

Haverford College Library  
Special Collections

Finding Aid for the RHOADS FAMILY PAPERS, 1822-1955

Collection No. 1033  
Accession #1323, #6945  
3 document boxes (1.5 linear feet)  
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Gift of Ethel Rhoads Potts, 1959; Gift of Lewis and Sarah Potts Benson, Oct.1963, 1991.

**INFORMATION FOR USERS**

All dates are standardized rather than transcribed, viz: yr mo/day.

Though not all letters are listed individually, those that are highlighted are done so on the basis of content of the letter or historical importance of the letter writer.

**RESTRICTIONS**

No restrictions

**RELATED MATERIALS**

**ABSTRACT**

Nineteenth century letters and papers primarily of the Quaker Gibbons and Rhoads families, often relating to abolition and the Free Produce Association

**SUBJECT HEADINGS**

Clarkson, Thomas, 1760-1846  
Dymond family.  
Potts, Ethel Rhoads, 1870-1962  
Potts, Thomas Charles, 1872-1955  
Rhoads, Anne Gibbons.  
Rhoads, Ethel.  
Rhoads, Samuel.  
Rhoads, William Gibbons, 1838-1880

Sturge, Joseph, 1793-1859  
Wright, Mary.

Free Produce Association of Friends  
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

## **SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE COLLECTION**

Papers include letters, journals, diaries, commonplace books, miscellaneous papers, photographs, and silhouettes. The letters were mainly written to Anne (Gibbons) Rhoads and Samuel Rhoads by English Friends, 1840-ca. 1889, including Thomas Clarkson, H.J. Sturge, Joseph Sturge, and Mary Wright, who discuss abolition, the free produce movement in Britain, and the Free Produce Association of Friends of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. There are also letters from Thomas Charles Potts (1872-1955) to his wife, Ethel Rhoads Potts, and many letters of sympathy on his death. Journals and diaries include Anne Rhoads' record of a trip to England, 1847, and diaries of Samuel Rhoads, 1822-1834 and Ethel Rhoads, 1896. Commonplace books include that of Samuel Rhoads, 1828, giving an account of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, just after the Separation of 1827-1828. Miscellaneous papers include an address by William Gibbons Rhoads, read before the Haverford College Euethean Association, 4mo. 16, 1858. Pictures include a water-color painting of West Hill, home of Eliza Paul Gurney, and silhouettes of members of the Dymond family.

## **DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION**

### **Box 1:**

Note: There is some genealogical information on the Rhoads and Potts families in this box.

Miscellaneous Letters, A-P:

Allen, Elizabeth, to Anne Rhoads. 8 items, Liskeard, 1847-ca.1849.

Backhouse, Elizabeth, to Anne Rhoads. 6 items, York, 1847-1870.

Barclay, Charles, to Anne Rhoads. 2 items, 1853.

Candler, Maria, to Anne Rhoads. 1 item, Oak Tree Cottage, 8mo. 27, 1853.

Casson, Isabel, to Anne Rhoads. 2 items, 1847.

Clarkson, Thomas, to Samuel Rhoads. 2 items, May 1, 1846, and copy of same. [Addresses Samuel Rhoads as Secy. Bd. of Managers of Free Produce Assoc. of Friends of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting; speaks of British cotton and sugar trades and work to

abolish use of slave labor therein; also, about Fox's, pamphlet of 1791-92, about evils of slavery on sugar plantations, and its effect on English people.]

Crosfield, Elizabeth H., to Anne Rhoads. 5 items, Oaklands, near Liverpool, 1865-71.

Dymond, Sarah Eliza, to Anne Rhoads. 3 items, 1847-1872.

Dymond, Sarah John, to Anne Rhoads. 18 items, 1847-1873.

Dymond, Sophia to Anne Rhoads. 1 item, Wilmslow. near Manchester, 5mo. 29, 1873.

Forbes, Anne, to Anne Rhoads. 1 item [n.p., n.d.].

Fry, Sophia G... to Anne Rhoads. 1 item, Darlington, 7mo. 17, 1872.

Gibbons, William, to Anne Gibbons (later Rhoads), Westtown School. Leacock, 3mo. 16, 1826. [News of family and friends]

Pease, John, to Samuel and Anne Rhoads. 1 item, Darlington, 9mo. 9, 1847.

Pease, Sophia, to Anne Rhoads. 3 items, 1847-1866.

Pott, Thomas ["the Persecuted Friend"] 2 letters: 1683 & 1687

To James Harrison. 5mo. 1, 1683.

To James Harrison and Thomas Janney. Hiall Green [Cheshire?] 4mo. 13 [16]87.

Potts, Stacy. Letter to Jonathan Sergeant, Maidenhead. Trenton, June 18, 1766.

Potts, Thomas to his wife, Ethel, while en board ships, 1913. 8 items.  
[detailed accounts of social life aboard ship and almost hourly accounts of his other activities in Sweden and England. In the Lake District his companion was "Stanley" (Yarnall?)]

Also in the same folder:

Letters from Thomas Potts' children at the time of the death of Thomas Potts, 1955. 3 items.

"Pottscot Angles," Thomas Potts' business newsletter, 1955, with an obituary of Thomas Potts.

Sympathy letters to Ethel Potts on the death of her husband, 1955. 2 folders.

Potts. Thomas Maxwell. 2 letters to John Potts, Camden, N.J. (with envelopes)  
Canonsburg, Pa., Nov. 6, 1884, and Dec. 31, 1884- Jan. 8, 1885. [Concern genealogy of  
Potts family]

Priestman, [P ?] to Anne Rhoads. 1 item, Summerhill, 9mo. 24, 1847.

**Box 2: Miscellaneous Letters and Papers; Pictures and Silhouettes**

Miscellaneous Letters, R-Z:

Richardson. Anna H., to Anne Rhoads. 2 items, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 10mo. 25,  
1872 - 1mo. 27, 1873. [Second letter encloses printed notice about anti-slavery meeting]

Satterthwaite, Sarah B., to Anne Rhoads. 2 items, Maryport, 12mo. 16, 1873 -  
1mo. 6, 1882.

Sellers George, to Samuel Rhoads, Blockley. [n.p.] 8mo. 5, 1824. [Concerns a  
mathematical conundrum]

Stacey, Mary George, to Samuel and Anne Rhoads. 2 items. 1849.

Sturge, E J , to Anne and Samuel Rhoads. 4 items, 9mo. 23, 1847 - 7mo. 20,  
1848. [Discusses effort to get English people interested in buying only free-grown cotton,  
rather than slave-grown cotton]

Sturge, Joseph, to Samuel Rhoads. 2 items, Birmingham, 1846-1859. [Encloses  
letter from Thomas Clarkson; discusses anti-slavery activities, especially promotion of  
free produce movement, growth and marketing of free-grown cotton.]

Sturge, L. E., to Samuel Rhoads. 1 item, Birmingham, 5mo. 18, 1859. [Encloses  
notice of death of Joseph Sturge]

Sturge, M. C., to Anne Rhoads. 1 item, Birmingham, 9mo. 9, 1847.

Thistlethwaite, H[annah] to Anne Rhoads. 19 items (4 enclosures) in 2 folders,  
1872 - ca.1889.

Thompson, S. M. , to Anne Rhoads. 2 items, Liverpool, 1847 - 1869.

Wanton, Mary. Letter to Mrs. Elizabeth Green, Warwick, [R.I.] [Newport]  
August 4, 1739.

Wright, Mary, to Anne Rhoads. 1 item, Bristol, 3mo. 28, 1848. [Mentions free  
produce movement]

### Miscellaneous Papers:

Johnson, Joseph, surveyor and regulator. Surveyor's map of [The Firs property and adjoining lands] Blueprint, 64 x 70cm. Jan. 8, 1898.

Neall, H.L. Lines with a present of a gold cross. [n.d.]

Potts, William L. 2 receipts to Nicholas Cramer. May 7-Aug. 9, 1816.

Potts, Thomas, Sheriff of Sussex Co., N.J. Indenture, Newtown, Sussex Co., N.J., Feb. 20, 1775, appointing Joseph Barton representative of the County to the General Assembly of New Jersey.

Rhoads, Edward, M.D. A medical memorandum ... as to the nature of the last illness of Samuel Rhoads. Philadelphia, 12mo. 9, 1870.

Rhoads, William Gibbons

- Extracts from some of Jonathan Dymond's letters to his friends & sketch of his life
- Haverford College commencement oration by W.G. Rhoads, 1858
- An address delivered before the Euethean Society of Haverford College by W.G. Rhoads, 3 mo 16, 1858 and 4 mo 16, 1858

Sutcliff, Robert (d.1811)

Note: Papers relating to the book by Robert Sutcliff, *Travels in some Parts of North America, in the years 1804, 1805, and 1806*. York, 1811. [Meant to be kept with the book, but no book came with them to Haverford. The Haverford College Library has a copy of the book, however: Quaker BX 7758 S97 T7] Papers are as follows:

- Elfreth, Jacob R., 1837-1924. List of names, believed to be the persons referred to by initials only, in the book. Lansdowne, Pa., 6mo. 19, 1909.
- Emlen, Samuel. Letter to Hannah B. Evans, referring to the book. Jamestown, 8mo. 2, 1906 (with envelope)
- Evening Bulletin, June 18, 1913. Column, "Men and Things," about Sutcliff and his writings, 100 years after.
- Sutcliff, Robert. Letter (copy) to Thomas Scattergood. On Board the Two Friends, 11mo. 15, 1800.

### Pictures & Silhouettes:

Wedding photograph of Alfred C. Garrett and Eleanor (Evans) Garrett.

West Hill, home of Eliza Paul (Kirkbride) Gurney. Watercolor painting inscribed, "Lilly J, Wistar, from E.P. Gurney, Dec. 12th., 1860." Mtd. 22 x 27 cm.

Rhoads, Edward, M.D., 1841-1871. Photograph.

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. 2 photographs, 1891.

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Women's Meeting. 2 photographs [1891?]

Silhouettes:

John Dymond, brother of essayist Jonathan Dymond. 1851.

Sarah, wife of John Dymond. 1851.

Sarah Eliza, daughter of John and Sarah. 1851.

B[rainard?] 1851.

B[rainard?] 1851.

Engraving of Fore Street. residence Of Jonathan Dymond. 5 x 7cm.

### **Box 3: Journals, Diaries and Letterbooks**

#### **Journals, diaries, letterbooks, account books:**

- Journal of [Hannah (Pusey) Gibbons?] telling of visit to Cape May with her father in 1830. (Doubtful)
- Letterbook of Phebe Haines, Rancocas, 1869-1874.
- Journal of Anne Rhoads' trip, to England, 1847.
- Anne Rhoads' account of Journey with Sarah B. Satterthwaite in 1877.
- Rhoads, Edward, M.D., son of Samuel and Anne (Gibbons) Rhoads. Letterbook, containing copies of his letters to his parents during his visit to Europe, 1865-66. Laid in: Genealogical note about him, by Sarah R. (Potts) Benson.

- Ethel Rhoads diary and account book entitled "Europe, 1896;" account book and diary, including description of birth, breast feeding, etc. of her daughter Sarah Rhoads Benson in 1907.
- Commonplace book and diary of Samuel Rhoads. 8mo. 5, 1822-1828, including account of his departure from Westtown School, 10mo. 10, 1822.
- Diary (fragment, in pencil) of [Samuel Rhoads] 11mo. 28, 1828 - 7mo. 4, 1829.
- Diary of Samuel Rhoads, 7mo. 1, 1829 - 2mo. 17, 1830.
- Commonplace book of Samuel Rhoads, including notes taken of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, 1828, Just after the Separation of 1827 - 1828. [Back of book devoted to scientific problems. Pages numbered 1-154, starting at back.]
- Diary of [Samuel Rhoads] 2mo. 21, 1830- 7mo. 12, 1830.[Loose pages, 2mo. 21 - ca. 4mo. 1, 1830. Laid in: Letter from Anne Rhoads, 4mo. 4, to her sister Sarah]
- Diary of Samuel Rhoads, 12mo. 23, 1830 - 1mo., 21, 1832; 3mo. 22, 1833; 7mo. 6, 1834 - 8mo. 8, 1834 [telling of voyage to England]
- Diary of Samuel Rhoads, 2 vols. 1mo. - 3mo., 1833, while traveling on a religious visit to Canada. with Jacob Green of Ireland.