



**Collection #:** MSS 297  
**Name:** Middleton Michel, M.D. Papers  
**Dates:** 1846-1890  
**Size:** .5 cubic feet  
**Processed:** December 2006 by Jennifer Welch  
**Restrictions:** None  
**Citation:** Middleton Michel Papers, MSS 297, Waring Historical Library, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston

**Biographical Note:** William Middleton Michel was born in Charleston in 1822. He studied medicine in France for four years, and after returning to Charleston, graduated from the Medical College of the State of South Carolina in 1847. Dr. Michel opened a private medical school in Charleston known as the Summer Institute in 1848. Although the Summer Institute did not grant degrees, Dr. Michel's dynamic teaching style attracted many students and the school remained open until 1860. During the Civil War, Dr. Michel served as the head of the Manchester, Virginia Hospital. In 1868, Dr. Michel became a professor of physiology and medical jurisprudence at the Medical College of the State of South Carolina, where he taught until his death in 1894. Dr. Michel served as the editor of the Confederate Medical and Surgical Journal, and was associate editor of the Charleston Medical Journal and the Boston Medical Journal. Dr. Michel was president of the Medical Society of South Carolina from 1880-1883, and also belonged to the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Society of Natural History of Paris. In 1866, Dr. Michel married Cecilia S. Inglesby; the couple had four children. In 1889, Dr. Michel testified in the infamous

murder trial of Dr. Thomas Ballard McDow, having performed the autopsy on the victim, Warrington Dawson. Dr. Michel died on June 5, 1894.

**Scope and Content Note:** The Middleton Michel Papers, 1846-1890, .5 cubic feet, document Dr. Michel's professional activities. The collection includes case reports, autopsy reports, correspondence, a manuscript of an article, lecture notes, and reports presented to various audiences. The collection includes a witnessed affidavit of Dr. Hugo Mayer concerning his patient Napoleon Levelle, a Charleston citizen on trial for murdering his wife. A copy of Dr. Michel's autopsy report on Warrington Dawson is also in the collection. The collection is arranged alphabetically.

Note: A biographical sketch of Dr. Michel presented to the Robert Wilson Medical History Club by John M. Van de Erve in 1929 has been moved to MSS 387, The Robert Wilson Medical History Club Records.

The following collections have been merged into MSS 297:

MSS 29 Letter to Dr. Charles Kolloch (1888)  
MSS 30 Report on Interments in Charleston, S.C.  
MSS 67 Report on Roper Fund (1883)  
MSS 121 Letters to Dr. C.R. Agnew (1886-1887)  
MSS 307 Letter to Dr. C.R. Agnew (1879)  
MSS 685 Letter to Navy Board (1858)

**Related Collections:**

WB 1 AS6 M623a 1889 Address to the Medical Society on Retiring From Its Presidential Chair, by Middleton Michel, 1889

W6 P3 Introductory Address Delivered Before the Class of the Medical College of South Carolina, by Middleton Michel, 1851

SCPB9 #1 Dr. Jacob Ford Prioleau, In Memoriam, by Middleton Michel, 1888

**Subject Headings:**

Agnew, Cornelius Rea (1830-1888)  
Hammond, William A. (1828-1900)  
Michel, William Middleton (1822-1894)

Medical Society of South Carolina  
Medical College of the State of South Carolina

Autopsy- History  
Medical Jurisprudence  
Photographs  
Physiology  
Trephining

**Inventory:**

- Folder 1:** Advertisements: Optical Instruments, no date, 5 items  
**Folder 2:** Affidavit of Hugo Mayer re: Napoleon Levelle, 1890, 1 item  
**Folder 3:** Article Translation: On the Process of Repair After Resection and Extirpation of Bones, no date, 1 item  
**Folder 4:** Autopsy Reports, 1866-1889, 15 items  
**Folder 5:** Biographical Sketch of Thomas Henry Huxley by Dr. Michel, no date, 1 item  
**Folder 6:** Case Notes: Aneurism, no date, 2 items  
**Folder 7:** Case Notes: Extirpation of the Parotid Gland, no date, 2 items  
**Folder 8:** Case Notes: Teratology, no date, 1 item  
**Folder 9:** Case Notes: Traumatic Tetanus, no date, 1 item  
**Folder 10:** Case Reports: Atropine Poisoning, no date, 1 item  
**Folder 11:** Case Report: Cerebral Hypercemia, no date, 1 item  
**Folder 12:** Case Report: Extreme Hypertrophy of the Skull, no date, 1 item  
**Folder 13:** Case Report: Facial Paralysis, 1865, 1 item  
**Folder 14:** Case Report: Gunshot Wound to Face, no date, 1 item  
**Folder 15:** Case Report: Hydrocephalus, no date, 1 item  
**Folder 16:** Case Report: Injury of Spine, no date, 1 item  
**Folder 17:** Case Report: Parotid Extirpation, no date, 8 items  
**Folder 18:** Case Report: Patient's Account of Illness, no date, 1 item  
**Folder 19:** Case Report: Rise of Temperature From Simple Constipation, 1879, 1 item  
**Folder 20:** Case Report and Photographs: Exenteration of the Eye, no date, 3 items  
**Folder 21:** Correspondence: Dr. C.R. Agnew, 1879, 1886-1887, 5 items  
**Folder 22:** Correspondence: Board of Trustees, Medical College of the State of South Carolina, 1868, 1 item  
**Folder 23:** Correspondence: Dr. B.D. Bronson, 1887, 1 item  
**Folder 24:** Correspondence: Dr. William H. Hammond, 1882, 1 item

- Folder 25:** Correspondence: Dr. Charles Kolloch, 1888, 1 item
- Folder 26:** Correspondence: Navy Board, 1858, 1 item
- Folder 27:** Correspondence: Sheldon Wilson, 1883, 1 item
- Folder 28:** Deaths From Cancer Uteri 1878-1890, no date, 1 item
- Folder 29:** Elephantiasis Photographs and Article, no date, 9 items
- Folder 30:** Instrument Drawings for Article "Radical Cure of Hernia", no date, 32 items
- Folder 31:** Lecture Notes: the Chemical Nature of Phosphorescent Matter, 1865, 1 item
- Folder 32:** Manuscript and Proof of Teratology Article, no date, 2 items
- Folder 33:** Notes and Clipping: "A Human Tree", no date, 1 item
- Folder 34:** Notes: Cadaverous Putrefaction, no date, 1 item
- Folder 35:** Notes: Cancer Uteri in the Negro, 1892, 1 item
- Folder 36:** Notes: Chloroform, no date, 1 item
- Folder 37:** Notes: Contagious Diseases and the Influence of Sanitary Regulations, no date, 1 item
- Folder 38:** Notes: Food, 1845, 1 item
- Folder 39:** Notes in French, no date, 1 item
- Folder 40:** Notes: Infectious Diseases, no date, 1 item
- Folder 41:** Notes: Miscellaneous Topics, no date, 90 items
- Folder 42:** Notes: Occlusive Dressings of Wounds, no date, 1 item
- Folder 43:** Notes: Parotid, no date, 1 item
- Folder 44:** Notes: Pasteur, no date, 1 item
- Folder 45:** Notes: Pollution, Cholera, no date, 2 items
- Folder 46:** Report: Interments in Charleston, Presented to the Mayor and County Council, no date, 1 item
- Folder 47:** Report: On Intramural Burials and Their Effects Upon Health, no date, 1 item
- Folder 48:** Report: Roper Hospital, Presented to the Medical Society of South Carolina, 1883, 1 item
- Folder 49:** Report: Trephining for the Cure of Epilepsy, no date, 1 item