Theodore F. Wolfe Photographic Collection

WOLFE, THEODORE F. (THEODORE FRELINGHUYSEN), 1847-1915.
Theodore F. Wolfe photograph collection, ca.1860s-1870s.
65 items.

Biographical Note: Theodore F. Wolfe was born in Roxbury Township, N.J. in either 1843 or 1847 (sources vary) to Daniel and Mary Logan Wolfe. He was educated at a local academy and at the Philadelphia High School. After service in the Union Army during the Civil War, he attended the College of Physicians and Surgeons (P&S) from which he received his medical degree in 1868.

He settled in Jersey City, N.J. where he built a lucrative medical practice. Retiring in the early 1890s, he devoted himself to literary pursuits, writing a number of popular works on American and British authors. Among these are Literary Shrines of American Authors, 1895; A Literary Pilgrimage Among Haunts of British Authors, 1896; Literary Haunts and Homes: American Authors, 1898; and Literary Rambles at Home and Abroad, 1900. He died at his home in Succasunna, N.J., on June 14, 1915.

Scope and Content: 65 portrait photographs collected by Theodore F. Wolfe, probably dating from the late 1860s to the late 1870s. Of these, two are tintypes and the remainder cartes-de-visite. All of the identified subjects are physicians, including fellow members of the P&S Class of 1868, P&S graduates from other years, P&S faculty, and famous American physicians. In total, there are 55 individuals portrayed of which 29 are identified and one has been tentatively identified. Almost all of the unidentified images bear the stamp of New York City or Jersey City photographic studios.

Ten items are duplicates, including portraits of John Call Dalton, Henry Sands, and Samuel St. John which were removed from the collection at an earlier date and separately digitized. These three duplicates were then filed in the department’s general photograph collection. Other duplicates remain in the collection.

Additional Forms: The collection was digitized in 2014.

Language: English.

Access: Open without restrictions.
PROVENANCE: Gift of Mrs. Charles D. (Mary F.) Thompson, Wolfe’s daughter, 1940 (acc.#1997.07.28).

RELATED COLLECTIONS: Several of Wolfe’s P&S admission and matriculation tickets have been added to the Archives & Special Collections general ticket collection. Seven items of ephemera have been transferred to Miscellaneous Manuscripts, Box 2:34.

Wolfe’s literary papers are held by the Columbia University Rare Book and Manuscript Library: http://findingaids.cul.columbia.edu/ead/nnc-rb/ldpd_4079493/summary

Subjects

College of Physicians and Surgeons in the City of New York. Class of 1868 – Portraits.
College of Physicians and Surgeons in the City of New York. Faculty – Portraits.
College of Physicians and Surgeons in the City of New York – Students – Portraits.
Columbia University. College of Physicians and Surgeons.
Medical students – New York (State) – New York – Portraits.
Medical teaching personnel – New York (State) – New York – Portraits.
Physicians – United States – Portraits.
Cartes-de-visite.
Photographs.
Tintypes.

Finding aid written by Stephen Novak, 2014
Theodore F. Wolfe.
Photographic Collection, 1860s-1870s.

The images in digitization order number:

Wolfe-000001: Prendergast, John Joseph, P&S 1868
Wolfe-000002: Cumming, Byron, P&S 1868, signed “Tully, N.Y.”
Wolfe-000004: Outerbridge, Aggeus, P&S 1868, signed Dec. 2, 1868
Wolfe-000005: Marshall, Frederick Dey, P&S 1868, signed “Adrian, Michigan”
Wolfe-000006: Fitch, Luther P[arker], P&S 1864, signed “Rockford, Illinois, July 1868”
Wolfe-000007: Thompson, Frank D., attended P&S 1877, signed “Camden, Wilcox County, Ala.”
Wolfe-000008: Alker, Edward L., DDS, New York College of Dental Surgery, 1869
Wolfe-000009: [Van Houten, J.W.? signature obscure]
Wolfe-000010: Markoe, Thomas Masters, P&S faculty [2 copies]
Wolfe-000011: McLane, James W., P&S faculty [2 copies]
Wolfe-000012: St. John, Samuel, P&S faculty [additional copy filed in general photo collection P-000822]
Wolfe-000013: Bumstead, Freeman J., P&S faculty [2 copies]
Wolfe-000014: Clark, Alonzo, P&S faculty [2 copies]
Wolfe-000015: Thomas, T. Gaillard, P&S faculty [2 copies]
Wolfe-000016: Parker, Willard, P&S faculty [2 copies]
Wolfe-000017: Mott, Valentine, P&S faculty
Wolfe-000018: Watts, Robert (1812-1867), P&S faculty
Wolfe-000019: Metcalfe, John T., P&S faculty [2 copies]
Wolfe-000020: Holmes, Oliver Wendell, Sr.
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Wolfe-000021: Stillè, Alfred
Wolfe-000022: Sayre, Lewis
Wolfe-000023: Dunglison, Robley
Wolfe-000024: Pancoast, Joseph
Wolfe-000025: Wood, George B.
Wolfe-000026: Gross, Samuel D.
Wolfe-000027: Bigelow, Henry Jacob
Wolfe-000028: Dalton, John Call, P&S faculty [additional copy filed in general photo collection P-000196]
Wolfe-000029: Sands, Henry B., P&S faculty [additional copy filed in general photo collection P-000825]
Wolfe-000030: [Sheldon, Charles S., P&S 1868?] [tentative identification based on information from subject’s granddaughter, Janice Sheldon Baumback, 2014]
Wolfe-000031 – 000055: unidentified subjects