

Finding Aid for the **LONGSTRETH FAMILY PAPERS, 1851-1936**
Collection No. 950

1 box (.5 linear ft.)
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Abstract:

Papers of the 19th century Longstreth family of Pennsylvania, especially William Collins Longstreth.

Restrictions:

No restrictions.

Biographical Information:

William Collins Longstreth (1882-) was the son of Thomas Kimber Longstreth and Lucy Branson Longstreth (later Roberts). William C. Longstreth received his B.A. from Haverford College in 1902 and M.A. in 1904. He married Nella Thacher in 1917. He was a Quaker, active as a student at Haverford College, employed at the Longstreth Motor Car Co. and a supporter of the Friends Temperance Association.

Thomas Kimber Longstreth (1851-1883) attended Haverford College where he received his B.A. in 1870 and M.A. in 1873. He was a member of Philadelphia Monthly Meeting for the Western District, a teacher at Greenway Mission First-day School and Superintendent of Friends' First-day School at Twelfth Street.

Lucy Branson Longstreth Roberts (1856-1936) was a lifetime member of Twelfth Street (PMMWD) Meeting. She was active in many social reform activities and belonged to several committees of her Meeting. She was one of the founders of Women's Foreign Missionary Society, a president of Friends Historical Association. In memory of her husband, she gave Roberts Hall and the Roberts Autograph Letters Collection to Haverford College.

Collection Description:

Approximately two-thirds of the letters were written by William C. Longstreth to his mother while he was a student at Westtown School in the 1890s. Some few were written from Haverford College and from Back Log Camp, etc.

Other letters are from Thomas K. Longstreth to Lucy Branson during their courtship and early marriage. A few letters are from relatives and friends to Lucy Branson Roberts.

Letters to Lucy Branson Roberts (1856-1936) (alphabetical arrangement)

“Bill’s Aunt” to Lucy Roberts. [n.d.] [tells of the good character of Roberts’ son, William Longstreth]

Brown, Thomas K. to Lucy B. Roberts. 1895 4/26. [about son William’s schoolwork at Westtown Boarding School]

Goodyear, W. H. (William Henry), 1846-1923 to Lucy Branson. [18]78 12/16. [quotes on ancient Roman architecture]

Roberts, Charles? to Lucy Roberts. London, 1900 6/13. 1900. [writes from London where he has met a duchess and an archbishop]

Taylor, R.N. to Lucy Roberts. 1900 12/29. [family news, including differences in her life vs. her husband’s; liberal spirit at 12th St. Meeting; temperance issue]

Taylor, Sarah to Lucy Branson. 1879 8/23. [congratulates on engagement and on becoming one of their family members]

White, Marian to Lucy Roberts. 1900 10/14.

Wood, Sarah Dunn? to Lucy Roberts. 1895 9/16. [about her son and other boys at Westtown School]

Letters of Thomas Kimber Longstreth (1851-1883) to Lucy Branson (chronological arrangement)

A series of approximately 25 letters, 1879-1882, to his friend, later fiancée, then wife telling of his devotion and incidents in his daily life, including about family, attending meeting, once referring to a trial. The letter of July 30, 1880 also contains a carte-de-visite, likely of Thomas K. Longstreth.

Letters of William Collins Longstreth (1882-) to Lucy Branson Longstreth Roberts (chronological arrangement)

Approximately 75 letters, 1893-(1893-1900)1912, report on his trips and condition of roads, as well as from Back Log Camp in the summer of 1898, and from Haverford College, (May 5, 1900 tells about playing cricket while at Haverford), but especially give details about his experiences while at Westtown School where he was a boarding student. There are two letters by Lucy B. Roberts interfiled with her son’s (May 7, 1896 & May 7, 1912 written from Tokyo).

Roberts/Longstreth ephemera

Visiting cards, William C. Longstreth's Westtown grades, a bill and rhymes entitled "Parlor Car". 4 items.