**

Bowen Family, Papers, c. 1847-c. 1934  
Contents List

**OCTAVO  
VOLUME**

**CONTENTS**

Clarence W. Bowen, Journals, 1869 - 1934

1

**1869 July 19 - 1878 November 11**

--stamped in gold on front cover: Clarence Winthrop Bowen. Yale College, Class 73.; his bookplate pasted on inside front cover; inscribed on front flyleaf: Presented to Clarence Winthrop Bowen from his affectionate brother, Henry E. Bowen. New York. July 24<sup>th</sup> 1869. 'Labor omnia vinis'; mss. t.p. reads: Journal of Clarence Winthrop Bowen, During his course at Yale College from

1869-73.; includes six photographs of CWB

- 2           **1875 July 2 - 1878 April 7**  
 --stamped in gold on front cover: Clarence Winthrop Bowen, The Independent. New York.; his bookplate pasted on inside front cover; inscribed on front flyleaf: Clarence W. Bowen. 251 Broadway. New York or Care Brown, Shipley & Co. Bankers. London, England
- 3           **1879 January 4 - 1883 January 14**  
 --his bookplate pasted on inside front cover; inscribed on front flyleaf: Journal of Clarence W. Bowen Jan. 4. 1879
- 4           **1883 January 28 - 1885 May 3**  
 --his bookplate pasted on inside front cover; inscribed on front flyleaf: Vol IV of Journal. Clarence W. Bowen January, 1883
- 5           **1885 May 10 - 1887 December 31**  
 --inscribed on front flyleaf: Vol. V of Journal Clarence W. Bowen May 10. 1885
- 6           **1888 January 13 - 1890 April 26**  
 --inscribed on front flyleaf: Clarence Winthrop Bowen Journal VI Jan 4. 1888
- 7           **1890 July 8 - 1894 December 31**  
 --inscribed on front flyleaf: Vol. VII Journal Clarence Winthrop Bowen July 8, 1890 July 1890 to Jan 1895
- 8           **1895 March 16 - 1902 December 31**  
 --inscribed on front flyleaf: Clarence Winthrop Bowen Journal Volume VIII 3 East 10St New York March 16, 1895.
- 9           **1903 February 22 - 1909 December 26**  
 --inscribed on front flyleaf: Vol. IX Journal of Clarence Winthrop Bowen 5 East 63 St, New York Washington's Birthday, 1903

**OCTAVO  
 VOLUME**

**CONTENTS**

Clarence W. Bowen, Journals, 1869 - 1934 (cont.)

- 10           **1910 January 5 - 1913 June 9**  
 --inscribed on front flyleaf: Vol. X Journal of Clarence Winthrop Bowen 5 East 63 St. New York Tuesday evening, Jan 4, 1910
- 11           **1913 June 18 - 1920 May 30**  
 --inscribed on front flyleaf: Vol. XI Journal of Clarence Winthrop Bowen June 17, 1913
- 12           **1920 June 8 - 1923 December 18**  
 --inscribed on [p. 4]: Vol XII Journal of Clarence Winthrop Bowen London June 8, 1920
- 13           **1924 January 1 - 1934 December 31**  
 --inscribed on front flyleaf: Vol. XIII Journal of Clarence Winthrop Bowen 5 East 63 St New York, January first 1924

Scrapbooks, 1883 - 1886

- 14           **1884 - 1886**  
 --items pertaining to the Brooklyn Young Republicans and the American Historical Association; some uncataloged correspondence; notes for speeches [Bowen Scrapbook Vol. XXIV]
- 15           **1883 - 1886**



- uncataloged loose items, including photographs [Bowen Scrapbook Vol. XIIIa]
- 14           **1886 - 1890**  
--cataloged correspondence [Bowen Scrapbook Vol. XIV]
- 15           **1889, Roseland Park**  
--mostly newspaper clippings [Bowen Scrapbook Vol. XVI]
- 16           **1886 - 1892**  
--Woodstock, Conn., bicentennial celebration; newspaper clippings [Bowen Scrapbook Vol. XVII]
- 17           **1885 - 1891**  
--newspaper clippings and mementos [Bowen Scrapbook Vol. XVIII]
- FOLIO**  
**VOLUME**
- Scrapbooks, 1864 - 1933 (cont.)
- 18           **1865 - 1885**  
--newspaper clippings and mementos [Bowen Scrapbook Vol. XIX]
- 19           **1882 - 1884**  
--cataloged correspondence; advertisements for CWB's The Boundary Dispute of Connecticut; mementos and newspaper clippings [Bowen Scrapbook Vol. XX]
- 20           **1890 - 1898**  
--newspaper clippings [Bowen Scrapbook Vol. XXI]
- 21           **1895 - 1901**  
--newspaper clippings and mementos [Bowen Scrapbook Vol. XXII]
- 22           **1882 - 1883** [plus miscellaneous years at back of the volume]  
--cataloged correspondence; correspondence relating to CWB's The Boundary Dispute of Connecticut, and to Yale College [Bowen Scrapbook Vol. XXIII]
- 23           **1886 - 1888**  
--cataloged correspondence; newspaper clippings [Bowen Scrapbook Vol. XXVI]
- 24           **1889 - 1901**  
--uncataloged correspondence and poems; items pertaining to 1892 World's Fair [Bowen Scrapbook Vol. XXVII]
- 25           **1889, Centennial of Washington Inauguration**  
--newspaper clippings [Bowen Scrapbook Vol. XXXI]
- 26           **1889, Centennial of Washington Inauguration**  
--newspaper clippings [Bowen Scrapbook Vol. XXXII]
- 27           **1889, Centennial of Washington Inauguration**  
--newspaper clippings [Bowen Scrapbook Vol. XXXIII]
- 28           **n.d.** [folder]  
--items relating to exhibit on General Von Closen [Bowen Scrapbook Vol. XXXIIIa]
- 29           **1889, Centennial of Washington Inauguration**  
--newspaper clippings [Bowen Scrapbook Vol. XXXIV]
- 30           **1889 - 1916**  
--uncataloged correspondence; newspaper clippings and mementos [Bowen Scrapbook Vol. XXXV]
- 31           **1922 - 1933**  
--uncataloged correspondence; newspaper clippings and mementos; photographs and postcards from trips to Europe [Bowen Scrapbook

Vol. XXXVI]

**FOLIO  
VOLUME**

Scrapbooks, 1864 - 1933 (cont.)

32

**1928 - 1933**--cataloged correspondence; newspaper clippings [Bowen Scrapbook  
Vol. XXXVII]**MANUSCRIPT FOLDER  
BOX****CONTENTS**

Loose Items from CWB's Journals, 1869 - 1920

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | 1869-1878 (oct. vol. #1)                 |
| 2 | 1888-1890 (oct. vol. #6)                 |
| 3 | 1890-1894 (oct. vol. #7)                 |
| 4 | 1895-1902 (oct. vol. #8)                 |
| 5 | 1903-1909 (oct. vol. #9)                 |
| 6 | 1913-1920 (oct. vol. #11)                |
| 7 | Two letters to HWB from Pres. Taft, 1912 |

Correspondence from Bowen Scrapbook, Vol. X  
[cataloged correspondence, 1888-1894]

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 8  | Index to the volume<br>Letters numbered:     |
| 9  | 1 - 15                                       |
| 10 | 16 - 30                                      |
| 11 | 31 - 45                                      |
| 12 | 46 - 60                                      |
| 13 | 61 - 75                                      |
| 14 | 76 - 90                                      |
| 15 | 91 - 105                                     |
| 16 | 106 - 120                                    |
| 17 | 121 - 135                                    |
| 18 | 136 - 150                                    |
| 19 | 151 - 165                                    |
| 20 | 166 - 180                                    |
| 21 | 181 - 195                                    |
| 22 | 196 - 210                                    |
| 23 | 211 - 225                                    |
| 24 | 226 - 240                                    |
| 25 | 241 - 255                                    |
| 26 | 256 - 270                                    |
| 27 | 271 - 280; picture of Gov. Winthrop of Conn. |

Items from Bowen Scrapbook, Vol. XV  
[cataloged correspondence, 1889]

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 28 | Index to the volume  |
| 29 | Printed poem by Robert C. Winthrop entitled, "To George<br>Washington. April 30, 1889."<br>Letters numbered: |
| 30 | 1 - 15   |
| 31 | 16 - 30  |
| 32 | 31 - 45  |

**MANUSCRIPT FOLDER  
BOX****CONTENTS**Items from Bowen Scrapbook, Vol. XV (cont.)  
[cataloged correspondence, 1889]

- |    |         |
|----|---------|
| 33 | 46 - 60 |
| 34 | 61 - 75 |
| 35 | 76 - 83 |

36 photocopy of spine labels, and front covers, of vols. X & XV

**OVERSIZE  
FOLDER**

HWB, Appointment as Consul of the U.S. at Barcelona, 1890 March 7; HWB, Special Passport, 1899 May 25; HWB, Appointment as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the U.S. to Venezuela, 1901 June 17