

**Jones, Henry Arthur (1851-1929)**

**(MS 410)**

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## **Table of Contents**

<b>Table of Contents</b>	<b>p.2</b>
<b>Collection Level Description</b>	<b>p.3</b>
<b>MS410/1: Letters to the Morning Post</b>	<b>p.5</b>
<b>MS410/2: Other Letters</b>	<b>p.7</b>
<b>MS410/3: Publications and Proofs</b>	<b>p.11</b>
<b>MS410/4: Press Cuttings and Reviews</b>	<b>p.12</b>

**MS410**

**JONES, Henry Arthur (1851-1929)**

**1887-1950**

**Name of Creator:** Jones, Henry Arthur (1851-1929) dramatist; Spielmann, Marion Harry Alexander (1858-1948) art historian

**Extent:** 2 Boxes

**Administrative/Biographical History:** Henry Arthur Jones (1851-1929), British dramatist, was born at Grandborough, Buckinghamshire, England. He began working for a draper at the age of twelve, and later earned his living as a commercial traveller. After attending the theatre in London, he was inspired to begin writing one-act plays. His first play to be produced, *It's Only Round the Corner*, was staged at the Theatre Royal, Exeter, in 1878. His first London production, *A Clerical Error*, premiered the following year. *The Silver King*, which opened at the Princess Theatre, London, in 1882, established Jones's name as a dramatist. During his long career, he wrote numerous plays, among his most successful were *The Middleman* (1889), *The Dancing Girl* (1891), *The Tempter* (1893), *The Triumph of the Philistines* (1895), *Michael and His Lost Angel* (1896), *The Liars* (1897), and *The Hypocrites* (1906). Like the works of Arthur Wing Pinero, Jones's plays began the move away from melodrama and sentimental comedy to a more realistic treatment of social issues.

**Custodial History:** Various. Consult Series descriptions for further details. This collection is gathered together from various materials relating to Henry Arthur Jones, collected and compiled by M.H.Spielmann, held at Senate House Library, University of London.

**Scope and Content:** Collection of material relating to the dramatist Henry Arthur Jones (1851-1929), collected by M.H.Spielmann, including: Five letters from Henry Arthur Jones to the Morning Post newspaper concerning the reconstruction of the theatre (1919); correspondence with James Stanley Little (1922-1929); correspondence between Jones and M.H.Spielmann (1919-1929); correspondence between Doris Thorne (nee Arthur Jones) and M.H.Spielmann (1929-1939); publications and proofs of works by H.A.Jones (1897-1921); press cuttings concerning

miscellaneous topics connected to H.A.Jones, including reviews of books and plays and cuttings concerning his disputes with George Bernard Shaw and H.G.Wells (1887-1950).

**System of arrangement:** The collection is divided into four sections, including:

Section 1: Letters to the Morning Post

Section 2: Others Letters

Section 3: Publications and Proofs

Section 4: Press Cuttings and Reviews

**Access conditions:** Access to this collection is unrestricted for the purpose of private study and personal research within the supervised environment and restrictions of the Library's Palaeography Room. Uncatalogued material may not be seen. Please contact the University Archivist for details.

**Copying conditions:** Copies may be made, subject to the condition of the original. Copying must be undertaken by the Palaeography Room staff, which will need a minimum of 24 hours to process requests.

**MS410/1 Letters to the Morning Post 1919-1922**

Five handwritten letters to the Morning Post and other newspapers regarding the reconstruction of the theatre in the aftermath of World War One, with press cuttings and galley proofs of those letters and others (1919-1922)

The letters and cuttings were found in the M.H.Spielmann collection and bought from I.K.Fletcher in 1950. They previously comprised MS 410.

**MS410/1/1 The Reconstruction of the Theatre 1919-1922**

Includes the following:

- Letter to the Editor of the Morning Post regarding the reconstruction of the theatre and the 'science of wise living', with attached galley proof of the letter (2pp) (8 March 1919 [MS410/2])
- Letter to Editor of the Morning Post regarding the reconstruction of the Theatre and 'pure commercial gain', with attached galley proof of the letter (2pp) (12 March 1919) [MS410/3]
- Letter to the Editor of the Morning Post regarding the reconstruction of the theatre and productions of Aeschylus and Sophocles, with attached galley proof of the letter (3pp) (25 March 1919) [MS410/4]
- Letter to the Editor of the Morning Post regarding the reconstruction of the theatre, with attached note possibly by Jones (7pp) (9 April 1919) [MS410/5]
- Letter to the Editor of the Morning Post regarding the reconstruction of the theatre and the public's views, with attached press cutting of the article (5pp) (26 July 1919) [MS410/1a]
- Letter to M.H.Spielmann regarding the Morning Post letters (2pp) (3 March 1919)
- Press cutting, 'Twenty-three questions about British drama' by Jones from the Sunday Express (8 August 1920)
- Press cutting of letter, 'Repertory theatres: Ideas and bankruptcy' by Jones from The Times (6 September 1920)
- Press cutting, 'Mr H.A.Jones and a National Theatre' from The Observer (25 December 1921)
- Press cutting of letter, 'Shelley's "Cenci": A memorable performance' by Jones from The Times (20 July 1922)
- Press cutting and galley proof of letter, 'The Repertory System: Henry Arthur Jones' Views' by Jones from The Daily Telegraph (27 July 1922)

- Single line of writing from a Jones letter (n.d.)

12 items in folder

**MS410/2 Other Letters****1919-1939**

Correspondence involving or concerning Henry Arthur Jones, including: correspondence with James Stanley Little (1922-1929); correspondence between Jones and M.H.Spielmann (1919-1929); correspondence between Doris Thorne (nee Arthur Jones) and M.H.Spielmann (1929-1939); portions of letter from W.B.Kemling to M.H.Spielmann (1929).

The material in this section formerly comprised A.L.176 and A.L.190. See file descriptions for further details.

**MS410/2/1 Letters to James Stanley Little****1922-1929**

Twenty-two letters and 10 cards to James Stanley Little (7 March 1922-27 June 1927), and a letter to Little from Jones' daughter after the death of her father (11 January 1929), including the following:

- Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding the Education Act and post-war reconstruction (1pp) (7 March 1922)
- Card from Jones to Stanley Little regarding social arrangements (1pp) (18 September 1922)
- Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding the former's 'Theatre of Ideas' (2pp) (21 September 1922)
- Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding the British pre-war foreign policy and the forthcoming election (2pp) (1 November 1922)
- Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding the British pre-war foreign policy and the forthcoming election (2pp) (1 November 1922)
- Card from Jones to Stanley Little regarding the former's intention to read Little's book (2pp) (26 December 1922)
- Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding the pamphlets, including 'Patriotism and Popular Education', enclosed with the letter (not enclosed) (2pp) (1 January 1923)
- Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding Frederic Harrison, Jones' 'Bournemouth' paper and his current workload (2pp) (18 January 1923)
- Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding 'Patriotism and Popular Education', personal matters and Jones' new work 'Bernard Shaw as a Thinker' (4pp) (7 February 1923)
- Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding 'Patriotism and Popular Education', personal matters and Jones' new work 'Bernard Shaw as a Thinker'

- (3pp) (11 February 1923)
- Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding the League of Nations, the Labour Party and personal matters (3pp) (20 February 1923)
  - Card from Jones to Stanley Little regarding a pamphlet 'What the Boy Thought' sent to Jones by Little (1pp) (21 February 1923)
  - Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding 'Patriotism and Popular Education' and the Labour Party (3pp) (7 March 1923)
  - Letter from Jones to Little regarding personal and social matters, and Jones' work on Shaw (2pp) (8 May 1923)
  - Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding a review of a play by Little and Jones' progress on his work on Shaw (2pp) (5 January 1924)
  - Card from Jones to Stanley Little regarding social matters (1pp) (10 January 1924)
  - Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding the death of Jones' wife, his own health and the Labour Government (1pp) (20 February 1924)
  - Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding personal issues, the Labour Government and a prospective pamphlet by Jones (3pp) (29 March 1924)
  - Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding personal issues and Jones' pamphlet 'What is Capital?' (3pp) (9 June 1924)
  - Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding personal issues and Jones' pamphlet 'What is Capital?' (3pp) (2 September 1924)
  - Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding promotion of a play by Little (1pp) (15 September 1924)
  - Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding his views on Little's play (3pp) (2 November 1924)
  - Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding Little's play, Jones' workload and personal matters (2pp) (n.d.)
  - Card from Jones to Stanley Little regarding enclosed proofs of Jones' 'What is Capital?' (Not enclosed) (2pp) (1924)
  - Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding social arrangements, Little's play and Jones' 'What is Capital?' (2pp) (22 November 1924)
  - Card from Jones to Stanley Little regarding the latter's health problems and Jones' 'What is Capital?' (1pp) (7 February 1925)
  - Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding Jones' 'What is Capital?' (1pp) (9 March 1925)



- Card from Jones to Stanley Little regarding Stanley Baldwin and Jones' book on Shaw (2pp) (23 August 1925)
- Card from Jones to Stanley Little regarding Jones' book on Shaw (2pp) (23 October 1925)
- Card from Jones to Stanley Little regarding the return of a copy of a book (1pp) (19 November 1925)
- Card from Jones to Stanley Little regarding Jones' works on Shaw and his contributions to the British Empire Union (1pp) (20 December 1925)
- Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding health issues and the political situation in China (3pp) (2 April 1927)
- Letter from Jones to Stanley Little regarding health issues and the threat of socialism (2pp) (27 June 1927)
- Letter from D.Thorne (Jones' daughter) to Stanley Little acknowledging sympathy after the death of Jones (2pp) (11 January 1929)

Former Reference: A.L.190  
33 items in folder

**MS410/2/2 Correspondence with M.H.Spielmann**

**1919-1929**

Including the following:

- Letter from Jones to M.H.Spielmann regarding the Bodleian Library and a social arrangement, with inserted slip of paper (3pp) (19 March 1919)
- Letter from Jones to Spielmann regarding general matters (2pp) (24 June 1919)
- Letter from Jones to Spielmann regarding the publication of a second edition of Jones' book and general matters (2pp) (19 December 1919)
- Card from Jones to Spielmann offering sympathy, with envelope (1pp) 2 October 1920)
- Card from Jones to Spielmann regarding Jones' 'My Dear Wells' and general matters (1pp) (5 August 1921)
- Letter from Jones to Spielmann regarding social arrangements, with envelope (1pp) (8 August 1921)
- Card from Jones to Spielmann regarding social arrangements (1pp) (25 November 1924)
- Card from Jones to Spielmann regarding Bernard Shaw (1pp) (22 October 1925)
- Card from Jones to Spielmann regarding social arrangements (1pp) (n.d.)
- Letter from M.H.Spielmann to Mr Maltby regarding enclosures (not included) (1pp) (4 August 1919)
- Envelope addressed to Spielmann by Jones (16 August 1920)

- Typescript list of plays and books by H.A.Jones, compiled and annotated by Spielmann (4pp) (n.d.)
- Two handwritten lists of plays by Jones, compiled by Spielmann (1929)

Former Reference: A.L.176/1

13 items in folder

**MS410/2/3 Letters from Doris Thorne (H.A.Jones' daughter) 1926-1939**

Including the following:

- Letter to M.H.Spielmann from Doris Thorne regarding editions of her father's plays (2pp) (25 October 1926)
- Letter to Spielmann from Doris Thorne regarding general matters and literary agents (2pp) (30 April 1929)
- Card to Spielmann from Doris Thorne regarding her inserts into a biography of her father (possibly 'Henry Arthur Jones and the modern drama' by Richard A. Cordell) (1pp) (17 October 1932)
- Card to Spielmann from Doris Thorne regarding her service in the Red Cross (1pp) (16 December 1939)

Former Reference: A.L.176/2

4 items in folder

**MS410/2/4 Letter from W.B.Kempling 1929**

Two parts of letters from W.B.Kempling to Spielmann (12 January 1929)

Former Reference: A.L.176/3

2 items in folder

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| <b>MS410/3</b>   | <b>Publications and Proofs</b>   | <b>1897-1921</b> |
|                  | Publications and proofs of works by Henry Arthur Jones concerning the theatre and education, including material sent to M.H.Spielmann.   |                  |
| <br>             |  |                  |
| <b>MS410/3/1</b> | <b>The Liars</b>   | <b>1897</b>      |
|                  | Printed copy of the play, 'The Liars' by H.A.Jones, heavily annotated, possibly by Jones (1897)  |                  |
|                  | 1 item in folder   |                  |
| <br>             |  |                  |
| <b>MS410/3/2</b> | <b>The Reconstruction of the Theatre</b>   | <b>1919</b>      |
|                  | Pamphlet, 'The Reconstruction of the Theatre' by G.E.Morrison, reprinted from The Morning Post, with a foreword by Henry Arthur Jones (April 1919)   |                  |
|                  | 1 item in folder   |                  |
| <br>             |  |                  |
| <b>MS410/3/3</b> | <b>Patriotism and Popular Education</b>  | <b>1919</b>      |
|                  | Proof copy of 'Patriotism and Popular Education' (2nd Edition) by H.A.Jones, signed by the author to M.H.Spielmann (18 December 1919).   |                  |
|                  | 1 item in envelope   |                  |
| <br>             |  |                  |
| <b>MS410/3/4</b> | <b>My Dear Wells</b>   | <b>1921</b>      |
|                  | Proof copy of 'My Dear Wells' by H.A.Jones, signed to W.H.Spielmann (8 August 1921)  |                  |
|                  | 1 item in envelope   |                  |
| <br>             |  |                  |
| <b>MS410/3/5</b> | <b>Popular Education</b>   | <b>n.d.</b>      |
|                  | Pamphlet, 'Popular education as it reveals itself in our work, in our play, and in our politics: A letter addressed to the Right Hon. Herbert A.L.Fisher' by H. A.Jones, with note on cover by author (n.d.) |                  |
|                  | 1 item in folder   |                  |

**MS410/4 Press Cuttings and Reviews****1887-1950**

Press cuttings and miscellanea relating to the career and work of Henry Arthur Jones including material relating to his disputes with George Bernard Shaw and H.G.Wells, reviews of works by Jones and his daughter Doris Thorne; cuttings of letters by Jones to national newspapers concerning theatre, religion and cinema, and material collected by M.H.Spielmann including cuttings and catalogues of booksellers selling Jones' works.

**MS410/4/1 Patriotism and Popular Education****1919-1920**

Includes the following:

- Galley proof, 'That's the Way the Money Goes: An open letter to the Right Hon. H.A.L.Fisher on the working of the new Education Act' by Jones, reprinted from the Evening Standard (12 October 1920)
- Press cutting of letter, 'The Teachers' Pay' by Jones, from the Evening Standard (11 December 1919)
- Press cutting, 'A Dramatist on Sociology' from the Evening Standard (16 January 1920)
- Press cutting, 'A Dramatist's reply to Mr Fisher' from the Evening Standard (n.d.)
- Press cutting, 'That's the Way the Money Goes: An open letter to the Right Hon. H.A.L.Fisher on the working of the new Education Act' by Jones, reprinted from the Evening Standard (12 October 1920)
- Press cutting of editorial, 'The Wrong Road' from the Evening Standard (n.d.)
- Press cutting of letter, 'How to raise money: An open letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer' by Jones, from the Evening Standard (12 August 1920)
- Press cutting, 'Strife and Wreckage over Ireland: Cannot the narrow sea be crossed with kindness, help and reconciliation' by Jones, from the Evening Standard (2 copies) (25 March 1920)
- Printed copy of letter from Jones to William Poel regarding the latter's criticisms of Jones' 'Patriotism and Popular Education in the Monthly Letter for April 1919 (4pp) (10 May 1919)

10 items in folder

- MS410/4/2 My Religion 1923**  
 Three copies of article, 'My Religion' by Jones (2 galley proofs [1 annotated], 1 press cutting), written and published in the Daily Express (24 September 1923)  
 3 items in folder
- MS410/4/3 The Film 1920-1921**  
 Includes the following:  
 - Press cutting, 'The Heroines of the Film: I - A Celestial Bevy' by Jones, from The Times (29 August 1921)  
 - Press cutting, 'The Heroines of the Film: II - Outside the House of Fame' by Jones, from The Times (30 August 1921)  
 - Galley proof of article, 'The Triumphant Film: Questions for Theatre Managers' by Jones, with note by Jones on its publication (n.d.)  
 - Galley Proof of article, 'The Drama and the Film' by Jones, published in the Daily Telegraph (29 August 1920)  
 - Two envelopes addressed by Jones to M.H.Spielmann (7 and 12 August 1920)  
 - Compliment card for Jones (n.d.)  
 7 items in folder
- MS410/4/4 Bookseller's and Publisher's Catalogues and Cuttings 1926-1950**  
 Bookseller's and Publisher's catalogues and cuttings containing references to plays and books by Jones, including the following:  
 - Book catalogue of Samuel French Ltd., publishers (1926)  
 - Book catalogue of Samuel French Ltd., publishers, containing latest additions (1926-1927)  
 - Catalogue of booksellers C & I.K.Fletcher containing works for sale relating to theatre and dance, annotated with slip inside, possibly by M.H.Spielmann (1950)  
 - Cutting from the catalogue of booksellers P.J. & A.E. Dobell (September 1939)  
 - Cutting from the catalogue of booksellers P.J. & A.E. Dobell (September 1935)  
 - Cutting from the catalogue of booksellers Maggs Brothers (n.d.)  
 - Cutting from the catalogue of booksellers Maggs Brothers (1927)

- Cutting from the catalogue of booksellers H.W.Burke (n.d.)
- Cutting from the catalogue of unknown book and manuscript dealers (n.d.)
- Cutting from the catalogue of unknown booksellers (n.d.)

10 items in folder

**MS410/4/5 Reviews and Reports of Books, Plays and Lectures**

**1919-1929**

Includes the following:

- Offprint of article, 'Henry Arthur Jones' by Paul Shorey, from The Trend (1 copy annotated by Jones) (25 May 1925)
- Article, 'At the Theatre' by Jones, from Country Life (26 January 1929)
- Press cutting of review of 'The Goal' by Jones, from The Observer (16 December 1923)
- Press cutting, 'The Waifs and Strays Society' from the Morning Post (21 May 1919)
- Press cutting, 'A New H.A.Jones Play: Two charity performances' from The Times (21 May 1919)
- Press cutting, 'The German claim to Shakespeare' by Jones, from The Times (5 March 1919)
- Press cutting concerning Jones' play 'The Manoeuvres of Jane' from The Times Literary Supplement (6 January 1905)
- Obituary of Jones from The Author, Playwright and Composer (April 1929)
- Press cutting, 'Henry Arthur Jones: Some reminiscences' from The Observer (13 January 1929)
- Press cutting, 'Mr Henry Arthur Jones: A famous English dramatist' from The Times (8 January 1929)
- Press cutting concerning James Stanley Little's reminiscences of Jones from The Times (9 January 1929)
- Press cutting of poem, 'Stepping Westward' by Jones, dedicated to Bronson Howard, from The Times (11 January 1929)

13 items in folder

**MS410/4/6 'The Life and Letters of Henry Arthur Jones' 1930**

- Cuttings of reviews, articles and other material relating to the book, 'The Life and Letters of Henry Arthur Jones' by Doris Arthur Jones, published by Victor Gollancz in 1930, including the following:
- Dust jacket of the book (1930)
  - Press cutting of advert for the book from The Observer (11 May 1930)
  - Advertising card for the book 'What a Life!' by Doris Arthur Jones, sent to M.H.Spielmann with note by the author (n.d.)
  - Press cutting, "'Mrs Pat" and a "Profane" speech: Some stories from the life of Henry Arthur Jones' from the Evening News (12 May 1930)
  - Press cutting, 'New Light on a Great Dramatist' from the Daily Mirror (12 May 1930)
  - Press cutting, 'The Book of the Day: A biography of Henry Arthur Jones, by his daughter, has an all star cast' from the New York Sun (9 October 1930)
  - Press cutting, 'When Charles Frohman caught a lift: Stories of Henry Arthur Jones' from the Daily Mail (12 May 1930)
  - Letter to the Daily Express regarding Jones' article 'My Religion' (n.d.)
  - Review of the book from The Times (13 May 1930)

9 items in folder

**MS410/4/7 Miscellaneous 1887-1926**

- Includes the following:
- Galley proof of article, 'Christmas Meditations upon Alcohol' by Jones, published in the English Review (December 1924)
  - Offprint of article, 'Invocation to Falstaff' by Jones, from Fellowship (December 1925)
  - Christmas card to M.H.Spielmann from Doris Thorne (n.d.)
  - Press cutting of letter, 'Lost art treasures' by Jones from The Times, with two galley proofs of the article (1 annotated) (20 October 1925)
  - Handwritten directions by Jones to his house on slip of paper (n.d.)
  - Press cutting of letter, 'Light on Milton' by Jones from The Times, with galley proof of letter (26 September 1925)
  - Three envelopes addressed to M.H.Spielmann by Jones (6 December 1920, 25 November 1924 and 22 October 1925)
  - Typescript note, perhaps by M.H.Spielmann, of

- plays by Jones (n.d.)
- Press cutting of sketch of Winifred, Jones' daughter and concerning her interest in spiritualism from The Graphic (27 September 1926)
  - Two bay leaves collected from Virgil's tomb in Naples (in envelope) (1887)

10 items in folder

**MS410/4/8 H.G.Wells**

**1920-1921**

- Press cuttings concerning H.G.Wells and Jones' book, 'My Dear Wells', published in 1921, including the following:
- Press cutting of article, 'Russia in the Shadow' by H.G.Wells, from The New York Times (5 December 1920)
  - Press cutting of article, 'Yet once more, my dear Wells' by Jones from The New York Times (2 January 1921)
  - Press cutting of article, 'Russia in the Shadow' by H.G.Wells, from The New York Times, with article by Jones at bottom of page (28 November 1920)
  - Press cutting of article, 'When H.G.Wells smokes the opium of utopia' by John Spargo from The New York Times, with article by Jones at bottom of page (12 December 1920)
  - Press cutting, "'My Dear Wells': Another open letter to Mr H.G.Wells on his recent trip to Russia' by Jones from the Evening Standard (6 December 1920)
  - Press cutting, 'An open letter to Mr H.G.Wells on his approaching trip to Russia' by Jones from the Evening Standard (15 September 1920)
  - Press cutting, 'Mr H.A.Jones and Mr H.G.Wells: Further open letter on his visit to Russia' from the Evening Standard (17 September 1920)
  - Press cutting, "'My Dear Wells': Another open letter to Mr H.G.Wells on his recent trip to Russia' by Jones from the Evening Standard (3 November 1920)
  - Press cutting, "'My Dear Wells': Another open letter to Mr H.G.Wells on his recent trip to Russia' by Jones from the Evening Standard (6 December 1920)
  - Press cutting of letter by Wells from the Evening Standard (29 December 1920)
  - Press cutting of letter by Wells from the Evening Standard (30 December 1920)
  - Press cutting of letter by Wells from the Evening Standard (n.d.)



- Press cutting of letter, 'A Final Statement to Mr Henry Arthur Jones' by Wells from the Evening Standard (28 December 1920)
- Press cutting, "'My Dear Wells': A letter from Mr Henry Arthur Jones' from the Morning Post (4 August 1921)
- Envelope addressed to M.H.Spielmann by Jones (3 December 1920)

16 items in folder

**MS410/4/9 GBS**

**1921-1930**

Includes the following:

- Copy of letter from George Bernard Shaw to M.H.Spielmann regarding Jones and the character of his plays (2pp) (15 May 1930)
- Printed copy of letter from Jones to Sir Israel Gollancz regarding England's relations with France and Bernard Shaw's actions (1pp) (n.d.)
- Proof of letter, 'Mr Jones and Mr Shaw by Jones from the Evening Standard (n.d.)
- Printed copy of letter from Jones to Sir Squire Bancroft regarding his decision to not attend the J.H.Barnes' Testimonial Matinee due to the attendance of Bernard Shaw (1pp) (17 September 1921)

4 items in folder