



Independence  
Seaport Museum

*Exploring America's Maritime Heritage*

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## Guide to the Mount Cloud Lord Collection

**Creator:** Mount Cloud Lord

**Dates:** 1892 - 1944

**Quantity:** 87 items (1 box + 1 oversize folder)

**Call Phrase:** Lord Papers

**Provenance:** Donated by the C.D. Lord estate via the Christopher family.  
ISM number: 2001.003

**Processed by:** Judy Stevenson, 2007

**Biographical note:** Mount Cloud Lord was born in Illinois on December 8, 1872. He enlisted in the US Navy and served for over ten years, including several years as a Fireman First Class on board the USS *Olympia* from 1895 to 1897. Lord apprenticed as a machinist, and was promoted to the rank of Chief Machinist in the US Navy in 1902. He later worked as an engineer and a chemical assayer. In 1935 and 1936, Lord was awarded two US Patents, one for submarine operating devices, and one for hydraulic material elevators. He died in 1944.

**Scope and Content:** This collection consists largely of letters, photographs, booklets/pamphlets, and certificates. Also included are four business cards, two newspaper clippings, one drawing, one sheet of letterhead stationery, one application, one ration card, one ID card, and one appointment card.

The letters are primarily business correspondences received by Mount Cloud Lord. Most are letters of reference from former employers or from Naval commanders. Also included are letters from the managing editor at the Journal of Electricity, Power, and Gas thanking Lord for several articles that he had written for that publication.

The photographs mostly date from the time when Lord served on the *Olympia*. Many are photos of shipmates and officers, and about half were taken while the *Olympia* was stationed in Hong Kong.

The booklets/pamphlets include “The Handbook of the USS *Olympia*” (1897), a list of names of men serving on the *Olympia* (c. 1897), a program from the 1898 Thanksgiving Day Olympian Games, a pamphlet from the Asiatic Station (1897), “Naval Flashes” publication (August 1901 and January 1902), “Aguila del Mundo” (Manila), “The Battle of Manila” by Edward Armstrong Platt U.S.M.C. (1923), “Submerged Millions: Tomorrow’s Bonanzas and the U.S. Submarine Motor Ship Dredge” (n.d.) and a program from the Seventh Annual Encampment, Dept. of California, U.S.W.V. (Sacramento, CA, August 1910).

The certificates consist of 2 U.S. patents, certificates declaring Lord’s appointment to various positions in the U.S. Navy, a Declaration for Navy Invalid Pension, a United States Inspector’s License to Chief Engineers, a Dewey Congressional Medal of Honor Society and Associates certificate, and a Certificate of Merit for Outstanding Invention from the National Inventor’s Congress.

**Arrangement Note:** One box, arranged by format, then in order by accession number.