

Library Company of Philadelphia

**SADAKICHI HARTMANN MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION**

1887-1942

2.74 linear feet, 4 boxes

December 2022

## **Descriptive Summary**

### **Repository**

Library Company of Philadelphia  
1314 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107-5698

### **Creator**

Sadakichi Hartmann, 1867-1944

### **Title**

Sadakichi Hartmann Manuscript Collection

### **Inclusive Dates**

1887-1942

### **Quantity**

4 boxes (2.74 linear feet)

### **Language of Materials**

Materials are in English.

### **Abstract**

Sadakichi Hartmann (1867-1944) was a writer, poet, and critic from the late 19th century until his death in 1944. A number of his writings reflected his interest in religious philosophies. This collection includes Hartmann's manuscripts and correspondence with the Library Company of Philadelphia.

## **Administrative Information**

### **Restrictions to Access**

The collection is open for research use and available at the Library Company of Philadelphia, 1314 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA. Appointments must be made in advance.

For more information about the collection please contact Linda Kimiko August, Curator of Art & Artifacts at [laugust@librarycompany.org](mailto:laugust@librarycompany.org) or call 215-546-3181.

### **Acquisition Information**

The items in this collection were donated by Sadakichi Hartmann.

### **Processing Information**

The collection was originally arranged by staff at the Library Company when it was first acquired. The collection was formally processed by archivist intern Alexis Jimenez in December 2022.

**Preferred Citation**

This collection should be cited as: [indicate specific item or series here], Sadakichi Hartmann Manuscript Collection, The Library Company of Philadelphia.

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**Online Catalog Headings****Subject Names**

Confucius  
Eddy, Mary Baker, 1821-1910  
Gray, Austin K.  
Knoblauch, David C.  
Moses (Biblical leader)  
Muhammad, Prophet, -632

**Subject Topics**

Aesthetics  
Art – History  
Asian American artists  
Asian American authors  
Asian Americans  
Asians  
Authors  
Confucius  
Correspondence  
German Americans  
Germans  
Japanese  
Japanese Americans  
Library Company of Philadelphia  
Manuscripts  
Muhammad, Prophet, -632  
Moses (Biblical leader)  
Poets  
Poetry  
Race relations  
Racially mixed people  
Racism  
Religions

**Subject Uniform Title**

Confucius: A Drama in Two Acts  
Moses: A Drama in Six Episodes  
My Crucifixion: Asthma for 40 Years

**Document Types**

Letters  
Manuscripts

## **Biographical/Historical Notes**

Carl Sadakichi Hartmann (1867-1944) was born in Nagasaki to a Japanese mother, Osada Hartmann (d. 1868) who died soon after childbirth and a German father, Carl Herman Oskar Hartmann (1840-1929). Sadakichi was raised in Germany until he was fourteen years old. After an incident in which his father forced him to join the naval academy, he subsequently ran away and was then sent to live with relatives in America in 1882.

Three years of his adolescence were spent living in Philadelphia with his great-uncle and aunt. It was during this period that Hartmann would take advantage of the cultural institutions the city had to offer, which contributed to his passion for art and creativity. His time spent at the Library Company of Philadelphia becoming self-taught in their reading room would engender him to donate many of his manuscripts to the institution for preservation.

Hartmann was married twice and had sixteen children. His first marriage was in 1890 at age twenty-three to Elizabeth Blanche Walsh (1868-1950). At forty-one, Hartmann married Lillian R. Bonham (1883-1939). In 1894, he became a naturalized U.S. citizen.

A writer, poet, dramatist, critic, and occasional performer during the 20th century, Hartmann was a notable figure in early modernism. He was one of the first critics to explore photography as an art form. Hartmann also published about photography under the pseudonym Sidney Allan, which outnumbered those under his real name. His social circle was diverse and included several notables such as Walt Whitman, John Barrymore, Stéphane Mallarmé, and Ezra Pound.

Not affiliated with any one religion, but rather interest in the philosophies of numerous religions and their central figures, many of his plays revolved around historic religious subjects, such as Jesus Christ, Confucius, Mohammed, Buddha, and founder of Christian Science, Mary Baker Eddy (also a friend of Sadakichi). Hartmann attributed the fascination of different religious philosophies to his extended family's varied practices.

Hartmann moved west to California around 1916. In 1942, Hartmann was living on his daughter Wistaria's ranch outside Banning, California. Due to his age and declining health, he was able to avoid imprisonment during the World War II mass incarcerations taking place in the United States against people of Japanese descent. In 1944, while visiting his daughter Dorothea in Florida, Hartmann passed away.

## **Scope and Content Note**

This collection contains manuscripts, poetry, and correspondence from Sadakichi Hartmann that he donated to the Library Company of Philadelphia over the course of his life. The materials in the collection span from 1887 to 1942.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>		
1	1	“Confucius” first draft	1894-1910
	2	“Confucius” manuscript	1920-1922
	3	“Moses” original manuscript (first draft)	undated
	4	“Moses” typescript	1934
	5	“Gods Dethroned”	undated
	6	“My Crucifixion”	1931
	7	Correspondence to David C. Knoblauch	1934-1935
	8	“Mohammed” a dramatic poem	1924
	9	“Ride into the Desert”	ca. 1905
	10	Correspondence with Library Company of Philadelphia	1935-1936
	11	The Markham Review article	1973 Feb 5
2		“1000 Happy Moments in a Lifetime – Where How! New World Orders Analysed”	undated
3	1	“Baker Eddy: A Drama in Three Acts” manuscript	1936 Aug 8-1938 Oct
	2	Sadakichi Hartmann poems	1887-1942
	3	“The Valley of Silence”	1942
	4	“Boston Lions: A Comedy in Four Scenes” manuscript	1890-1896
4		“Esthetic Verities” manuscript	1927-1933