

T. TERTIUS NOBLE COLLECTION
MS 55
1881-1953

Finding aid prepared by Janeen Lamontagne
 December, 2021

Organ Historical Society Library and Archives

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SUMMARY INFORMATION

Repository	Organ Historical Society Library and Archives
Creator	Noble, T. Tertius, 1867-1953, Noble, Philip, 1903-1979
Title	T. Tertius Noble Collection

Date	1881-1953
Extent	3 linear feet
Language	English
Abstract	The collection consists of music, newspaper clippings, correspondence, legal documents, programs, photographs, scrapbooks, manuscripts and memoirs by T. Tertius Noble, and members of his family Philip Noble, Meriel Noble (Stubbs), Guy Stubbs and Edward Noble.
Provenance	The collection was gathered by T. Tertius Noble and his son Phillip Noble. Upon Philip's death, the collection was donated to The Organ Library at the Boston Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. The Organ Library later loaned the collection to The Organ Historical Society Library and Archive for the purpose of digitization.

BIOGRAPHY

Thomas Tertius Noble was born in Bath, England in 1867. He studied at the Royal College of Music from 1885 to 1889 with Frederick Bridge (1844-1924), Walter Parratt (1841-1924) and Charles Stanford (1852-1924). In 1897 T. Tertius Noble married Meriel Maude Stubbs, elder daughter of the Dean of Ely. Their only son, Philip was born in 1903. In 1924 T. Tertius Noble became assistant organist at Trinity College in Cambridge, leaving two years later for the organist position at Ely Cathedral. In 1898 he moved to York Minister, where he established an orchestra and directed the York Musical Society.

In 1913 T. Tertius Noble emigrated to the United States to take the position of director of music at St. Thomas Church in New York City, where he established a choir school in the English cathedral tradition. He retired from St. Thomas in 1947 at the age of 75, and spent his last years in Rockport Massachusetts, where he continued to compose until his death on May 4, 1953.

T. Tertius Noble was an outstanding musician, organist and choirmaster. Known now primarily as a composer of a sacred music—anthems, hymntunes, original organ works, and the two celebrated collections of free organ accompaniments to familiar hymns—he was also a composer of operas, orchestral works, chamber music, and songs. His unpublished “Memoirs” is a unique source of interest about his own career and about musical life in England and United States.

ARRANGEMENT

The Collection is arranged by genre format into eight series, music, articles and newspaper clippings, family correspondence, personal correspondence, schedule of property and royalties, concert programs, photographs and books, photo albums and scrapbooks. There is one sub-series of Philip Noble’s papers.

CONTROLLED ACCESS HEADINGS

Genre(s)

- Memoirs
- Legal instruments
- Manuscripts
- Music
- News clippings
- Photographs
- Programs (Publications)
- Correspondence
- Scrapbooks

Personal Name(s)

- Noble, T. Tertius, 1867-1953
- Noble, Philip R., 1903-1979
- Stubbs, Meriel M., 1877-1958

Subject(s)

- Church music—England
- Church music—New York (State)—New York
- Organists—Biography
- Organ (Musical instrument)—History
- Organ (Musical instrument)—New York (State)—New York
- St. Thomas Church (New York, N.Y.)—Organs

COLLECTION INVENTORY

Series 1: Music by T. Tertius Noble	Box	Folder
Noble, Tertius T. and Alexander, Cecil F., <i>Carol</i> [voice and organ]. n.p., n.d.	1	1
<i>Come, O Creator Spirit, Come</i> [SATB and organ]. York: Banks & Son, n.d.	1	1
<i>Sursum Corda and Sanctus</i> [choir]. n.p., n.d.	1	1
<i>Fierce Was The Wild Billow</i> [choir]. Boston: The Parrish Choir, n.d.	1	1
<i>Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis</i> [SATB and organ]. York: Banks & Son, 1907	1	1
Noble, Tertius T. and Bullock, William, <i>We Love The Place, O God</i> [SATB and organ]. New York: The H.W. Gray Co. Inc., 1944	1	1
<i>Rise Up, O Men Of God.</i> [SATB]. Boston: Arthur P. Schmidt Co., 1925	1	1
<i>O Sacred Head Surrounded.</i> [SATB]. Boston: Arthur P. Schmidt Co., 1932	1	1

<i>Morning and Evening Service.</i> [mixed voices]. The Arthur P. Schmidt Co., 1930	1	1
<i>Breathe on me, Breath of God.</i> [SATB]. Boston: The Arthur P. Schmidt Co., 1928	1	1
<i>Festival Te Deum.</i> [mixed voices and organ]. New York: Galaxy Music Corporation, 1939	1	1
<i>Communion Service in G Minor.</i> [SATB and organ]. Boston: E.C. Schirmer Inc., 1913	1	1
<i>Into the Woods my Master Went.</i> [SATB and organ]. York: Banks & Son, 1912	1	1
<i>Magnificat.</i> [SATB and organ]. Boston: The Arthur P. Schmidt Co., 1934	1	1
<i>Jubilate Deo in D.</i> [SATB and organ]. London: The H.W. Gray Co., 1917	1	1
<i>The Souls of the Righteous.</i> [SATB and piano]. Boston: The B.F. Music Co., undated	1	1
<i>Souls of the Righteous.</i> [4 part chorus for women's voices and piano]. Boston: G. Schirmer Inc., 1909. 2 copies.	1	1
<i>Souls of the Righteous.</i> [SATB and piano]. New York: Carl Fischer Inc., undated	1	1
<i>Requiescant In Pace (Souls of the Righteous).</i> [SATB]. Boston: G. Schirmer Inc., 1909. 2 copies.	1	1
<i>Requiescant In Pace (Souls of the Righteous).</i> [SATB]. China: Christian Music Society, undated	1	1
<i>The Souls of the Righteous.</i> [SATB and organ]. Boston: Oliver Ditson Company, undated	1	1
<i>Thy Kingdom and Dominion Endure Forever.</i> [SATB and organ]. Rockfort: T. Tertius Noble, 1944 3 copies.	1	1

<i>Come, O Thou Traveller Unknown</i> . [SATB and Piano]. New York: Saint Bartholomew's Church, Undated	1	1
<i>Lord of the Worlds Above</i> . [SATB and organ]. New York: Galaxy Music Corporation, 1939	1	1
<i>I Will Magnify Thee</i> . [SATB and organ]. New York: Galaxy Music Corporation, 1943	1	1
<i>Fierce was the Wild Billow</i> . [SATB and piano]. New York: G. Schirmer Inc., undated	1	1
<i>Glory to God</i> . [Organ]. York: Banks & Son, Undated	1	1
<i>Kyrie Eleison</i> . [Organ]. Boston: Arthur P. Schmidt Co., 1928	1	1
<i>The Pre-Christmas Antiphons and Four Christmas Carols</i> . [Voice and Organ]. Boston: G. Schirmer, 1913	1	1
<i>Fierce was the Wild Billow</i> [SATB and organ]. Boston: Oliver Ditson Company, undated	1	1
<i>O Wisdom!</i> [SATB and organ]. New York: The H.W. Gray Co., undated	1	1
<i>Blessed Art Thou, O Lord</i> [SATB and organ]. New York: Carl Fischer Inc., 1941	1	1
<i>Benedictus Es, Domine</i> [SATB and organ]. Boston: Arthur P. Schmidt Co., 1932	1	1
<i>Requiescant In Pace</i> [SATB and piano]. York: Banks & Son, undated	1	1
Westminster Abbey program, 1947	1	1
Series 2: Articles & newspaper clippings on T. Tertius Noble	Box	Folder
Newspaper clipping with an article about T. Tertius Noble as assistant organist at Trinity College; circa 1890-1892	1	2
Newspaper clipping and photocopies about the performance	1	3

of the “Wasps” of Aristophanes at Cambridge with Noble’s music; 1894-1897

Newspaper clippings about T. Tertius Noble and the Ely Music Society at Ely Cathedral; 1898	1	4
Photocopies of newspaper clippings about the wedding of T. Tertius Noble and Muriel Stubbs; 1898	1	5
Obituary, newspaper clippings and photocopies about Dr. Stubbs, bishop of Truro; 1906-1912	1	6
Photocopies of newspaper articles titled “Presentation of York Minister Organist”, “Music in York”, “Organ and Organists of York Minister”, “Leith Hill Music Festival” and articles about Noble’s recital and music in York Musical Society; 1898-1912	1	7
Newspaper articles and photocopies about T. Tertius Noble at St. Thomas; 1913, 1922, 1927-1928, 1932, 1938-1939, 1943, 1947, undated	1	8
Photocopies of newspaper articles about T. Tertius Noble’s organ recitals; 1912-1913, 1918, 1923-1924, 1928, 1938, 1944, undated	1	9
Newspaper articles and photocopies about T. Tertius Noble’s work as a conductor and choirmaster. Articles titled “T.T. Noble as a conductor”, “T. Tertius Noble by S. Wesley Sears”, “Vested Voices”, “Dream of Gerontius conducted by Noble”, “Performance of St. Matthew Passion”, “Climax Second Music Festival” and others; 1914-1915, 1919, 1931-1932, 1935, 1943, undated	1	10
Photocopy of a newspaper article about T. Tertius Noble at The Manitoba Musical Festival Competition	1	11
Newspaper articles and photocopies of T. Tertius Noble’s work as a composer. Articles titled “ Noble’s New Te Deum”, “Dr. Noble’s Choral Preludes”, “Words and Music”, “ Organists Vote Noble’s Anthem Favorite Work”, “ Noble Marks Jubilee by New Compositions: Views and Reviews” and others; 1916-1917, 1919, 1923, 1926, 1930-1931, 1934-1935, 1937, 1940, 1943-1944, undated	1	12

Photocopies of newspaper articles about T. Tertius Noble In York, England; 1919, 1922, 1947, undated	1	13
A newspaper article on a T. Tertius Noble recital in Vancouver, Canada; 1921	1	14
Photocopies of newspaper articles on T. Tertius Noble and the Fisk University Choir; 1933	1	15
Newspaper articles and photocopies about T. Tertius Noble and the National Association of Organists, Guild of Organists and Hymn Society; 1913, 1924-1925, 1931, 1937, 1945, undated	1	16
Newspaper articles and photocopies on T. Tertius Noble's anniversaries and honors; 1930-1933, 1938, undated	1	17
Newspaper articles and photocopies of T. Tertius Noble interviews and writings; 1922, 1934, 1943-1944, undated	1	18
Newspaper articles and photocopies about T. Tertius Noble's influence; 1921, 1924, 1935, 1943-1944, 1951, 1989, undated	1	19
Photocopies of newspaper clippings on T. Tertius Noble in Rockport Massachusetts; 1937, undated	1	20
Newspaper clippings and photocopies of T. Tertius Noble obituaries and articles on his retirement; 1953, 1959, undated	1	21
Sub-series 1: Papers of Philip Noble	Box	Folder
Newspaper clippings on Philip Noble's lectures and Gardens; 1944-1945	1	22
Periodicals of Philip Noble: The Musical Times, The Cathedral Quarterly, Musical Opinion; 1903, 1913, 1926	1	23
Periodicals of Philip Noble: Fischer Edition News and The Hymn with articles on his father T. T. Noble; 1947, 1953	1	24
Series 3: Noble family correspondence	Box	Folder

Letters from T. Tertius Noble to his mother Sarah Jefferson; 1939, 1881-1886, undated	1	25
Letters from T. Tertius Noble to his son Philip Noble; 1917	1	26
Letters from T. Tertius Noble to his son Philip Noble; 1918-1919	1	27
Letters from T. Tertius Noble to his son Philip Noble; 1919	1	28
Letters from T. Tertius Noble to his son Philip Noble; 1920	1	29
Letters from T. Tertius Noble to his son Philip Noble; 1921	1	30
Letters from T. Tertius Noble to his son Philip Noble; 1922	1	31
Letters from Edward Noble to T. Tertius Noble on death of T. Tertius Noble's father-in-law Reverend Charles Stubbs and other letters; 1912, 1940	1	32
Letters from Guy Stubbs to Meriel Stubbs and note from The New York Times. Meriel Stubbs was T. Tertius Noble's wife and Guy Stubbs her brother; 1917, undated	1	33
Letters from Philip Noble to his grandmother Sarah Jefferson; 1912-1913	1	34
Letters from Edward Noble to Philip Noble; 1920-1929	1	35
Letters to Philip Noble from Winfield Richmond, Elizabeth Forman, Gerhard Padel, Mary Molly and others; 1920-1922, 1950, 1952	1	36
Letters from schools and universities to Philip Noble including Harvard and Yale; 1920-1924	1	37

Series 4: T. Tertius Noble's correspondence	Box	Folder
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Letters to T. Tertius Noble from W. T. Best; 1889	1	38
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Letters to T. Tertius Noble from Smith; 1889-1912	1	39
Letters to T. Tertius Noble about his candidacy for post of organist from Appleton, Lloyd and others; 1891-1892, 1895	1	40
Letter to T. Tertius Noble from V.H. Stanton; 1892	1	41
Letters to T. Tertius Noble from Gerald Cobb; 1892, 1894	1	42
Letters to T. Tertius Noble from Charles Stubbs; 1895-1896	1	43
Letters to T. Tertius Noble from W.A. Gill and other unidentified persons; 1896, 1898-1899	1	44
Letters to T. Tertius Noble from R.H.B.; 1898-1899	1	45
Letters to T. Tertius Noble from unidentified authors; 1906, 1908, 1912	1	46
Letters to T. Tertius Noble from Gervase Elwes; 1908-1910	1	47
Letters to T. Tertius Noble from Lis Escop, Truro; 1910	1	48
Letters and telegrams to T. Tertius Noble from Church of the Good Shepard FL, The Aero Club of America, Union Theological Seminary, and other unidentifiable authors; 1918, 1921, 1929, undated	1	49
Letters to T. Tertius Noble from Helen Beal, Emily Perkins, Reverend G. Warfield Hobbs, Federic Chapman, Clifton Brainerd, Thomas Wilson, Myron Boehm, Oscar Shminke and other unidentifiable authors; 1937-1938, undated	1	50
Letters to T. Tertius Noble from J.H. Hammond and Edward (last name not specified); 1939	1	51
Letters, telegrams and newspaper clippings sent to T. Tertius Noble about Charles Steel's funeral; 1939	1	52
Letters to T. Tertius Noble at St. Thomas Church; 1940-1942	1	53

Letters to T. Tertius Noble from Andrew Williams, William S. Sturges, Edward B. Gammons, Beatrice H. Fisk, Edwin A. Kraft, Eleonora Williams, Christopher Marks, C.E. Arnott, Franklyn W. Ehrhardt, Albert Colsworth, Harold Butcher, Hart Giddings, Ralph A. Harris, and other unidentifiable authors; 1940-1943	1	54
Letters to T. Tertius Noble from Duncan McKenzie, Everett Tutchings, H.A. Tricker, R.V. Elliot, William D. Peck and other unidentifiable authors; 1943	1	55
Letters, radiogram and newspaper clippings about T. Tertius Noble's retirement; 1943	1	56
Letters to T. Tertius Noble from Reverend John W. Ziemak and other unidentifiable authors; 1945-1947	1	57
Letters to T. Tertius noble from unidentified authors, undated	1	58
Telegrams to T. Tertius Noble; 1926-1958	1	59
Letters from T. Tertius Noble's student Grace Derby Van Nalt commemorating him, 1997	1	60
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List of T. Tertius Noble's compositions with names of the publishers and the dates the royalties were signed; 1907-1953	1	62
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Concert programs of T. Tertius Noble's music from York Minster and St. Thomas Church; 1913,1920,1947	1	63
Concert programs of T. Tertius Noble's music from St. George's Cathedral, Keble College Chapel and Lake Erie college; 1888, 1942	1	64
Concert programs of T. Tertius Noble's music from Westminster Abbey for consecration of bishop of Truro; 1906	1	65
Concert programs of T. Tertius Noble's music from York Minster, Ely Cathedral and Truro Cathedral, a booklet on the octagon sculptures in Ely Cathedral and a seating chart at King's College; 1893, 1902, 1912-1913, undated	1	66
Concert programs of T. Tertius Noble's music from The Three Choirs Festival of Gloucester; 1934	1	67
Concert program of T. Tertius Noble's music from St. Thomas Church and a booklet on the history of St. Thomas Church; 1936	1	68
Concert programs of T. Tertius Noble's music from The Church of St. Paul and St. Andrew, West End Presbyterian Church, Church of All Souls, The Brick Church, Madison Avenue Baptist Church, Trinity Church, St. Paul's Chapel, and an Aeolian Company ad with T. Tertius Noble; 1912-1913, 1932, 1943, 1951	1	69
Concert programs from T. Tertius Noble's 50th Anniversary as an organist at St. Thomas Church; 1931	1	70
Concert programs for services in memory of T. Tertius Noble; 1932, 1953	1	71
Concert programs for the 100 th anniversary of T. Tertius Noble; 1967	2	72
Concert programs for the 50 th anniversary of the St. Thomas Choir School; 1969	2	73

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Photographs of a young T. Tertius Noble with a teacher and T. Tertius Noble playing at St. Thomas Church; undated	2	75
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Photograph portraits of T. Tertius Noble; 1913, undated	2	76
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Photographs of T. Tertius Noble's family and friends, unidentified; 1910, 1914, undated	2	77
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Photographs of T. Tertius Noble's family in later years with Meriel, Philipp and others; undated	2	78
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Photographs of T. Tertius Noble's colleagues and friends, R. Vaughan-Williams, Robert Benson, Walter Parrett, Geo. A. Larkin, Guy Stubbs, Reverend Stubbs and other unidentified persons; undated	2	79
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Photographs of Ely Cathedral; undated	2	80
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Photographs and a drawing of Mariel Noble (Stubbs); 1912, undated	2	81
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Photographs of the St. Thomas Boys Choir; undated	2	82
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Photographs of choir at St. Thomas Cathedral; undated	2	83
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Photograph portraits of Philip Noble; undated	2	84
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Photographs by Philip Noble, England; 1938, undated	2	85
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Undated

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Photographs by Philip Noble, cottages; undated 2 88

Photographs by Philip Noble, construction;
Undated 2 89

Photographs by Philip Noble, House in Rockport;
Undated 2 90

Miscellaneous photos from travel, ticket stubs, a
wedding invitation, a pamphlet for the Friday morning
club; 1891, undated 2 91

Series 8: Books, photo albums, scrapbooks

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T. Tertius Noble's photo album, includes photos
of family, friends, colleagues and travel; 1896, 1906,
undated 2 92

T. Tertius Noble's autograph album, autographs, musical
Notation and notes from musicians and contemporaries;
1892-1912, undated 2 93

Fifty Free Organ Accompaniments to Well-Known
Hymn Tunes by T. Tertius Noble; 1949 2 94

T. Tertius Noble's scrapbook, programs from
recitals by him and others; 1935-1940 2 95

T. Tertius Noble's scrapbook, programs from
recitals by him and others; 1940-1945 2 96

The York Pageant Music. Words by James Rhoades
Music by T. Tertius Noble. York, Banks & Son; 1909 2 97

A gift copy of Gloria Domini from the choir to T.
Tertius Noble. Bound in silk and embroidered; 1904. 2 98

Notebooks of handwritten notes for T. Tertius Noble's
memoir and autobiography; undated 3 99

Typed and bound book of T. Tertius Noble's memoir, 3 100

Book 1; 1867-1943

Typed and bound book of T. Tertius Noble's memoir, Book 2; 1913-1953	3	101
T. Tertius Noble's scrapbook, newspaper clippings about recitals and T. Tertius Noble's work; 1889, 1909, undated	3	102
T. Tertius Noble's scrapbook, newspaper clippings of articles about T. Tertius Noble and programs from his recitals; 1912-1913	3	103