

Chloe Cudsworth Littlefield papers

MC 144

Finding aid prepared by Bethany Myers.

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Summary Information

Repository	University of Pennsylvania: Barbara Bates Center for the Study of The History of Nursing
Creator	Cudsworth, Chloe
Title	Chloe Cudsworth Littlefield papers
Call number	MC 144
Date [inclusive]	1883-1902
Extent	2 linear feet
Language	English
Abstract	Chloe Cudsworth Littlefield graduated from Women's Hospital of Philadelphia School of Nursing in 1883. She worked as a private duty nurse in Pennsylvania, Delaware, New York, and Massachusetts. This collection contains Littleworth's diary, correspondence, photographs, and printed items.

Cite as:

Chloe Cudsworth Littlefield papers, Barbara Bates Center for The Study of The History of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania

Biography/History

Chloe Cudsworth Littlefield, an 1883 graduate of Women's Hospital of Philadelphia School of Nursing, worked as a private duty nurse in the last two decades of the 19th century. The collection, which includes Littlefield's diaries and letters, offers a rare look at private duty nursing, the main occupational field in which early professional nurses worked.

Between 1882-1883, Littlefield's assignments took her to various locations in Philadelphia and Wilmington, Delaware. Upon completion of her training, Littlefield returned to her hometown of Troy, New York, carrying letters of introduction from a former instructor recommending her to physicians there as a "competent and painstaking nurse, and [asking] for her your favorable consideration." She continued in private duty in Springfield, Massachusetts, where she moved in 1887.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of an original diary, correspondence, photographs, and printed items concerning the life and career of Chloe Cudsworth Littlefield.

Bates Center Fellow, Dr. Patricia D'Antonio, offered an excellent commentary on the Littlefield collection in the Center's newsletter, *The Chronicle* (2003). As D'Antonio notes, the papers do more than chronicle a life: they represent the world of an individual as she moved, rather fluidly, between social and domestic spheres. The collection is especially interesting in that it includes Littlefield's own thoughts as recorded in her diary as well as those of women with whom she corresponded, some of whom were also nurses.

The Littlefield collection represents an invaluable look into the working life of one early professional nurse, offering researchers primary source material on a critical period in the development of nursing as a profession and occupation.

Administrative Information

University of Pennsylvania, Barbara Bates Center for the Study of The History of Nursing
Finding aid prepared by Bethany Myers.

Access Restrictions

This collection is unrestricted.

Use Restrictions

Copyright restrictions may apply. Please contact the Center with requests for copying and for authorization to publish, quote or reproduce the material.

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Gift of Elizabeth Losa, 2002-2004.

Processing Information note

This collection-level record is listed here to increase access to our holdings. A finding aid has not yet been completed for this collection. Please contact the Center for more information.

Controlled Access Headings

CORPORATE NAME(S)

- Woman's Hospital of Philadelphia.

FORM/GENRE(S)

- Diaries
- Personal papers

OCCUPATION(S)

- Nurse

PERSONAL NAME(S)

- Cudsworth, Chloe
- Losa, Elizabeth

SUBJECT(S)

- Private duty nursing