

Guide to the Bostwick Family Papers

MS 923



compiled by Janet Elaine Gertz

June 1983

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 923

CREATOR: Bostwick family

TITLE: Bostwick family papers

DATES: 1845-1858

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 0.25 linear feet

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The principal figure in these papers is William Lewis Bostwick, the recipient of the approximately 213 letters which make up the collection. The letters were written to him while he was attending Jubilee College in Illinois and then Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut. They are from family, friends, and teachers, and discuss student life, church matters, and family news with particular attention to the cost of Bostwick's education.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0923>

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.0923>.

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 1947.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

Bostwick Family Papers (MS 923). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

William Lewis Bostwick was born in Hammondsport, New York, on December 20, 1830. He studied for four years at Jubilee College in Illinois, but graduated from Trinity College in Connecticut in 1851. Immediately, he joined the theological faculty at Trinity and was ordained into the priesthood in 1855. He returned to Illinois for missionary work, but later returned to Connecticut to lead parishes in Fairfield and Litchfield Counties. He died in Stamford, Connecticut, on March 13, 1895.

Scope and Contents

The Bostwick Family Papers consist of approximately 213 letters to William Lewis Bostwick, 1845-1858, all but three dating from the period during which he was a student first at Jubilee College, Illinois, and then at Trinity College, Connecticut. Bostwick's correspondents are mainly friends and teachers from Jubilee College and members of his family, including among them his sisters Celeste (Bostwick) Fuller of Flushing, New York, and Mary (Bostwick) Harriman of Litchfield, Connecticut; his uncles A. S. and William H. Lewis, Henry H. Bostwick, and Daniel E. Brown; and members of the Hanford family of Lockport, Illinois. Comstock Hanford was Bostwick's guardian. The letters from friends deal largely with events at Jubilee College (one friend writes of being unjustly expelled for intoxication, 1850 Aug 18; another describes the funeral of Bishop Philander Chase, founder of the College, 1852 Oct 18), with church matters, and with Bostwick's decision to study theology at Trinity College. The family letters deal with social events and family news and business, in particular details of paying for Bostwick's education out of the estates of his parents and grandmother. A letter from Bishop George Burgess, 1852 Jul 10, offers Bostwick a scholarship to divinity school.

Arrangement

The letters are arranged in a single chronological sequence.

Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1 - 13	Correspondence	1845, 1847-1852, 1854-1858, undated
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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

Families
Students -- United States

Geographic Names

Middle West

Names

Bostwick, William Lewis, 1830-1895
Fuller, Celeste Parmalee Bostwick, b. 1835
Harriman, Mary Jones Bostwick, 1833-1893

Families

Bostick family
Hanford family

Corporate Bodies

Jubilee College
Trinity College (Hartford, Conn.)