

# Guide to the Henry Bromfield Pearson Papers

MS 389



compiled by Staff of Manuscripts and Archives

August 1981

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P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
(203) 432-7441

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## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	3
Requesting Instructions .....	3
Administrative Information .....	3
Immediate Source of Acquisition .....	3
Conditions Governing Access .....	4
Conditions Governing Use .....	4
Preferred Citation .....	4
Scope and Contents .....	4
Collection Contents .....	5
Selected Search Terms .....	7

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## Collection Overview

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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 389

**CREATOR:** Pearson, Henry Bromfield, 1795-1867

**TITLE:** Henry Bromfield Pearson papers

**DATES:** 1802-1875

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.5 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Chiefly letters written to Pearson by friends and relatives. Includes correspondence (1804-1821) between Pearson and his father, Eliphalet Pearson, dealing with Henry's student days at Andover, Yale, and Harvard; and letters from Pearson to his sister Margaret Blanchard.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0389>

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## Requesting Instructions

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

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased in 1964.

## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

Henry Bromfield Pearson Papers (MS 389). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Scope and Contents

The Henry B. Pearson Papers consists mainly of correspondence dating from 1802 to 1875, the bulk of which was written to Henry Bromfield Pearson (1795-1867) by friends and relatives. An interesting exchange of letters between Henry and his father Eliphalet Pearson (1752-1826) deals with Henry's student days at Andover, Yale (which he entered as a member of the class of 1815 but left without receiving a degree), and Harvard and dates from 1804 to 1821. A general account of Henry's studies is given, and his financial problems and misconduct are discussed. There are also a number of letters from Henry to his sister, Margaret (Pearson) Blanchard. Approximately one hundred letters to Henry and his wife, Elizabeth McFarland, from relatives and friends dating down to the 1860s are addressed to Philadelphia, Boston, Harvard, and Skowhegan and Waterville, Maine.

There is a copy of a letter of 1802 written by Eliphalet Pearson to his sister, consoling her on the death of her daughter which is of interest, and a letter from Josiah Quincy (1772-1864) to Henry B. Pearson concerning Eliphalet Pearson. In addition, a set of accounts for the years 1846 to 1850 is included, as is a small amount of printed matter.

Correspondence and other materials relating to Henry Pearson and members of his family can also be found in the Bromfield Family Papers, Mss. Group No. 599, as can a genealogical chart.

This set of papers would be of value in a study of student life at Andover, Yale, and Harvard in the first two decades of the nineteenth century.

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## Collection Contents

### Correspondence

b. 1, f. 1	1802-1804
b. 1, f. 2	1805 English
b. 1, f. 3	1809-1810
b. 1, f. 4	1811 English
b. 1, f. 5	1812 English
b. 1, f. 6	1813 English
b. 1, f. 7	1815-1816
b. 1, f. 8	1821-1822
b. 1, f. 9	1824-1829
b. 1, f. 10	1830-1834
b. 1, f. 11	1839-1846
b. 1, f. 12	1850-1853
b. 1, f. 13	1854-1855
b. 1, f. 14	1856-1857
b. 1, f. 15	1858 Jan-Aug
b. 1, f. 16	1858 Sep-Dec
b. 1, f. 17	1859 Jan-Jun
b. 1, f. 18	1859 Jul-Dec
b. 1, f. 19	1860 English
b. 1, f. 20	1861 English
b. 1, f. 21	1862 English
b. 1, f. 22	1863-1864
b. 1, f. 23	1865-1867
b. 1, f. 24	1868-1875

b. 1, f. 25	n.d.	
b. 1, f. 26	Printed matter	1840-1869, undated
b. 2	Account book	1846-1850

## **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**

Education  
Students

### **Names**

Pearson, Eliphalet, 1752-1826  
Pearson, Henry Bromfield, 1795-1867  
Quincy, Josiah, 1772-1864

### **Corporate Bodies**

Harvard University (History)  
Phillips Academy  
Yale University -- History  
Yale University -- Students