WILLIAMS, Daniel Hale

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The Daniel Hale Williams Collection was presented to the Howard University Library in 1954-55 by Helen Buckler, journalist, publicist and author of the biography of Daniel Hale Williams, a Black physician who performed the first successful open heart surgery in 1893. Mrs. Buckler,
who has done extensive public relations and historical research, received the Honor Award for the first edition of her book, Doctor Dan: Pioneer in American Surgery (Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1954) which was later revised as Daniel Hale Williams: Negro Surgeon (New York: Pitman Publishing Corporation, 1968).

This collection consists largely of working papers, research notes and drafts of the manuscript of Mrs. Buckler's book. Among these papers are correspondence to and from persons who were contacted for information as early as 1944 and as late as 1970 regarding Daniel Hale Williams. There are copies of testimonies of individuals involved in the early administration of Freedmen's Hospital, original and photostat copies of correspondence of Dr. Williams, his wife Alice Darling Johnson Williams, Booker T. Washington, Emmett J. Scott and others. Also included are clippings and articles by and about Dr. Williams, and numerous genealogical research material regarding Daniel Hale Williams' family.


This collection measures 11 « linear feet.
Biographical Sketch

1856 Jan. 18   Born in Hollidaysburg, Pa., son of Daniel and Sarah (Price) Williams.

1873       Attended Janesville High School, Wis.

1877       Attended Hare's Academy, Janesville, Wis.

1883       Received M.D., Northwestern Medical School, Chicago, Illinois, licensed in Illinois.


1885-88     Demonstrator in anatomy, Northwestern Medical School, Chicago, Illinois.

1892       Founded Provident Hospital, Chicago, Illinois.

1893 July 9  Performed first successful open heart surgery, Provident Hospital, Chicago, Illinois

1893-98     Appointed Surgeon-in-Chief, Freedmen's Hospital, Washington, D.C.

1900       Held first surgical clinic of Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tenn.

1903-09     Attending physician, Cook County Hospital; on Associate staff, St. Luke's Hospital, Chicago, Illinois.

1909       Received LL.D., Wilberforce University, Ohio.

1910       Received A.B., Wilberforce University, Ohio.

1913       Elected Fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

1925       Received M.S., Howard University, Washington, D.C.

1931 Aug. 4   Died, at Idlewild, Michigan.

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Series Description

Series A   Personal Papers
Box 116-1 Photostat copies and original correspondence of Daniel Hale Williams, his wife, Alice Darling Johnson Williams, photostat copy of his will, marriage and baptismal certificates, receipts for medical education expenses and legal papers of the Price Family.

Series B Correspondence Regarding Daniel Hale Williams
Box 116-1 to 116-4 Incoming and outgoing correspondence generated by Mrs. Buckler and correspondents regarding Daniel Hale Williams, in preparation for her biography of Dr. Williams.

Series C Family Genealogical Research
Box 116-5 Genealogical charts, research notes and inquiries regarding Daniel Hale Williams and his family.

Series D Research Notes on Book - Daniel Hale Williams Negro Surgeon
Box 116-6 to 116-9 Holographic and typewritten notes on the chapters of Helen Buckler's biography on Dr. Williams.

Series E Research Notes and Working Papers General
Box 116-10 to 116-11 Research notes pertaining to a miscellany of topics such as art, music, history, surgical procedures, Freedmen's Hospital, etc.

Series F Drafts
Box 116-12 to 116-22 Original drafts of the chapters of Helen Buckler's book.

Series G Freedmen's Hospital
Box 116-23 Correspondence, appointment notices and statements pertaining to Freedmen's Hospital and Dr. Daniel
Hale Williams, surgeon-in-chief of the Hospital in 1893.

Series H  Clippings
Box 116-23 Clippings concerning Daniel Hale Williams and others.

Series I  Notebooks and Note Cards
Box 116-24 Original notes and interviews evolving from research on Daniel Hale Williams by Helen Buckler.

Series J  Photographs
Box 116-25 Photographs of Daniel Hale Williams, members of his family, friends and co-workers. Also photographs of Provident Hospital Chicago, Illinois in 1891, 1896, and 1933.

Container List

A  Personal Papers
Box 116-1 Folder 1 Daniel Bale Williams - Personal Papers
2 Daniel Bale Williams - Will
3 Price Family legal Papers
4 Daniel Bale Williams - Correspondence - originals
5 Daniel Bale Williams - Correspondence - A-S (photostats)
6 Daniel Hale Williams - Correspondence - S (photostats)
7 Daniel Bale Williams - Correspondence - W (photostats)
8 Daniel Hale Williams - Correspondence - W (photostats)
9 Alice Darling Johnson Williams - Correspondence (photostats)
B Correspondence Regarding Daniel Hall Williams

10 Correspondence - Re-publication of "Biographer Detective"-1954
11 Correspondence - genealogical inquires - 1944
12 Correspondence - genealogical inquires - 1945
13 Correspondence - genealogical inquires - 1946
14 Correspondence - genealogical inquires - 1947
15 Correspondence - genealogical inquires - 1948
16 Correspondence - genealogical inquires - 1962, 1970, undated

Box 116-2
17 Correspondence - A
18 Correspondence - B
19 Correspondence - C
20 Correspondence - D
21 Correspondence - E
22 Correspondence - F
23 Correspondence - G
24 Correspondence - H
25 Correspondence - I

Container List cont'd

B Correspondence Regarding Daniel Bale Williams cont'd

Box 116-3 Folder
26 Correspondence - J
27 Correspondence - K
28 Correspondence - L
29 Correspondence - M
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Box 116-4
33 Correspondence - R
34 Correspondence - S
35 Correspondence - 2 CT
36 Correspondence - U
37 Correspondence - V
38 Correspondence - W
39 Unsigned - 1946
C Family Genealogical Research

Box 116-5

45 Armstrong family genealogy notes
46 Armstrong family genealogy charts
47 Bishop family genealogy charts
48 Price family genealogy charts, family grave lots, notes
49 Shorter family genealogy charts
50 Shorter and Price family genealogical charts
51 Williams family genealogy charts
52 Williams family genealogy notes
53 Williams and Price families genealogical chart
54 Notes-genealogical notes, all families on cards
55 Photostats, The African Repository
56 Photostats, Stanton School Report, Anne Arundel County, Maryland
57 Photostat. The Sun. 'Baltimore, Maryland

C Family Genealogical Research cont'd

Box 116-5 Folder

58 "Biographer Detective" or "Sleuthing for Doctor Dan"

D Research Notes on book - Daniel Hale Williams: Negro Surgeon

Box 116-6

59 Forward
60 Chapter I - Williams and Price, Draft VIII, Set II
61 Chapter II - Freedmen's Battle
62 Chapter II - Rockford, Gainesville
63 Chapter III - Lad Alone, Draft VIII
Chapter IV - C.M.C.
Chapter IV - At the Chicago Medical College, 1880-1883, Draft VIII, Set II
Chapter V - Early Career 1883-1891
Chapter V - Beginning a Career, Draft VIII, Set II
Chapter VI - First Inter-racial Hospital, 1891, Draft VIII Set II
Chapter VI - Founding Provident

Box 116-7
Chapter VII - Heart Operation
Chapter VII - Pioneer Heart Operation, 1893, Draft VIII Set III
Chapter VIII - Asylum into Hospital, Draft, Set II
Chapter VIII, IX, & X - Freedmen's
Chapter IX - Snatched from the Womb
Chapter X - Entanglements, Political and Otherwise
Chapter XI - Alice Darling Johnson
Chapter XII - Aftermath at Freedmen's
Chapter XII - Surgeon at Zenith
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Chapter XIII - Meharry
Chapter XIII - Chicago Again
Chapter XIV Moses to Negro Medicine
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Chapter XV Booker T. Washington
Chapter XV Destroying Myths
Chapter XVI Doctor's

D Research Notes on book Daniel Hale Williams: Negro Surgeon cont'd
Box 116-8 Folder
Chapter XVII Idlewild
Chapter XVII (No title)
Chapter XVII Surgeon at the Zenith
Chapter XVIII A Good Woman
Chapter XIX - Break with Booker T. Washington
Chapter XX - Provident Hospital
Drives out its Founder
94 Chapter XXI - Worse than God Punishes
95 Chapter XXII - Fame and Frustration

Box 116-9
96 Appendix B - Publications of D.H. Williams (bibliography)
97 Appendix C - Persons who supplied dates
98 Appendix F - Sources

E Research Notes and Working Papers - General

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100 Notes - General (B)
101 Notes - History
102 Notes on dance, costume and speech
103 Notes on tintypes, photographs, etc.
104 Notes - To do a library
105 Notes - Wolfson, Rose

Box 116-10
107 Catholicism
108 Clippings
109 Lillian Evanti - Publicity

110 Freedmen's Hospital - William Resignation
111 Freedmen's Hospital after Williams
112 Heart Operation - Notes
113 Hollidaysburg, Pa. - Notes
114 Honors, degrees, etc.
115 Illinois State Board - Notes
116 John A. Kenney - Reprints
117 H.H. Kohlsaat

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E Research Notes and Working Papers - General cont'd

Box 116-11 Folder
118 Letters - Photostats, from Record from the Office of the Secretary of Interior National Archives, Washington, D.C.
119 Pearl B. Marchant - Notes
120 9th International Medical Congress Notes
121 Negro Newspapers - Notes
122 Negro Surgeons - Notes
123 Nursing - Notes
124 Carl Glennis Roberts - Articles and Speeches
125 Rosenwald Fund
126 Ernest J. Scott - Reprints
127 Alice Johnson Williams - Notes
128 Daniel H. Williams - Articles About
129 Daniel H. Williams - Articles by

F Drafts

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131 Original Draft II Part II
132 Original Draft I Part III
133 Original Draft I Part IV

Box 116-13
134 Draft II, Set I
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Box 116-14
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142 Draft IV - Set I, Chapters 6,7,8
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145 Draft IV - Parts of I set
146 Draft IV - Set I Chapters 15,16,17
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165  Chapter VIII: Assylum Into Hospital
166  Chapter IX: Snatched from the Womb
167  Chapter X: Entanglements, Political and Otherwise
168  Chapter XI: Alice Darling Johnson
169  Chapter XII: Aftermath In Washington
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172  Chapter XV: Destroying Myths
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175  Chapter XVIII: A Good Woman
176  Chapter XIX: Break with Booker T. Washington
177  Chapter XX: Provident Hospital Drives Out Its Founder
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179  Chapter XXII: Fame and Frustration
180  Appendix A Genealogies of William and Price Families
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186 Revised Copy (cont'd)
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188 Revised Copy II (cont'd)
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193 Changes in Manuscript (made in Summer of 1953) (cont'd)
194 Changes in Manuscript (made in Summer of 1953) (cont'd)
195 Changes in Manuscript (made in Summer of 1953) (cont'd)
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199 Notes and sources - duplicate
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G Freedmen's Hospital

Box 116-23
209 Freedmen's Hospital - Appointment September, 1893 - February, 1894
210 Freedmen's Hospital - Appointment and illness of Williams - 1894
Freedmen's Hospital - Illness of Williams - October, 1894 (Missing)
Freedmen's Hospital - History and incumbency of Williams, 1894-1897
Freedmen's Hospital - Charles T. West
George W. Johnson vs. Daniel H. Williams, August 14, 1897-April 16, 1901
Statement of Dr. Daniel Hale Williams re: Purchases for Freedmen's Hospital

Clippings

Clippings re: Daniel Hale Williams
Clippings - general

Note Books and Note Cards

Original Notes and Interviews, Box 1
Original Notes and Interviews, Box 2

Photographs

Daniel Hale Williams (as a child)
Daniel Hale Williams (as an adult)
Daniel Hale Williams (with others)
Ada Blanche Williams
Alice D. Williams
Alice D. Williams ?

Provident Hospital, Chicago, IL. 1891, 1896, 1933