

**John Frederick Lewis papers, 1878-1932**  
**1878-1932**  
**Mss.B.L585**

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	American Philosophical Society
<b>Creator</b>	Lewis, John Frederick, 1860-1932.
<b>Title</b>	John Frederick Lewis papers, 1878-1932
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1878-1932
<b>Call number</b>	Mss.B.L585
<b>Extent</b>	45.0 Linear feet Ca. 45,000 items
<b>Extent</b>	Ca. 45,000 items.
<b>Location</b>	LH-B-18-9
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Container</b>	1-90
<b>Abstract</b>	<p>Although most of this large collection consists of papers of Lewis's legal practice, there are important groups which relate to the furnishing and maintenance of his city and country houses and the management of his farm, to the assembling of his outstanding collections of Oriental and medieval illuminated manuscripts and of Babylonian clay tablets (now at the Free Library of Philadelphia), and to institutions with which he was closely associated, such as the American Philosophical Society, the University of Pennsylvania, and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. Many letters and papers are about business (mortgages, rents, directorships in banks and insurance companies, and investments) and</p>

about the social and cultural life of Philadelphia (operas, libraries, museums, and schools for the handicapped).

## **Background note**

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John Frederick Lewis was a lawyer, philanthropist, and patron of the arts. He was elected to the American Philosophical Society in 1909.

## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

American Philosophical Society

## Provenance

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### Acquisition Information

Received from Dickinson College and accessioned, 1958 (1958 2130ms). See in-house shelf list for additional accession information.

## Indexing Terms

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### Corporate Name(s)

- American Philosophical Society.
- Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts.
- University of Pennsylvania.

### Geographic Name(s)

- Philadelphia (Pa.) -- Social life and customs.

### Occupation(s)

- Lawyers.

### Subject(s)

- Art -- Collectors and collecting.

- Practice of law.