

# Guide to the Augustus Hopkins Strong Papers

MS 1127



compiled by Janet Elaine Gertz

November 1982

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1127

**CREATOR:** Strong, Augustus Hopkins, 1836-1921

**TITLE:** Augustus Hopkins Strong papers

**DATES:** 1851-1921

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.75 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Chiefly student papers of Augustus H. Strong during his attendance at Yale College (1855-1857), and at the Rochester Theological Seminary (1857-1859). Also included are fifteen sermons and other addresses, and the typescript for his book, *American Poets and their Theology*, published in 1916.

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## 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.1127>.

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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

Gift of John H. Strong, 1944-1945.

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## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

Augustus Hopkins Strong Papers. Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Augustus Hopkins Strong, B.A. 1857

Born August 3, 1836, in Rochester, N. Y.

Died November 29, 1921, in Pasadena, Calif.

Augustus Hopkins Strong was born in Rochester, N. Y., August 3, 1836, the son of Alvah and Catharine (Hopkins) Strong. His father was a pioneer of Rochester. He was publisher of the *Rochester Daily Democrat* (now the *Democrat and Chronicle*) for thirty years, and was one of the founders and the first treasurer of the Rochester Theological Seminary. His parents were Dr. Ezra Strong and Betsey (Dunning) Strong, and he was a direct descendant of Elder John Strong, who landed at Plymouth in 1630 and later removed to Northampton, Mass. On the maternal side Augustus Strong traced his ancestry to John Hopkins who came from England to Massachusetts with the Rev. Thomas Hooker in 1633. His mother was the daughter of Mark and Almira (Stanley) Hopkins.

After completing a course at the Rochester Collegiate Institute, he spent a year in the counting room of the *Rochester-Democrat*, and then entered Yale. In his Sophomore year he won two first prizes in English composition and a first prize in declamation. He received dissertation appointments in both Junior and Senior years and was awarded the DeForest Gold Medal. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

He studied at the Rochester Theological Seminary from 1857 to 1859 and then went abroad for a year of travel. Returning to America in July, 1860, he spent a few months in Chicago, where he supplied the pulpit of the North Baptist Church. He was ordained in August, 1861, and became pastor of the First Baptist Church in Haverhill, Mass. He was called to the pastorate of the First Baptist Church, Cleveland, Ohio, in 1865, his installation taking place in October, and served this church until 1872, when he resigned to accept the presidency of Rochester Theological Seminary. He served in this capacity for forty years, during this period also holding the chair of systematic theology. Upon his retirement in 1912 he was made president emeritus. During his presidency the endowments of the institution were increased from less than \$200,000 to more than \$2,000,000. Dr. Strong had devoted the last few years of his life to travel and writing. In 1916-17 he made a tour of the Orient, visiting mission stations of the American Baptist Foreign Missionary Society. He was president of the American Baptist Missionary Union from 1892 to 1895 and of the General Convention of Baptists of North America from 1905 to 1910. He had been first vice-president and president of the Rochester Historical Society, of which he was one of the founders. His principal theological work was *Systematic Theology*, which was published in 1886, ran through six editions, and was revised and enlarged in 1908, appearing in three volumes. Other published works include *Philosophy and Religion* (1888); *The Great Poets and their Theology* (1897); *Christ in Creation and Ethical Monism* (1899); *Miscellanies* (in

two volumes, 1912); *One Hundred Chapel-Talks to Theological Students* (1913); *Union with Christ* (1914); *Popular Lectures on the Books of the New Testament* (1914); *American Poets and their Theology* (1916); and *A Tour of Missions* (1917). He received the honorary degree of D.D. from Brown (1870), Yale (1890), and Princeton (1896), that of LL.D. from Bucknell University (1891) and Alfred University (1904), and that of Litt.D. from the University of Rochester (1912).

He died November 29, 1921, in Pasadena, Calif., where he had gone to spend the winter. His death followed a blood transfusion, which had been resorted to in preparation for an operation. Interment was in Mount Hope Cemetery, Rochester.

Dr. Strong was married November 7, 1861, in Rochester, to Harriet Louise, daughter of Eleazer and Harriet (Crowell) Savage, who died in July, 1914. His second marriage took place in DeLand, Fla., January 1, 1915, to Marguerite Geraldine vanIngen Jones, daughter of Gerrit and Petronella Roda vanIngen, and widow of John Jay Jones of Orange, N. J. She survives him, and he also leaves six children by his first marriage: Charles Augustus (B.A. University of Rochester 1884); Mary Belle (Mrs. Robert George Cook); John Henry (B.A. Rochester 1889, and Yale 1890); Cora Harriet; Kate Louise, the wife of Charles Grenville Sewell; and Laura Rockefeller, who was married on June 1, 1910, to Edmund H. Lewis, '07. Dr. Strong is also survived by thirteen grandchildren.

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## Scope and Contents

Chiefly student papers of Augustus H. Strong during his attendance at Yale College (1855-1857), and at the Rochester Theological Seminary (1857-1859). Also included are fifteen sermons and other addresses, and the typescript for his book, *American Poets and their Theology*, published in 1916.

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## Collection Contents

Student papers		
b. 1, f. 1	Revision and translation of Aristophanes' "The Clouds"	1851
b. 1, f. 2 - 4	Compositions and speeches	1853-1857, undated
b. 1, f. 5	Annotated copy of Denison Olmsted's <i>Outlines of a Course of Lectures on Meteorology and Astronomy, Addressed to the Senior Class in Yale College</i>	[1855-1857]
b. 1, f. 6	Notes on Old Testament and church history lectures at Rochester Theological Seminary, with engraving of Augustus H. Strong laid in	1858, undated
b. 1, f. 7 - 8	Sermons and addresses	1859-1921
b. 2, f. 9	"American Poets and Their Theology" English	1914-1916

## **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.

### **Geographic Names**

United States -- Religion

### **Genres / Formats**

Sermons

### **Subjects**

Clergy

### **Names**

Strong, Augustus Hopkins, 1836-1921

### **Corporate Body**

Yale University -- Students