

**Finding Aid for the Henry H. Albertson Collection. Additions,
1826-1918**

Collection No. 1110

1 box and 1 framed picture

Special Collections

Haverford College Library

Compiled by Diana Franzusoff Peterson

August, 2000

©August, 2000

Gift of Edith Albertson Greene, February and April, 1983 and Edith Albertson Greene and Mary Thom, January and February, 1986.

Accession #4399, 4456, 5982.

Information for Users:

This addition is in Box 2 of the Henry Haines Albertson Collection.

Materials are arranged in series: letters (8 folders); biographical sketches and miscellaneous documents (1 folder); extracts and copies of documents (1 folder); graphics (1 folder).

In all cases, there are descriptions for the content of each folder. Though all letter writers are listed, not all contents are described. Rather, those that are highlighted are done so on the basis of significant content of the letter or historical importance of the letter writer.

The symbol + is for Haverford College use only.¹

Biographical Notes:

William Hodgson, Jr. (1804-1878) was in the pharmaceutical business in Philadelphia with Daniel B. Smith as Smith Hodgson Manufacturing Chemists. He also helped establish the Primitive Friends Meeting in 1860.

(Biographical information from "Dictionary of Quaker Biography")

Henry Albertson (1835-1895²) was the son-in-law of William Hodgson, and a member of Primitive Friends, Olive Street (Philadelphia) Meeting. He died at Lansdowne, Pa.

(Biographical information from *Friends Intelligencer* 52 (1895) p. 380)

Henry Haines Albertson (1880-1959) attended Friends Select School and Cornell University and became a fruit grower near Ithaca N.Y. and then in Burlington, N.J. He served for many years as Clerk of Monthly and Quarterly Meetings. He m. Maria Moon;

¹ Designates documents for potential use in History 361

² See condolence letter of H.B. Orchard 1895 6/22.

H. H. Albertson

Coll. no. 1110

p. 6

children who survived him are Edith Albertson Greene, Elizabeth R. Albertson, Eleanor A. Murphey and Mary A. Thom.

(Biographical information from *Friends Journal* 5 (1959) p. 592)

Collection Description:

Includes letters, many of which are by and to William Hodgson (1804-1878). All or most of the letter writers are Friends; a number of them are British Friends. Topics often include visits to other Friends, attending Meeting, health, religious or philosophical reflections, and because of the period of writing, often refer openly or obliquely to the Wilbur-Gurney controversy.

Additional Physical Description:

A framed silhouette of William Hodgson (1804-1878) cut by Auguste Edouart in 1843 contained in this collection has been placed in 812A-R

Letters: A-D. 1 folder.

Correspondents include:

H.H. Albertson, Robert Alsop, Lydia Barclay, Peter Bedford, Alice H. Carter, George Crosfield, Susan Dickinson.

Highlights include:

Barclay, Lydia A. to William Hodgson. Aberdeen, Scotland, 1849-1854. 4 items. [wants to send some Quaker books to America, especially to mid-west where “old fashioned” books are “scarce”; she is working on journal of John Couran of Ireland; mentions E[lisha] Bates and other Quakers (1850); mentions John Wilbur and many English Friends, including J.J. Gurney, and their visits to America] +

Letters: E-H (except Elizabeth and William Hodgson). 1 folder.

Correspondents include:

Thomas Evans, E.W.F. (sister of Stephen Otis), Thomas Frankland, C.E.G., L.E.G., S.C.G., Stephen Gorham, Stephen Gould, Phebe Haines, M. Hodgson.

Highlights include:

H. H. Albertson

Coll. no. 1110

p. 7

Frankland, Thomas to William Hodgson. Liverpool, 1827-38. 3 items. [agitation in the Meeting, especially uneasiness with ministry of A. Braithwaite and Elisha Bates (1836); J.J Gurney finds "sound, worthy Friends" in the U.S., more about Gurney, was the only male English minister attending Yearly Meeting in Dublin where some disunity, but not in doctrinal subjects (1838)] +

G., L.E. to ? Sussex, Eng., 1870 6/17. [listing and discussion of important Quaker books]

G., S.C. to Mary Otis. Wales, [1875?] 1/11. [Friends Meeting near Lord Powers' castle whose ancestors were good to Quakers; other Quakers mentioned as well as travel] +

Gould, Stephen to John Wilbur. Newport, [R.I., 1835 12/2. [Thos. Evans alarmed by state of Society (of Friends) in Ohio which could result in schism; mentions "Nixites" and Beaconites; several anti-Quaker books published; mentions several Friends] +

Harrison, John to William Hodgson. Manchester, [Eng.], 1844 7/9. [glad that despite hindrances, Truth of early Friends still invariably maintained; glad to hear of Hodgson's new publication and would sell some in England if sent; disparaging remarks about "Paul" in *Letters of Paul and Amicus* ; other "right-minded" Friends]

Hodgson, (son of William) to Father. [n.d.] [discusses business, weather, family]

Hoyle, Benjamin to William Hodgson. Barnesville [Ohio], 1848 4/27. [hopes for end to difficulties within the Society; concern that Hodgson not recognizing the "smaller body" at the Yearly Meeting]

Letters: Elizabeth Hodgson, 1854-1858 (mostly n.d.). 1 folder (18 items).

Most of the letters are directed to her husband, William Hodgson. They touch on daily events, various Friends, attending Meeting, visiting friends (Friends), health, news of his business.

Highlights include:

E.R.H. [Hodgson, Elizabeth] to William Hodgson. Philadelphia, 1843 5/18. [experimental cure for consumption; arrival of the ship "TP Cope"; member of Balby Monthly Meeting has been refused reinstatement, apparently because does not adhere to "plain speech, etc."]

Hodgson, Elizabeth to William Hodgson. Philadelphia, [Pa.], 1854 6/12. [mentions Hannah Richardson, Phebe Haines and her visit to other Monthly Meetings; some news of his business]

Letters: William Hodgson, 1839-1849 & n.d. 1 folder (13 items)

Most of the letters are directed to his wife, Elizabeth Hodgson. They tell of travel in Pennsylvania, especially about quality of the roads, friends (Friends) seen, scenery, Meetings for Worship, Monthly and Preparative Meetings.

Highlights include:

Hodgson, William to Elizabeth Hodgson. Mount Carbon [Pa.], 1839 6/19. [on travel: roads, rail, scenery] +

Hodgson, William to Elizabeth Hodgson. Wolf Run [Pa.], 1842 4/24. [reasons for visits to other Meetings include deficient attendance of religious meetings or “use or give ardent spirits”; describes the variety of people visited]

Hodgson, William to Elizabeth Hodgson. Wellsborough, [Pa.?], 1842 5/31. [visited with families that did not conform with their understanding of Quaker Meeting practices, “they were not quite free from Hicksism...”, but felt it was “better than roaming among the woods or doing worse”]

Hodgson, William to Elizabeth Hodgson. Muncy, [Pa.], 1842 6/3. [tells about the new settlement of Friends “Pennsdale”]

Hodgson, William to Elizabeth Hodgson. Danville, 1849 10/12. [traveling as far as Port Clinton with Josiah White, Erskine Hazard and others] +

Letters: J-N. 1 folder.

Correspondents include:

Ann Jones, William Kirkwood, Daniel Koll, Enos Lee, Solomon Lukins, Robert A. Mather, Joseph E. Maule, Edward C. May, George Mendenhall, Samuel Moon, John Moore, H.F. Newhall.

Highlights include:

Jones, Ann to William Hodgson. Stockport [Eng.?], 1843 4/13. [mentions disownment and persecution of John Wilbur and the lax state of things in Indiana, divisions in the Society] +

Koll, Daniel to William Hodgson. 1868-1870 (7 items). [religious thoughts and health issues]

Mather, Robert A. to William Hodgson. Sydney, New South Wales, 1842 4/8.
[about numbers of Friends in Sydney and elsewhere in the country]

Maule, Joseph E. to Samuel D. Otis. Philadelphia, 1867 1/13. [issues in
Meetings; Ohio has suffered as a result of war and bounty claims] +

Mendenhall, George to Solomon Lukins. Greensboro, N.C., 1826 4/28. [on the
advice of Elizabeth Robson, has purchased at "Negro woman & child" for \$441; although
he owns black people, does not think of himself as a slave holder; although disowned, he
still considers himself a Quaker; brother Richard chartering a boat to convey slaves of the
Quakers to Haiti and Liberia] (fragile condition) +

Moon, Samuel to Mariana Otis. Morrisville Nursery, [N.J.], 1883 12/30. [refers
to bountiful toys at the Wanamaker store; photos taken of their windmill, house,
greenhouse and barn]

Letters: O-P. 1 folder.

Correspondents include:

H.B. Orchard, Deborah Otis, Lois Otis, Stephen G. Otis, John Pease.

Highlights include:

Orchard, H.B. to Mrs. Albertson. 1895 6/22. [sends condolences on the death of
her husband, Henry]

Letters: R-W. 1 folder.

Correspondents include:

Elizabeth R. Richardson, Rachel Rickman, Nelson E. Russell, C. Sargent, John G.
Sargent, Thomas Thompson, Samuel Tuke, John Wilbur, Charles Wilson, Mary Wistar,
Thomas Wood.

Highlights include:

Russell, Nelson E. to Greene. Base Hospital, No. 23, 1918 8/1. [have arrived in
France and are running to capacity; mentions heart cases and gas victims]

Sargent, C. to "fils". Fritchley, 1870 6/9. [refers to J(ohn) Wilbur]

Thompson, Thomas to William Hodgson. Liverpool, [Eng.], 1836-1838.
[Beaconites (1/19/1836); events in Meeting resulted in several resignations, including of

H. H. Albertson

Coll. no. 1110

p. 10

Isaac Crewdson and his wife from their eldership (11/8 1836; continued agitation in the Meeting and trials of T.R.)

Tuke, Samuel to William Hodgson. York, 1839 9/18. [dissension in the Society; traveling Friends, including the deceased Israel Pemberton]

Wilbur, John to Job Otis. Hopkinton, 1848 1/1. [condolences re Otis' deceased wife; situation in Scipio Quarterly Meeting and publications regarding Wilbur-Gurney controversy] +

Unidentified Writers. 1 folder (6 items).

Highlights include:

Hanna. Sherwood, 1881 9/22. [is going to teach at Union Seminary; love life]

Miscellaneous, 1857 & n.d. 1 folder (5 items)

Biographical sketches (Joseph Hoag, David Sands); issue of marriage between schismatically-separated Friends; attack on *The Friend* signed by William Rhoads, Joseph Walton, Anne Peirce and Robert M. Smith (1857); other issues relating to the Society of Friends, such as answers to the query whether it is proper to marry the sister of a deceased wife.

Miscellaneous - Extracts, 19th century copies 1 folder (10 items)

Extracts from memories, narratives, memos, epistles, journals; also copies of sermons and epistles.

Graphics, 1839 and n.d. 1 folder (2 items)

Silhouette of Thomas Shillitoe (1754-1836). Printed by Thos. Hodgson, Liverpool, 1839. Also pencil sketch of silhouette.

"A Remarkable Dream, 1762" copied for Elizabeth Balderson in 1822 (acc. 6523)

Materials removed from collection:

Tracts, pamphlets and printed epistles have been removed to Quaker Collection or Pamphlet Group or duplicates as appropriate