

Guide to the John Metcalf Garfield Papers

MS 968



compiled by Janet Elaine Gertz

July 1983

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 968

CREATOR: Garfield, John Metcalf, 1790-1872

TITLE: John Metcalf Garfield papers

DATES: 1812-1872

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 1 linear foot (2 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Half of the papers consist of a diary (1815-1816) and notes kept while Garfield was a student at Yale University. Later material documents his activities as a teacher and as a clergyman. Included are notes on sermons, on classical literature, account books, a record of baptism, marriages and funerals (1826-1872), and papers on the New Haven Female Seminary and the Albany Female Seminary. Also included is the account book (1821-1825) of his wife, Ann Lyon Garfield.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0968>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0968>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased in 1940.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

John Metcalf Garfield Papers (MS 968). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

JOHN METCALF GARFIELD, eldest son of Timothy and Eunice (Pond) Garfield, was born 21 July, 1790, in Grafton, Mass.

After graduation from Yale in 1816 he began the study of law with Seth P. Staples of New Haven. At the close of his second year, he became a teacher in the Lansingburgh (N. Y.) Academy, and after a year spent there, took charge of the Grammar School in Troy, N. Y.

In 1819 he established a Female Seminary in New Haven, which he conducted successfully until 1831, where he was appointed Principal of the Albany Female Seminary. During this time he pursued theological studies, and was ordained deacon in the Prot. Episc. Church by Bishop Brownell, in Hamden, Conn., 11 Aug., 1822, and was admitted to the priesthood, by the same prelate, in Meriden, 4 June, 1823. From this time he regularly officiated in neighboring towns until his removal from the State.

Mr. Garfield continued in his position in Albany until 1849, when he returned to New Haven. Here he resided until his death, and for the greater part of the time had charge of a church of colored people in the city.

He married, 22 Nov., 1816, Ann, eldest daughter of Nathaniel Lyon, of New Haven, and had two sons and six daughters. He died 10 March, 1872, and his wife two days later.

(*Yale University Obituary Record*, 1860-1879, page 49)

Scope and Contents

The papers of John Metcalf Garfield consist primarily of diaries, notebooks, and account books. There is, first, a series of five notebooks recording expenses and lectures at Yale College, 1812-1816. In two of these are included diary entries for the years 1815-1816 and 1823-1825, while a separate volume continues the diary combined with Garfield's ecclesiastical itinerary for 1826-1828 and a record of baptisms, marriages, and funerals for 1826 to 1872. Notes on sermons and Greek literature conclude this series of notebooks.

The next group of volumes contains records of Garfield's teaching from 1816 through 1830, both of private students and in the New Haven Female Seminary, which he founded in 1819. Included are accounts, grades, and other records. There are also a few items from the Albany Female Seminary.

The final two items in the collection are a lease from Garfield to Robert Morrison for property in New Haven, and a household account books kept by Garfield's wife, Ann (Lyon) Garfield (d. 1872).

The papers are described in greater detail on the following pages. They were purchased in 1940.

Collection Contents
Inventory, 1812-1872

10"(2 boxes)

John Metcalf Garfield

b. 1, f. 1	Notebook consisting of expenses at Yale College, Oct. 15, 1812-Nov, 22, 1814; notes on Mr. Rutlege's sermon [n.p., n.d.]; rules for Latin accent; simple equations in Algebra; rules for Latin grammar	1812-1814
b. 1, f. 2	Notes on Jeremiah Day's lectures in natural philosophy [1814-1815; 67p. num. through p. 51], followed by notes on two sermons by Rev. Benjamin Hale at Geneva, N.Y., Feb. 19, 1843 [3 p.]. In inverse order on the volume: "Continuation of President Dwight['s] Lectures", July 5, 6, 1816, and "President Dwight's Farewell Address to the Senior Class, July, 1815" [21 p.]; notes on services attended in Albany, N.Y., 1842-1843, mainly sermons of Rev. Horatio Potter, with two by Rev. Alonzo Potter, and one each by Rev. William E. Sprague and Rev. John Williams	[1814]-1816, 1842-1843
b. 1, f. 3	Notes on President Dwight's lectures, Mar. 2, 1816-July 2, 1816 [219 p.]; in verso, notes on Professor Day's lectures, Mar. 2-June 8, 1816 [27 p.], preceded by 4 p. on divorce and on a sermon by Rev. Mr. Fay	1816
b. 1, f. 4	Notes from the Mineralogical lectures of Benjamin Silliman, 1815-1816 [23 p. through 7th lectures, with 11 p. more, beginning with lectures 19, after 32 p. of dairy in inverse order]; written in inverse order, a discourse on sympathy [10 p.], followed by his diary, 1823-1825	1815-1816, 1823-1825
b. 1, f. 5	Dairy, May 9, 1815-Jan. 25, 1816; copy of A.L. to unnamed correspondent [n.p., n.d.]; notes on Dr. Romeyn's sermon at Lansingburgh [N.Y., n.d.]; 1 p. of accounts, Nov. 24, 1815-Dec. 27, 1819	1815-1816
b. 1, f. 6	Dairy of ecclesiastical itinerary, Jan, 1826-July 19, 1828, followed by record of baptisms, marriages, and funerals, Jan. 1826-Feb. 1872	1826-1872
b. 2, f. 7	Notes from Bishop Pearson on Faith [54 l. numb. through 40, nearly all written on both sides]; followed by notes on sermons preached in New Haven by Rev. John Seely Stone, 1830-1831 [20 unnum. p.]; notes on Homer's Odyssey and Sophocles' OEdipus Tyrannus [latter in inverse order], probably by Narthaniel L. Garfield at Albany Academy	1830-1831
b. 2, f. 8	Notes, or parts of sermons, on various biblical texts [penciled notes of 82 unnum. p., some pinned together; n.p., n.d.; one written on verso of a printed prospectus of "The Academician", [n.d.]	undated
b. 2, f. 9	Accounts with students taught privately in New Haven and later in the New Haven Female Seminary, 1816-1824 [119 p.] with name index to same; followed by 2 sermons at St. Peter's Protestant, Episcopal Church [Albany, N.Y.], July 4, 11, 1847 [20 p.]; at end of volume, summary of school accounts, [n.d.]-1822	1816-1824, 1847
b. 2, f. 10	Accounts against students in the New Haven Female Seminary, 1824-1830; catalogue, 1843, of a library and rules governing its use; copies, in a different hand, of verses	1824-1830, 1843
b. 2, f. 11	Grades, ratings, and other records of his students on the New Haven Female Seminary, 1823-1830	1823-1830

John Metcalf Garfield (continued)

b. 2, f. 12	Copy of a bill to Eleaser Gorham for tuition, books and contingences for one pupil in the New Haven Female Seminary, Summer term, 1829; memorandum of amounts due from others on verso	1829
b. 2, f. 13	Albany Female Seminary: order of exercises; report card of Anna Layton	1834, 1844
b. 2, f. 14	A lease to Robert Morrison of property in New Haven, Connecticut. Signed by both parties to the lease, Mar. 12, 1859, with a later undated agreement on verso.	1859
Ann (Lyon) Garfield		
b. 2, f. 15	Accounts and memoranda on nurses, servants' hire, dressmaking, etc., [New Haven, Conn.], 1821-1825	1821-1825

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Clergy
Education
Educators
Spouses of clergy
Women -- Education

Genres / Formats

Account books
Diaries

Names

Garfield, Ann Lyon, d. 1872
Garfield, John Metcalf, 1790-1872

Corporate Bodies

Yale College (1718-1887). Class of 1816
Yale University -- Students