

IHLC MS 188

**John Van Cleve Phillips  
Papers, 1855-1890 and 1926**

# Manuscript Collection Inventory

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John Van Cleve Phillips  
Papers, 1855-1890 and 1926.

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*Series descriptions*

I. CORRESPONDENCE

The first series of the Phillips collection consists of the family's correspondence. It is divided into three groups: the John Van Cleve Phillips correspondence; the correspondence of Mary Byles Phillips and that of the Byles family; and the correspondence of the Phillips' son, A.V. The John Van Cleve Phillips letters are further divided into two groups: the letters he wrote to his wife (1855-1890) and those he wrote to friends and business acquaintances. The correspondence in each of the groups is arranged in chronological order.

II. PERSONAL PAPERS

The second series is largely made up of the ten diaries of Phillips which span the years 1878-1890. Phillips' diaries are

arranged in chronological order. In addition, this series contains several items relating to Phillips' personal life such as his phrenological character reading and his appointment as a member of the Board of State Centennial Managers. This material is also arranged in chronological order.

### III. BUSINESS PAPERS

The third series contains Phillips' business papers. They are divided into two groups: farm reports and survey summaries; and legal papers. The first group includes a listing of lands owned by Phillips, reports of improvements made on several farms and summaries of mineral surveys. The legal papers include options, agreements, abstracts, deeds, notices of mining locations and stock certificates. The papers in each group are arranged chronologically.

### IV. GEOLOGICAL WORKS

The geological reports, atlases, surveys, maps and geological sectional drawings produced by Phillips comprise the fourth series. Each of his reports concerns a specific area in Arkansas, Michigan, Missouri, Montana or Wisconsin. They are in alphabetical order by state and arranged chronologically within each state section. Most of the atlas and survey volumes are devoted to Missouri and the Mississippi Valley. They are arranged in chronological order. The maps, too, are mostly of Missouri counties; however, there are some maps of adjacent states such as Illinois. The maps are arranged alphabetically by state. The geological sectional drawings are arranged in two groups: those of Missouri areas and those of railroads. Phillips Centennial Political and Industrial Geological Sections are a particularly noteworthy part of this section.

### V. LITERARY WORKS

The fifth series contains John Van Cleve Phillips' literary works. One group includes a number of unbound works—articles, poetry, letters to editors and his work, "Mineral Blossoms." They are arranged chronologically. The second group consists of bound volumes of manuscripts of essays, poetry and Phillips' autobiography. The volumes are in chronological order.

## VI. PRINTED MATERIALS

The sixth series contains three sections of printed materials: newspaper clippings, publications of Phillips and miscellaneous publications. The newspaper clippings are arranged in chronological order and include two copies of Phillips' obituary. Phillips' publications include both literary and geological material and are either in broadside format or in pamphlet style. They are in chronological order. The miscellaneous publications are two articles by Frances Nipher on magnetic variation, a book entitled *Monumental Inscriptions of the British West Indies*, and a map of Asia. They are arranged in chronological order.

## VII. MISCELLANEOUS FAMILY PAPERS AND MEMORABILIA

The seventh series includes a lock of hair belonging to Mary Byles Phillips' mother and copies of the Armitage Pedigree or family tree.

## VIII. ADDENDUM, FEB. 1990

Contains two letter fragments and two unidentified geological drawings.

## I. CORRESPONDENCE

## A. John Van Cleve Phillips

1. To wife, Mary Byles Phillips, 1855-1884 (32 items)

May, June, Sept., 1855 (26 items)

Apr. 2, 1883

Aug. 27, 1883

Dec. 26, 1883

Mar. 5, 1884

Apr. 13, 1884

Jan. 20, 1890(?)

2. JVCP and others, ca. 1865-90 (7 items)

Edward Daniels to JVCP (copy), Jan. 22, 1866

JVCP to Mr. Scott, July 12, 1867

JVCP to Joseph R. Putnam, Aug. 5, 1881

JVCP to Imogene Walton Phillips, Oct. 27, 1883

N.C. Hudson, Collection of Revenue (St. Louis) to

JVCP, Oct. 29, 1883

Arthur H. Elliott to JVCP, June 9, 1887

## B. Mary Byles Phillips

1. n.d. (7 items)
2. Byles Family correspondence, 1859-92 (6 items)
3. 1891-95 (15 items)
4. 1896-97 (16 items)

## C. A.V. Phillips, son of JVCP and MBP

1. 1920-21 (9 items)

## II. PERSONAL PAPERS

## A. Diaries, Memorandum Books (10 v.)

The volumes are a mixture of personal notes and geology-related

entries. All of the notebooks contain geological notes, sectional drawings, maps and essays. Additional contents are noted with individual entries. The states listed in brackets are represented by maps and/or geological sections in the volume.

1. Diary. Itinerary of travel in Mexico; drawings, 1878
  2. Diary. Contains accounts, memoranda. [Missouri], 1879
  3. Untitled. Contains drafts of letters, notices of Phillips' surveys. [Mexico, Nevada, Wisconsin, Missouri, Arkansas, New Jersey]. Partial Index. pp. 1-24 missing, 1883-84
  4. Untitled. Contains drafts of reports. [Kentucky, Missouri, Montana], 1884
  5. Untitled. Contains copied articles and poems. [Wisconsin, Missouri, Arkansas], 1885
  6. Bank Book. Contains 1 page of bank entries, 1886
  7. Untitled. Contains poems. Index. [Wisconsin, Missouri, Indiana, Ohio], 1887
  8. Memorandum Book. Contains poems, reports, collection of comments about his surveys. [Missouri, Wisconsin, Arkansas, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, West Virginia], 1888
  9. Memorandum Book. Contains essays, reports. [Missouri, Iowa, Wisconsin], 1888-90
  10. Notebook. Contains reports, n.d.
- B. Cancelled checks, tax bills, 1884-90 (14 items)
- C. Phrenological character of JVCP, 1858
- D. Appointment as Honorary Member of the Board of State Centennial Managers, 1875
- E. "An Act to Provide for the Publishing of 5,000 Copies of J. Vanclève Phillips Survey of the Mineral Fields of Missouri and Compiling 12 Sets of his Large Geological Atlases of these Mineral Fields." Drafted by JVCP.

### III. BUSINESS PAPERS

#### A. Farm Reports and Survey Summaries

1. Lands owned by JVCP
2. Statement of Sherlock Farm
3. Improvement of farms
4. Report on the farming and improvement on the Chateau League Tract by W. N. Blip, Superintendent, n.d.
5. Summary of Vineland Survey
6. Survey of Mineral Claims  
for Boisaubin by JVCP  
for H.R. Phillips by Smith Scogis
7. Description of Montana Gold Mining and Milling Company

#### B. Legal Papers

1. Options  
Option and Power of Attorney, 1886-1887 (2 items)  
Option and Certified Abstract, Mt. Ida Mining District, 1880 (3 items)
2. Agreements  
Agreement between JVCP and Henry A. Underwood, 1864  
Agreement between JVCP and Henry Herbert Balch, 1864  
Agreement between JVCP and A. B. Meeker, 1887
3. Abstracts (Statements) of Title (6 items)
4. Deeds (Warranty)  
Theodore A. Dame to JVCP, Dec. 27, 1859

F.H. Woodworth to JVCP, Nov. 30, 1878

5. Notices of Location

Hot Springs Mining District, Garland County, Arkansas,  
Dec. 1879

Mt. Ida Mining District, Montgomery County, Arkansas,  
Jan. 1881; Mar.-Apr. 1886; Mar. 1887; and Mar.-Apr.  
1888 (4 items)

6. Stock Certificates (10 items)

a. St. Clair Mining Company, Franklin County, Mo.,  
1874 (7 items)

b. The Dry Mountain Gold and Silver Mining Company  
(East St. Louis, Illinois), 1887 (3 items)

IV. GEOLOGICAL WORKS

A. Reports

1. Arkansas

a. Report on six mining claims located in centre of the  
Tornado Silver Basin, Mt. Ida mining district, Montgomery  
County, 1886

b. Report to the Directors and Stockholders of the Dry  
Mountain Gold and Silver Mining Company, 1886

c. Report on twelve mining claims located in centre of the  
Tornado Silver Basin, Montgomery County, 1887

d. Statement of the character of the Walnut quartz vein.  
Mount Ida mining district, Montgomery County, n.d.

e. Report on the mammillary paps and argentiferous quartz  
veins located in Montgomery County, n.d.

2. Michigan

Report on the mine and lands of the Winona Copper Mining  
Company of Michigan, n.d.



## 3. Missouri

- a. Report on fourteen hundred and seven acres of lead lands in Jefferson and Franklin Counties, 1863
- b. Report on the timber, mining and agricultural value of the Massey Farm situated near St. Clair in Franklin County, 1876
- c. Report on the Crane, Shaver and Raney farms in the Desarc Valley Iron County, 1878
- d. Report on the Geology and prospective mining value of the Ste. Genevieve Copper Basin, Ste. Genevieve County, 1881
- e. Silver bearing quartz vein in Wayne County, 1882
- f. Statement of S.W. 40 acres of Company Land being NE 1/4 Sec. 18, T. 28, R. 31 W., 1887
- g. Report on ten thousand acres of timber and mineral land in Iron, Wayne and Madison Counties, showing timber, agricultural and mining resources of land, 1887
- h. Statement about a quartz vein in the Iron Mountain Region, n.d.
- i. Report on a Salt Petre Cave and tract of land, Deut County, n.d.
- j. Report on the Butcher and Shaw lead mines, n.d.
- k. Description of 1080 acres of land in Iron County and State of Missouri, n.d.
- l. Report on 80 acres of lead and zinc land adjoining the Clear Creek and Tar-Kill lead mines, n.d.
- m. Report on the Geology of the Alley (Ailej) Mountain Silver-berry quartz vein, Wayne County, n.d.
- n. Report on the geology about Seneca, Mo., and the 1,000 acres of the Huber Ranch property adjoining the town, n.d.

o. Report on the geology of the Irish Mineral Hill lead property, n.d.

p. Report on the lead discoveries on the Joshua Hudson land Sec. 1 & 6, T. 35, R. 9 and 10 E., Perry County, n.d.

q. Report on tract of lead land in T. 38, R. 5 E., Jefferson County, n.d.

r. Report on the timber, agricultural and mineral resources of ten thousand acres of land in Crawford County, n.d.

4. Montana

Butte District, n.d.

5. Wisconsin

a. Report on the lead property known as the Phillips Farm in Hazel Green Township, Grant County, 1863

b. Report on six hundred and twelve acres of lead lands known as the Sinsinawa Mound property, Grant County, 1863.

B. Atlases and Surveys (23 v.)

The volumes contain maps and/or geological sectional drawings for some parts of the states listed in brackets.

1. Sections of Mineral Veins of the U.S. Index, 1855
2. Phillips' Geological Observer of the Mineral Fields of Wisconsin, Missouri and other parts of the United States. Miscellaneous sectional drawings and geological articles. Extensive notes added 1878. Index, 1857
3. Phillips' Geology of Missouri. Charts and sections of the lead, copper, iron and other mineral fields of South Missouri, 1861
4. Geological Township Maps of the Mineral Fields of the Iron Mountain Region, Missouri, 1862

5. Sections and Descriptions of Lead and Copper Veins. Introductory materials. [Wisconsin; Missouri; Iowa; Galena, Ill.; New York; Connecticut; North Carolina; New Hampshire; Maryland], 1862
6. Sections of Mineral Veins of the Lead, Copper, Iron and Coal Fields of the Upper Mississippi Valley. Tables showing lead mining companies in Wisconsin and Missouri—amount of land owned, capital stock, where owned, yields and other related data. [Iowa, Wisconsin, JoDaviess Co., Ill.; Chicago], 1864
7. Vertical Sections of the Strata of the Coal, Iron, Lead and Copper Fields of the Mississippi Valley. [Wisconsin, Iowa, JoDaviess Co. and Galena, Ill.; Miscellaneous sections of Ohio River], 1864
8. Geological Township Maps of the Upper Mississippi Lead Field. Introductory material including Phillips' Three Laws and additional essays. [Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Wisconsin], 1866-72
9. Missouri Survey (West). Maps, books, poems, essays and sectional drawings, 1871
10. Untitled. (East). Similar to volume 9. Poems, essays, clippings, reports and sectional drawings. Index, ca. 1871
11. Phillips' Topographical Maps and Sections of the Upper Lead Fields and Missouri. Essay on animal magnetism. Introduction written 1877. [Washington, Crawford and Franklin Counties in Missouri], 1872-73
12. Phillips' Geology of Mineral Fields, Missouri. T. 28 to T. 41 R. 1 to 6, E. Some newspaper clippings and printed maps, including some railroad maps, 1873.
13. Phillips' Geology of Lead Fields, Mississippi Valley. [Iowa; Missouri; New York; Galena, Ill.], 1873
14. Phillips' Topography of Mineral Fields, Missouri, T. 28 to T. 42. R. 1 to 6, W, 1874
15. Phillips' Topographical Maps of T. 28 to T. 42 and R. 1 to 8, E., Missouri, 1875

16. Phillips' Geology of Mineral Fields, Missouri. T. 28 to T. 42. R.1 to 6, W. Includes some newspaper clippings of surveys, articles by JVCP, 1875
  17. Charts Illustrating the Dynamical Geology of the Upper Mississippi Lead Field. Interspersed with poems. Mineral Blossoms essay. [Wisconsin, Missouri]. Cover date, 1852, 1876
  18. Dynamical Geology of Springs and Miscellaneous Notes. Essays, sectional drawings, printed maps, newspaper clippings. [Mexico, Missouri], 1879
  19. Maps, Sections and Diagrams of Mineral Fields of Missouri and Other Places Illustrating Phillips' 12 Laws in their Dynamical Geology [showing that the geography, topography, geology and vein system of a mineral field are the result of homogeneous forces and directly connected one with the other]. Some essays, laws, general geological articles. pp. 13-14 missing. Index. [Minnesota, Mexico, Arkansas, Missouri, Colorado ], n.d.
  20. Charts, Maps and Vertical Sections of Strata Illustrating Phillips' Laws of the Drainage of Mineral Fields and Individual Mineral Veins, Printed maps. Index, [Missouri, Wisconsin], n.d.
  21. Maps, Charts and Sections to Illustrate Phillips' Laws to the Surface and Subterranean Drainage of Mineral Veins, n.d. (See Box 2)
  22. Untitled. Book of Township Plats, n.d.
  23. Maps and Sections to Accompany Geological Report of Chateau League Tract of 6,050 acres, Washington County, Missouri, n.d.
- C. Maps
1. Arkansas (7 items) [extra-large oversize folder]
  2. Colorado (2 items) [oversize folder]
  3. Illinois (1 item) [oversize folder]
  4. Iowa (3 items) [oversize folder]
  5. Missouri (32 items; 9 folders)
    - a. Crawford County (2 items) [oversize folder]

- b. Jasper County (3 items) [oversize folder]
  - c. Jefferson County (1 item) [oversize folder]
  - d. Madison County (3 items) [oversize folder]
  - e. St. Francois County (3 items) [oversize folder]
  - f. Ste. Genevieve County (1 item) [oversize folder]
  - g. Washington County (12 items) [oversize folder]
  - h. Wayne County (1 item) [oversize folder]
  - i. Multiple Counties (7 items) [oversize folder]
- 6. Upper Mississippi Lead Field (2 items) [oversize folder]
  - 7. Wisconsin (3 items) [oversize folder]
  - 8. Mexico (4 items) [oversize folder]
- D. Geological Sectional Drawings (19 items)
- 1. Missouri (8 items) [oversize folder]
  - 2. Railroads (10 items)
    - a. Unpublished Geological Sections (5 items) [oversize folder]
    - b. Centennial Political and Industrial Geological Sections (from unpublished geological surveys of central continental mining fields by JVCP; 5 items) [oversize folder]
- V. LITERARY WORKS
- A. Unbound
- 1. Statement of unpublished geological surveys, 1844-80
  - 2. Notices of JVCP's surveys of mineral fields, 1849-80
  - 3. Autobiography and Mineral Blossoms. Original, 1877
  - 4. Autobiography and Mineral Blossoms. Typed Copy, n.d.
  - 5. Diagrams for Mineral Blossoms. 9 pages, 40 diagrams, n.d.
  - 6. Diagrams for Mineral Blossoms. Incomplete, n.d.
  - 7. Report on the Geology of the State of Missouri made during the years from 1855-1878, 1878

8. Articles submitted to and returned by *The Inter Ocean* of Chicago, 1888
  9. Articles and Letters to Editors (geological and scientific), n.d.
  10. Articles and poetry: Mineral Blossoms, n.d.
  11. Poetry and stories, n.d.
  12. Articles (religious), n.d.
  13. Essay: Jefferson County (geological description), n.d.
  14. Articles (incomplete), n.d.
- B. Bound (7 v.)

All volumes contain essays, poems, maps and sectional drawings. They contain maps and/or geological sectional drawing for some parts of the states listed in brackets.

1. ca. 1862-77, includes Phillips' Geology for Schools. Index.
2. ca. 1883, contains annotated newspaper clippings (many are articles by JVCP), index
3. ca. 1887, includes autobiographical sketch, index
4. ca. 1887, contains copies of letters and newspaper clippings
5. ca. 1887, contains newspaper clippings [Pennsylvania, Missouri, Iowa]
6. 1887, includes essay "Reminiscences," [Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, Iowa]
7. n.d., includes statement of unpublished surveys, discoveries made in dynamical geology by JVCP as well as parts of his work, "Mineral Blossoms." pp. 123-50, 159-430 missing

## VI. PRINTED MATERIALS

- A. Newspaper Clippings (4 items)

Phillips, John Van Cleve. "Origin of Ores." *Chicago Mining Review*, Jan. 7, 1886

----- . "Mineral Blossom, *The Mining Review*, n.d.

Obituary of John Van Cleve Phillips, printed in *St. Louis Republic*, Dec. 15, 1890

B. Publications by John Van Cleve Phillips (10 items)

Manuscript Geological Surveys, ca. 1867

Prospectus of the Mining and Milling Company of Arkansas, 1880

Report of J. Van Cleve Phillips on Reeds' Mineral Tract, 1890

Report on the Geology, Timber, and Agricultural Value of 16,000 Acres of land in Crawford County, Missouri, n.d.

"Hearts of the Ozark Mountains in Polk County, Arkansas," n.d.

"The Origin of Mineral Veins," by "The Poet in the Ozarks" (JVCP), n.d.

"Bird's Eye View of the Great Mineral Centers of the Interior Basins and Mountain Ranges of the Continent and Extent of the Silver Fields of Arkansas," n.d.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS (3 items)

1. Nipher, Frances E. "Magnetic Variation in Missouri," *St. Louis*: n.p., Dec. 1880 and Feb. 1881 (2 items)
2. Lawrence-Archer, Captain J. H. *Monumental Inscriptions of the British West Indies*. London: Chatto and Windus, 1875
3. Map of Assam (Asia). 1926 [oversize folder]

VIII. ADDENDUM

Two unidentified letter fragments  
Two unidentified geological drawings