

Reference code: GB165-0355

Title: Percy D'Erf and Grace Wheeler Collection

Name of creators: Wheeler, Percy D'Erf (1861-1944) Missionary and Physician;
Wheeler, Grace Frances Popham (1872-c1973) née Blyth daughter of Rev George Francis Popham Blyth Anglican Bishop in Jerusalem 1887-1914

Dates of creation of material: 1892-1985

Level of description: Fonds

Extent: 1 box

Biographical history: Grace Frances Popham Blyth, b. Barrackpore, India, Saturday, February 24th, 1872. Married, Wednesday, July 5th 1893, in Christ Church (L.J.S.) Jerusalem to Dr. Percy Charles Edward d'Erf Wheeler: b. December 14th, 1861, d. Worthing, November 28th, 1944, eldest son of Captain d'Erf Wheeler, Chief of Police, Mauritius, a military post. Both parents died while he was very young, and he and two younger brothers were cared for and educated by an aunt, Miss Jane d'Erf Wheeler. Succeeded Dr. Thomas Chaplin as Medical Officer in charge of the London Jews Society Mission Hospital, Jerusalem (possibly in 1886), then an old house in the centre of the City. The new Hospital, outside the Walls, was built very largely from funds he raised by lectures etc. After the First World War, he went out to re-open the Hospital, under the Mandatory Government. During the War, he went out to Egypt in the R.A.M.C. but when his two elder sons were killed, the War Office brought him home and he was M.O. in charge of the Military Convalescent Hospital at Shoreham 1917 till it closed. He was F.R.C.S. and had several other medical distinctions.

All three sons served in the 1914-18 War:

1. Percival Francis Crummelin d'E. Wheeler, b. April 5th 1894, Wounded La Bessee, October 1914. Served in Kut. Attached R.F.C. and killed flying on duty July 24th, 1917.
2. Geoffrey Nowell Popham d'E. Wheeler, b. December 20th, 1896. Carried out alone a dangerous but completely successful reconnaissance of enemy lines, (the night before he was posted as "Missing" on the Somme), at Thiepval, September 26th, 1916.

3. Gerald Arden Savill d'E. Wheeler, b April 15th, 1898. Served in France and in Syria 1917-18. Served on the North West Frontier after 1918. Attached Sudan Government, cotton fields. Served 1939-45 in the Western Desert in Syria on General Spears' staff. At Haifa, Levant Bonded Warehouses, till turned out in 1948. Now in Rhodesia.

Scope and content: Papers relating to the life and work of Dr. Percy D'Erf Wheeler, especially in the London Jews Society Mission Hospital in Jerusalem 1892-1944; Published articles mainly concerning mission work, such as the work of St Luke's Boarding School for Boys in Haifa and material collected by Mrs Whishaw including papers relating to the death of the Palestine Policemen Captain J. Mackenzie in 1922 and two reports on the Coptic Orthodox Church in 1985.

Access conditions: Open

Language of material: English

Conditions governing reproduction: No restrictions on copying or quotation other than statutory regulations and preservation concerns

Immediate source of acquisition: Received from Mrs Whishaw (daughter of Percy and Grace Wheeler) before 1996

Related Units of Description:

In MEC Archive

GB165-0031 Estelle Blyth Collection: Miss Estelle Blyth was the sister of Mrs Grace Wheeler

GB165-0161 Jerusalem and East Mission Collection: Within the Jerusalem and the East Mission collection there are papers from Bishop Blyth, who was the father of Mrs Grace Wheeler

Finding aids: In Guide; Handlist

Archivist's note: Fonds level, file and item level description created by D. Usher 5 June 2003. Biographical information based on ?*Bible Lands* 1972.

**SERIES AND ITEM LEVEL DESCRIPTION OF THE PERCY D'ERF AND
GRACE WHEELER COLLECTION**

File 1

1 Material collected by Percy or Grace Wheeler

1/1 Papers relating to the life and work of Dr. Percy D'Erf Wheeler

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|-------|--|---|-----------|
| 1/1/1 | Envelope containing booklet entitled 'The Work at the Old Hospital Jerusalem' by Percy D'Erf Wheeler giving a history of the hospital and appealing for support for a proposed new hospital. | 7 March 1892 | 1 booklet |
| 1/1/2 | Cutting possibly taken from a London Mission leaflet describing Dr Percy D'Erf Wheelers work as a Medical Officer. | not dated | 1 sheet |
| 1/1/3 | Obituary Notices for Dr Wheeler giving an account of his work. | not dated c1944 | 8 sheets |
| 1/1/4 | TS copy of a letter from Bishop Blyth to the Staff and Elder Girls of St. Mary's Girl's Home, Jerusalem. | 24 December 1911 | 1 sheet |
| 1/1/5 | Photograph of a hospital scene, showing doctors and nurses with crescent armbands and patients. (Please note photograph stored separately). | not dated ?early 20 th century | 1 item |
| 1/1/6 | Photograph showing a street scene with men and women seated.

The photograph is badly faded.

(Please note photograph stored separately). | not dated ?early 20 th century | 1 item |

1/2 Published articles

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|-------|--|--------------------|----------------|
| 1/2/1 | <i>Bible Lands</i> Quarterly Paper of the Jerusalem and the East Mission. | Oct 1900- Oct 1901 | 1 bound volume |
| 1/2/2 | Booklet advertising the work of St Luke's Boarding School for Boys, Haifa, Galilee and requesting support for a new building for the | 12 July 1907 | 1 booklet |

school.

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|-------|---|------------------|-----------|
| 1/2/3 | Booklet entitled 'One Hundred Years In Jerusalem' giving an account of the history of the Church Missions to the Jews London Society for Promoting Christianity amongst the Jews and advertising its aims, needs and successes. | c1914 | 1 booklet |
| 1/2/4 | Report and Accounts for The Economic Board for Palestine, which was founded 'to assist in the economic development of Palestine' and worked with the Jewish Agency. | 31 December 1932 | 1 booklet |
| 1/2/5 | Photocopy of article entitled 'Palestine for the Jews?' by M.T. Bremridge. | March 1945 | 14 sheets |

File 2

2 Material collected by Mrs Whishaw

2/1 Papers relating to Captain J. Mackenzie

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| 2/1 | Papers relating to the death of the Palestine Policeman, Captain J. Mackenzie who drowned in the river Jordan whilst trying to rescue his Arab college consisting of photocopies of letters to Mrs Mackenzie offering condolences, pictures of his grave and memorial and biographical notes on Sir Herbert Samuel and Joan Watson. | 1922-1924 | 17 sheets |
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2/2 Reports relating to the Coptic Orthodox Church

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| 2/2/1 | PUMF Report 59. 'A Report on a Study Visit to the Coptic Orthodox Church January to April 1985' by John M. Wraw. | December 1985 | 28 sheets |
| 2/2/2 | PUMF Report 61. 'A Report on a visit to Egypt and Israel. June- September 1985' by Paul Wilcock. | December 1985 | 20 sheets |